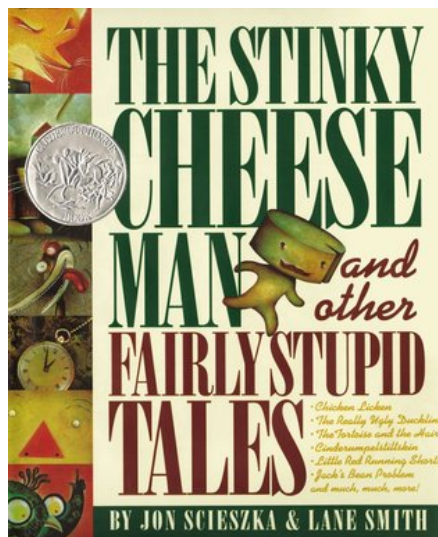




The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales

Jon Scieszka , Lane Smith (Illustrator)

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A revisionist storyteller provides his mad, hilarious versions of children's favorite tales in this collection that includes *Little Red Running Shorts*, *The Princess and the Bowling Ball*, *Cinderumpelstilskin*, and others.

The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales Details

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Author : Jon Scieszka , Lane Smith (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales for online ebook

Ronyell says

Back in 1989, “The True Story of the Three Little Pigs” was the most popular children’s book ever written and that’s where the Jon Scieszka and Lane Smith team made their famous trademark as children’s book writers. In 1992, a new children’s book, made by the Scieszka/Smith team has proclaimed its hallmark of fame as one of the funniest books ever written. That book is called “The Stinky Cheese Man and other Fairly Stupid Tales,” and has become a classic in its own right and won numerous awards, including the 1993 Caldecott Honor Book.

“The Stinky Cheese Man and other Fairly Stupid Tales” is one of the few books that contain so much humor. The humor is sarcastic as it is witty and the humor gives each character in the story a very unique personality that makes the reader want to be like them. Jon Scieszka’s storytelling is probably the book’s major strong point as he fills the book with witty humor such as, the Little Red Hen continuously popping up as an interlude to the other stories and the giant trying to make his own story by sticking together an odd assortment of pictures and words together. Lane Smith’s illustrations are fantastic and humorous, especially of the image of the wolf and Little Red Running Shorts leaving the story as it seems that they were cut out of the image of the house and the woods leaving two white spaces in the image.

“The Stinky Cheese Man” is a pure classic that will make people laugh for many years. Its good sense of humor and creative drawings by the dynamic duo, Jon Scieszka and Lane Smith has made this book an international success. I would highly recommend this book to anyone interested in good humor and creativity from the Scieszka/Smith duo.

Review is also on: Rabbit Ears Book Blog

Hannah says

I used to feel fairly naughty for reading this.

One, because several friends' parents banned it.

Two, because it was a picture book and I was reading "beneath me."

Erin says

This book is simply genius. I've not read it for a few years now but I remember taking it out of the library again and again, laughing out every time.

The book is a picture book but with lots of different fairy tales that have been twisted and warped into a fabulous and hilarious read.

You think you know classic tales like the Gingerbread Man, Jack and the Beanstalk and Little Red Riding Hood? Think again. With clever tweaks and twists, some of them are linked together in an interesting and

unique way.

In summary, if you haven't read this book before and are going to, prepare to have tears of laughter rolling down your face as you hopefully enjoy it as much as I did.

Manybooks says

I guess I can to a point appreciate the parodistic intent of Jon Scieszka's [The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales](#). However, the retold narratives do not really work for me as satires (as parodies), primarily due to the fact there are simply too many tales presented. For as soon as the plot lines of the given stories seem to become somewhat interesting and entertaining, there generally is an abrupt and rushed ending inserted, and another, similarly choppy and uneven tale commences (which leads to potential distraction and for me, massive annoyance and frustration, so much so that I only very briefly and cursively skimmed the last three stories, with scant regret).

And while I am, in fact, only able to find very few of the ten or so offerings truly potentially funny and entertaining (I will admit to chuckling a bit and with appreciation at the tale of the princess and the bowling ball and the story of the princess being tricked, being scammed by a non enchanted frog prince), if the author were to concentrate on two or at most three tales and provide more internal details, a better narrative flow and functional, less abrupt endings, although I still would not really enjoy [The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales](#), I would definitely at least be more willing and able to mildly appreciate its presented and demonstrated humour and imagination. That being said, even this truth, this factoid is simply NOT enough for me to rate this collection with more than two stars, and actually one and a half stars, if half stars were possible (as I also rather detest the accompanying illustrations, which while expressive and competent, I personally find creepy and aesthetically unpleasing, their Caldecott Honour designation for illustrator Lane Smith notwithstanding).

Tracy says

Picture Book "If geese had graves, Mother Goose would be rolling in hers. The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales retells--and wreaks havoc on--the allegories we all thought we knew by heart. In these irreverent variations on well-known themes, the ugly duckling grows up to be an ugly duck, and the princess who kisses the frog wins only a mouthful of amphibian slime. The Stinky Cheese Man deconstructs not only the tradition of the fairy tale but also the entire notion of a book. Our naughty narrator, Jack, makes a mockery of the title page, the table of contents, and even the end paper by shuffling, scoffing, and generally paying no mind to structure. Characters slide in and out of tales; Cinderella rebuffs Rumpelstiltskin, and the Giant at the top of the beanstalk snacks on the Little Red Hen. There are no lessons to be learned or morals to take to heart--just good, sarcastic fun that smart-alecks of all ages will love."

Hilarious book because they take a familiar fairy tale and put a few new twists, which the kids love. The illustrations are so whimsical. I would recommend this book for any fairy tale unit, or read aloud book, for children in first grade and up.

Candace Robinson says

Ahhh yes, this book makes me want to eat a big pile of stinky cheese shaped like a strange little man. This book had the perfect amount of fair tale weirdness that I needed as a child, and that strangeness is still amazing today!!

Quí Hi?n says

Guys, this is the most dead serious book I've ever read, much recommended for sassy postmodernist children.

Amy says

I was walking through a bookstore with my cousin who is 5 years younger than me when we came across a display of The Stinky Cheese Man. She exclaimed, "Didn't you just love this book as a kid?!" I had to admit that I hadn't heard of it before, which I was a bit embarrassed about, since she was so enthusiastic and adamant that it was a must read as a kid. I checked the copyright and found that about the time this was published, I was just starting high school. Mystery solved! I'm now an adult and can read whatever I want, without embarrassment, so I checked out a copy at my local library.

I have read books illustrated and written by Lane Smith, so artistically and structurally, I knew I was in for a treat. The nonsensical nature of the stories, along with the clever art direction has made this book a "new" classic for me! I laughed aloud, admired the pictures and just generally appreciated that their are such talented, clever and silly authors creating books for kids!

Laura says

A delightful book that makes me laugh whenever I read it. Everybody should have at least one copy of this book in their home.

Manny says

They keep making postmodernism accessible to younger and younger age groups. This is a typical postmodern take on the fairy-story genre - they even present Jack the Giant-Killer as an infinite regress of meta-stories - but it's done skillfully enough that I've met bright 6-year-olds who found it funny and got the point.

The rest of this review is available elsewhere (the location cannot be given for Goodreads policy reasons)

Ellie Labbett says

A wonderfully wacky selection of tales. Scieszka so effortlessly twists the traditional to the strange and unconventional, sprinkled with just the right amount of humour for good measure. The narrative defies all kind of order and would be a superb postmodern picturebook to use within KS1 and LKS2. From characters taking control, overwhelming the rather intrusive narrator and popping up in stories where they do not belong, all structure is lost and the book becomes carnage in the best kind of way.

Calista says

Amusing and yes, these are stupid tales. They are silly and not what you expect. The winners and losers change places. I do like Chickin Lickin'. Cute name. Maybe, back in 1992, this was more surprising than it is now, I can't remember. It's interesting.

My nephew had me read it and he enjoyed the book and laughed when he was supposed to. The Stinky Cheese man was his favorite. He knew that it was like the Gingerbread man. He had fun.

I did like how the narrator broke into several of the stories to make a through link.

Tabby says

I grew up with book and always loved it and today I got to read it to my nephew, just like I did with his older brother and sisters.

Ryan says

I learned that the Stinky Cheese Man is the shit. Period.

dianne says

Now *this* is the kind of literature children of all ages should be reading. The ugly duckling is just ugly. And didn't we all loathe the "Princess and the Pea"? Back then it was just so important to teach our vulnerable young that royalty are so constitutionally different from us - wholly different protoplasm, so delicate, so high maintenance, that they could detect a pea under 100 mattresses. Blech. In this one the Prince tires of waiting for a princess who could detect a pea (no one could - i liked that) so he slips in a bowling ball. That, a real person might feel. A much improved story. But my favorite of all these delicious tales is the title tale - a revision of (i guess?) the Gingerbread Man. "Run, run, as fast as you can. You can't catch me, I'm the --- man". Except no one wants to chase the Stinky Cheese man, much the opposite, making his taunts hilarious. And the accompanying art is just as educationally realist dada. i loved it. i just wish i had a short, young reason to rationalize not giving it away...

Melissa says

this book is awesome. WHO WILL I GET TO PLANT THE WHEAT!? WHO IS THIS ISBN GUY?

L11_Ryanne Szydluk says

Jon Scieszka has produced yet another unique twist on several well known traditional tales. In this crazy story, the author has combined many traditional tales such as The Gingerbread Man, Jack and the Beanstalk, The Little Red Hen, and Little Red Riding Hood just to name a few. Throughout the book, the author entwines all the different stories in an ingenious way.

This book would be appropriate for older children who have a strong background in the telling or reading of a variety of Traditional Tales. This book also takes a child who understands text structure in order to properly follow the story. The story bounces back and forth and in between several stories at once.

Spoiler Alert!

"Once upon a time there was a mother duck and a father duck who had seven baby ducklings. Six of them were regular-looking ducklings. The seventh was a really ugly duckling."

and so it goes on until...

"Well, as it turned out, he was just a really ugly duckling. And he grew up to be just a really ugly duck."

Jen says

I have to admit, I'm a little surprised this is/was marketed to kids, especially kids like I was who didn't need any help overriding the rules and being utterly sarcastic.

That said, this is such a weird book to return to as an adult. It takes about ten minutes to read, mostly because all of the tales have been boiled down to reality--like, if a duckling is ugly, it will likely grow up to be an ugly duck. The end. When your stories are only about two pages long, it's kind of a short book.

The thing I really appreciate about this book (and that would give it an extra half star, if Goodreads did halvesies) is the way it plays with printing and layout. Margins, fonts, page matching, even the ISBN barcode on the back of the book are fair game for Scieszka, and I love that imaginative interaction with the physicality of the book. The stories are blah, mostly because fairy tales aren't all that interesting when you introduce them to things like reality and practicality. But the layout is great.

Except for the illustrations. The illustrations kind of freak me out, in a Picasso-cubist sort of way.

And I have to say, the interrupting hen is pretty much my favorite part of the book. Who, indeed, will help her plant her wheat? Certainly not that ISBN guy.

James says

Book Review

4 out of 5 stars to The Stinky Cheese Man and Other Fairly Stupid Tales, a re-appropriation of classic fairy tales, published in 1992 by Jon Scieszka. What a hilarious book! Sometimes the classics need a little refresher, and when you add a dose of stupid and fun humor, how can you go wrong? The author and the artist have created a superb work for modern times, where children can easily do a read and compare between the versions of centuries ago and the modern re-telling that stand alongside. Not for the faint of heart, especially if you don't want to see some of your favorite characters pushed and pulled a little! It's one of those books where you just need to relax and enjoy it -- don't get caught up in the craziness of what the author's done or said. Think of it as a way to compare old and new... and when the kids are old enough, it might be a tool to help them learn to love analyzing literature and comparing two things that are similar but very different. Take a chance! You know you wanna...

About Me

For those new to me or my reviews... here's the scoop: I read A LOT. I write A LOT. And now I blog A LOT. First the book review goes on Goodreads, and then I send it on over to my WordPress blog at <https://thisismytruthnow.com>, where you'll also find TV & Film reviews, the revealing and introspective 365 Daily Challenge and lots of blogging about places I've visited all over the world. And you can find all my social media profiles to get the details on the who/what/when/where and my pictures. Leave a comment and let me know what you think. Vote in the poll and ratings. Thanks for stopping by.

Lauren Stoolfire says

I adore The Stinky Cheese Man!

Jon Scieszka is brilliant and funny - if you haven't read this you're missing out! He and Lane Smith make an excellent team!
