



What REALLY Happened to Humpty?: From the Files of a Hard-Boiled Detective

Jeanie Franz Ransom , Stephen Axelsen (Illustrator)

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Humpty Dumpty had a great fall. Or, as his brother Detective Joe Dumpty thinks, was he pushed? This case isn't all its cracked up to be. Suspects are plenty (as are the puns) in this scrambled story of nursery rhyme noir. Was it Little Miss Muffet? There's something not right about her tuffet. Or could it have been Chicken Little, who's always been a little cagey? Or was it the Big Bad Wolf, who's got a rap sheet as long as a moonless night? Joe's on the beat and determined to find the truth. Readers of all ages will delight in the word play and hilarious illustrations in this mystery of what really happened to Humpty Dumpty on that fateful day.

What REALLY Happened to Humpty?: From the Files of a Hard-Boiled Detective Details

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Author : Jeanie Franz Ransom , Stephen Axelsen (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review What REALLY Happened to Humpty?: From the Files of a Hard-Boiled Detective for online ebook

Sara says

This book is written in a creative and fun way. Not only is the mystery of who pushed Humpty Dumpty from the wall entertaining and mysterious, but the way the author was able to incorporate other fairy tales into the story was remarkable. This book is a great tool in helping teachers introduce mystery stories in order to promote critical thinking. The clues of who is to blame for the fall are written throughout the book; this helps students begin to form hypotheses of who out of the fairy tale characters is to blame. Moreover, the pictures throughout the book are so elaborate, detailed and colorful. The book is well written, entertaining, and will help students understand certain aspects of some of the most famous fairy tales.

Mattis Collier says

What REALLY Happened to Humpty?: From the Files of a Hard-Boiled Detective

Author: Jeanie Franz Ransom

Genre: Mystery

What Really Happened to Humpty is a clever take on a classic nursery rhyme: Humpty Dumpty Fell Off A Wall. This author brings all of the traditional, classic children's story characters such as Mother Goose, Little Red Riding Hood, the Muffin Man, the Three Little Pigs, Goldilocks, Chicken Little, and more into this particular story. With Humpty's younger brother Joe playing detective as well as narrator, he goes from home to home trying to figure out who actually pushed Humpty off the wall. Joe spends the day on the clock, never stopping to take a break from solving the crime. At the end of the day, Joe discovers that Humpty was pushed, and that it was the Big Bad Wolf! A little detective work done by Humpty's hard-boiled brother completely transformed the nursery rhyme into an exciting tale with a very different ending!

Literacy: Assign one classic nursery rhyme to each table. As table groups, have students get creative and think of ways they can modernize and adapt the tales to fit in time now. Give students time over several days to write a new version and have them create illustrations to go along with their adapted stories.

Drama: This book would be an excellent opportunity to provide drama into the literacy classroom. Have students act out What REALLY Happened to Humpty and invite other classes/grades to watch.

What REALLY Happened to Humpty?: From the Files of a Hard-Boiled Detective was a WOW book for me because of the creativity, modern, and entertaining twists and turns it took throughout the story. It turned a classic story that has been told for so many years into something new and modern with an element of mystery as well.

Brigitte Brulz says

This book made my daughters and I laugh. It is a longer book, so it may not be great for little ones. I love how various nursery rhyme characters are incorporated throughout the story. If a child doesn't know the

details of the various nursery rhymes, it may not be as amusing to them, but I found it to be a great read. My daughters enjoyed trying to solve the mystery of "what really happened to Humpty". Thankfully, Humpty will be okay and the mystery was solved. Now, my daughters are eager to read another story from the Files of a Hard-Boiled Detective.

Crystal says

What Really Happened to Humpty Dumpty is the modern day version of all story we have all come to love. This story of what really happened to Humpty comes together with lovable characters, silly words and mystery which will entice even the most reluctant readers to want to hear more. This is a great read aloud for readers from Kindergarten to second grade. The illustrations are colorful and cartoon like and will certainly draw in young readers. This book would be a great way to introduce mystery stories and learn to make predictions and hypothesis as to what will happen next in the story, thus promoting critical thinking. There are many clues throughout the book as to who is responsible for the fall of Humpty Dumpty. Humpty Dumpty has been sitting on a wall for years and never fell; that is, until now. Humpty's brother, Joe is determined to find out what happened to his brother and he will leave no stone unturned until he uncovers the truth! Was it the wind? Was it the Big Bad Wolf? Was it Ms. Muffit? I can imagine that young readers will want you to quickly read this story so they can get to the end and see who is to blame!

Megan says

Genre: Mystery

Such a cute book that my CT read to her third grade class! One cute feature of the book was multiple puns pertaining to eggs and detectives, and the pictures were full of detail! I feel like the book could be used to introduce mystery while utilizing the prior knowledge kiddos have about nursery rhymes.

Amy says

I had a lot of fun reading *What Really Happened to Humpty?* to the kids. I like hard-boiled detective stories, as a kid I *adored* nursery rhymes and Mother Goose tales, and so the combination of the hard-boiled detective and nursery rhyme characters was just great! The hard-boiled/noir voice was nicely done in this book, in fact, I think that's what kept the kids hanging on to every word in this tale. When I read the story to the kids I made sure to do my best Sam Spade, and that was lots of fun.

I didn't think my nephew would get this story, because he doesn't really know the Humpty Dumpty nursery rhyme, so I kind of vacillated between checking this book out and not doing so. As it turned out, it did not matter in the least that he wasn't familiar with this nursery rhyme, because this story was so well done that he was able to just enjoy the book on its own.

My niece, who is often shockingly slow to unravel a whodunit, had this mystery figured out almost immediately! This stunned me, because I *completely* missed the clues when I read this to myself, so I thought this was sufficiently subtle to keep the kids in the dark until the end. What I failed to take into account is that

her brain is a lot newer, and a lot more nimble than mine! This was a fun, well-done mystery story, just chock-full of chances to let yourself go and do lots of different voices.

Fiction State Of Mind says

Coyer Summer Bash

This is such a cute little read . The brother of gumption dumpty is a PI determined to figure out who is behind his brothers accident. His quest takes him through many interrogations before the truth is revealed.

John says

Humpty Falls. And he doesn't... [spoiler alert] The Big Bad Wolf doesn't go there, Spider did. Humpty Dumpty's not supposed to be on the wall; he doesn't balance on the wall, so he

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The Library Lady says

Not as funny as it could have been--somehow it feels as if it's saying "isn't this cute? get the inside joke?" Older kids will enjoy it, if they don't deem nursery rhymes to be "baby stuff". But it will sail over preschoolers dear little heads.

Sarah W says

Joe Dumpty is on the case. When his brother Humpty falls off the wall during his first week as captain of the Neighborhood Watch, Joe is convinced the act was no accident. Police Chief Goose gives Joe until five o'clock to figure out the case before she writes it up as an accident report. Joe starts by asking Humpty's friend Muffy some questions on a trail of interrogation that leads to Goldilocks, Old Mother Hubbard, Chicken Little and the Pigs while Humpty is hospitalized.

This clever picture book uses a variety of nursery rhyme and fairy tale characters to create an entertaining blend of the modern world and fantasy. This book will be great for readers and listeners familiar with traditional rhymes and stories, but should provide laughs for those unfamiliar with that canon.

Ali Gunns says

This story had me laughing from start to finish! What Really Happened to Humpty is a mystery book that could be used in a K-2 classroom. The story takes the nursery rhyme Humpty Dumpty and it into an elaborate story. Other nursery rhyme characters such as Little Miss Muffet and Little Red Riding Hood are also in the story. Throughout the book, Humpty's brother interacts with other nursery rhyme characters to solve the Humpty mystery.

This book would be perfect for having students make predictions. I think the students will really love this book because it takes nursery rhyme characters and puts them together into a funny story.

This is a WOW book for me because I have always loved nursery rhymes and I find it clever how the author found a way to integrate many characters into a mystery story. I think the students will really enjoy it!

Dolly says

Using a 'hard boiled' (ha-ha) Sam Spade-like lead character, this story explores the mystery of who pushed Humpty Dumpty. The fact that the classic children's nursery rhyme is turned into a detective story is so creative and I loved how so many different personalities from other stories and rhymes are incorporated into the tale.

The illustrations are colorful and cartoonish and we referenced the map of the neighborhood in the front of the book several times to track the progress of the case. Overall, we thought this was a very entertaining story and we really enjoyed reading it together. The ending is somewhat predictable, but not disappointing.

This story was selected as one of the books for the February 2013 - Fractured / Alternative Mother Goose discussion at the Picture-Book Club in the Children's Books Group here at Goodreads.

Braelyn says

Traditional Literature. 2000. This book includes many different nursery rhymes that lots of children may be familiar with. It's about a crime, who pushed humpty, and has so many puns. The puns are enjoyable to read and some children may be able to understand them as well. It would be a perfect book to explore who, what, when, where, and why.

Tricia Douglas says

This was a very clever little book describing how Humpty's brother Joe, the P.I., solved the riddle of Humpty's great fall. The nursery rhyme characters are creatively woven into this cute story along with colorful illustrations. What the characters are thinking are done in black and white bubbles which help us understand the story even better. While Humpty is in the hospital healing (because of the miracles of modern

technology) we learn the real reason Humpty fell. I thought this was one of the cutest books dealing with the nursery rhyme characters that I'd seen in a long time!

Shakemia Jones says

Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall, Humpty Dumpty had a great fall...at least that's what we were told until a new detective is on the case! What Really Happened to Humpty is a clever take on a classic nursery rhyme. The author integrates traditional, classic children's story characters such as Mother Goose, Little Red Riding Hood, the Muffin Man, the Three Little Pigs, Goldilocks, Chicken Little, and more into this story. Humpty's younger brother, Joe is the new detective in town, and goes from home to home trying to figure out who actually pushed Humpty off the wall. I loved reading reading the different twists of all of the nursery rhymes, what a fun idea for a book! K-2 students will really enjoy the mystery element of this story! This book is perfect for students working on predictions. Students could make predictions about what really happened to Humpty. This is also a great book for students to practice comparing and contrasting the different versions of the class nursery rhyme. Students could practice analyzing characters with this book as well. I consider this a WOW book because of the entertaining narration from Joe Humpty. I found myself reading as if I were in a Sherlock Holmes movie! I believe students will really be engaged throughout this entire book! It has definitely made me want to incorporate more mysteries into my classroom!
