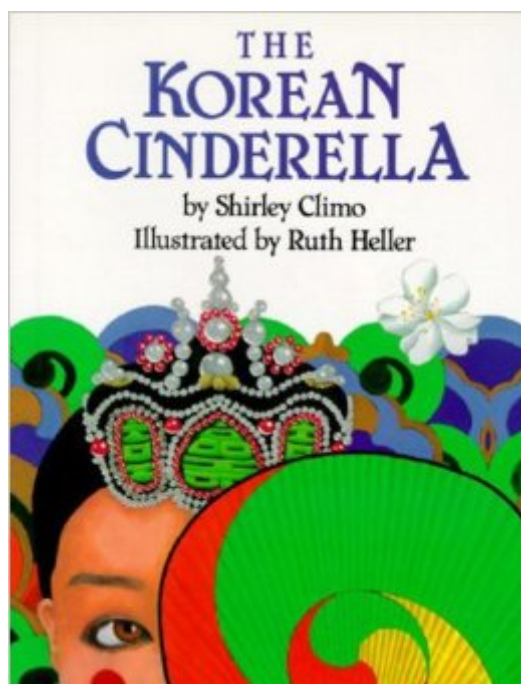


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# The Korean Cinderella (Trophy Picture Books)



## Synopsis

Shirley Climo and Heller conflate several Korean variants of Cinderella to offer up the story of Pear Blossom, a lovely girl who is sorely mistreated by her nasty stepmother and stepsister. | At once comfortingly familiar and intriguingly exotic, the text is especially noteworthy for its instructive but unobtrusive incorporation of Korean words. Publishers Weekly. Heller's paintings are exotically lush and colorful as well as engaging. | An agreeable retelling of the Cinderella story. BL. Notable 1994 Children's Trade Books in Social Studies (NCSS/CBC)

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 700 (What's this?)

Series: Trophy Picture Books

Paperback: 48 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins (January 18, 1996)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0064433978

ISBN-13: 978-0064433976

Product Dimensions: 8 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars See all reviews (26 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #65,886 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #68 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Asia #79 in Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Multicultural #2522 in Books > Children's Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy & Magic

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

There are as many as a half dozen versions of Cinderella in Korea. The Korean Cinderella by Shirley Climo is a combination of three Korean variations. To honor her birth, a pear tree is planted and the newborn baby is named Pear. She is beautiful and loved by her elderly mother and father. When Pear's mother dies, her father remarries a woman with a daughter the same age as Pear. Beautiful Pear's stepmother is jealous of her stepdaughter's beauty and requires her to perform many impossible chores, while her own daughter, Peony watches. With the help of magical creatures (frog, sparrow, and black oxen) Pear successfully completes each chore and is able to

attend the festival. On the way to the festival she loses her shoe. The magistrate sees the beautiful Pear and calls out to her. Believing he is yelling at her, she runs away without her shoe. At the festival the magistrate looks for the girl without the shoe. And we can guess the end of the story. The Korean Cinderella is recognizable and is a captivating variation of the American version. The paintings are colorful and lush. Children will love the story and thoroughly enjoy the illustrations. This is for children between the ages of five and nine.

This is one of the longest text versions of the Cinderella story I have ever come across. It is a wonderful telling of the tale, and works nicely to illustrate how this tale is part of many cultures the world over. I can't speak to the accuracy of the details of Korean culture, but the artwork is fascinating. Due to length of the story, however, I tend to wonder how well it would hold younger children's attention. It works well, though, for illustrating cultural difference to college students.

I really enjoyed this version of Cinderella, I also liked how Climo included a little behind the scenes of the folktale on the back pages. I'm not the biggest fan of the illustrations however, I liked the patterns that were worked onto the pages, but the faces of the characters were sort of weird and disturbing at times, I wasn't drawn into the Pear Blossom's beauty they way I would have liked to have been (as was described in Climo's words)

My students from Korea appreciate this book that has cultural ties, and my students from other countries like to learn about their classmates' culture. With Cinderella as the common thread, this is easier.

The illustrator tried to capture traditional Korean culture by imitating Korean temple art, the book has dynamic traditional art patterns and has a quality of movement throughout the book. The cover image and final image of the Korean Cinderella are beautiful, and made me want to buy the book, however she is drawn crudely and looks ugly throughout the rest of the book. If I had seen this book in person, I might not have bought it, that's how ugly the faces are, but it's not worth returning the book.

Great story, beautifully illustrated, but a little harsh for young readers. I read it aloud to 1-3 graders and one of the girls was very concerned about the way the Cinderella character was treated. Probably fine for most kids, but know your audience

We just have one mean stepsister in this version of Cinderella. I was intrigued by this book and added it to the library collection of Cinderella versions when I was working. Pear is the Cinderella in the story and she does lose her shoe so the story does keep to the original Cinderella version in many ways. There are other creatures to play the role of fairy godmother which makes it interesting. The illustrations are absolutely gorgeous and I like the Korean words being included in this story. Children have liked this book when we read it. I like it, too. I think it is a good addition to the Cinderella collection and I do recommend this book for elementary school children.

When I was in elementary school I would always go to the school library to borrow books. This is how I discovered this gem in third grade. I loved fairy tales at the times and always did everything I could to get more. When I found this book I immediately decided that I had to read it. Boy was that a good decision or what. 1) The pictures were beautifully drawn, 2) I loved the story, and 3) It was all in all amazing. It is different but the same in some ways than the American version. There is no fairy godmother. That was the only disappointment I felt at the time because I loved the idea that anyone could have a fairy godmother but even so, it was a marvelous story and you'll definitely enjoy it.

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