



The Boy Who Cried Ninja

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In this quirky twist on *The Boy Who Cried Wolf*, a boys excuses turn out to have an unexpected element of truth.

The Boy Who Cried Ninja Details

Date : Published April 1st 2011 by Peachtree Publishers

ISBN : 9781561455799

Author : Alex Latimer (author & illustrator)

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Genre : Childrens, Picture Books

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From Reader Review *The Boy Who Cried Ninja* for online ebook

Angela Blount says

Originally reviewed for YA Books Central: <http://www.yabookscentral.com/kidsfic...>

Delightfully quirky, and outlandishly fanciful.

There once was a boy named Tim—whose fantastical imagination kept getting him in trouble. Whenever unfortunate things happen, Tim defers blame to an amusing cast of mischievous and unlikely characters. But his family isn't buying the stories he weaves...

Readers expecting a modern retelling of *The Boy Who Cried Wolf* may be a touch perplexed by the route the author takes. The ultimate takeaway lesson seems to be more about refraining from bad behavior in general, rather than telling the truth least no one believe you when you truly need them to. But while I as a parent might have preferred a clearer-cut moral to the story, my 6-year-old son **ADORED** this book from the first read--not only asking for nightly re-reading, but imitating the simplistic art style in his drawing time.

The artwork is whimsical and effective—the cover offering an accurate sampling of what's to come. The wording is rarely dense, with only one or two sentences per page on average. And there's an abundance of onomatopoeia that will likely appeal to a wide range of children in this target age audience (3-7).

The book is 32 pages—a relatively thin paperback with a matte and gloss cover finish that may not stand up well to children under the age of 5.

Luis Vargas fandiño says

Funny hilarious great for toddler storytime read aloud!!!! 5 stars, two thumbs up, love it!!!!

Linda Atkinson says

Truth truly can be stranger than fiction ;-)

Randie D. Camp, M.S. says

Latimer, A. (2011). *The boy who cried ninja*. Atlanta, GA: Peachtree.

Genre: Children's Picture Storybook

Tim is constantly being blamed for things and his parents accuse him of lying when he says the ninja, pirate, and monkey did it. Frustrated, he decides that if he is going to be accused of lying, he should lie. So he lies

and confesses to the mishaps around his house. When this gets him nowhere, he comes up with a plan to prove that he is being honest.

Reaction: HILARIOUS! Lying is a behavior that both children and parents can identify with and Latimer's story captures the frustration that takes place when one actually lies and when one is wrongly accused of lying. While the story is quite unrealistic, it is still a great conversation starter for families or others dealing with issues surrounding lying and honesty. And who doesn't love a time-traveling monkey...that was icing on the cake for me. Great book!

See this review and more on my blog: <http://randiesreviews.blogspot.com/>

Elisabeth says

A twisty twist on the "Boy Who Cried Wolf". Perfect for 2-4 grade - definitely need to have a strong grasp on the moral of the story before proceeding.

Allison says

not sure what I think about the message being sent here.

Elaine says

The turds!

Hillary says

This is probably now one of my favorite books in the whole world. No joke. It's funny, original, and charming. I loved the creativity, the artwork, and the fun twist. But most of all I loved all of the ways the little boy got in trouble, how crazy is it that a ninja drop kicked a plate of chocolate cake and ate it in one bite?! A sunburnt alligator landing on the roof and breaking the cable antenna? I love how the little boy tried to make it right, and how he found his own solution. His reward was also a kids dream! 100 ice cream cones? Sign me up please! This book made my day and I now smile every time I think about it. Definitely adding this to my personal collection. If you have boys, get this book. If you are a teacher, get this book! Your class will love it and be in stitches!

Karen says

Jacob thought this book was funny...boy humor. Mom rated it 3 stars.

Brian says

So funny because it is so random. Perfect read-aloud for upper elementary school kids. What else can you say about a book with a cake-eating ninja and a time-traveling monkey who throws pencils at Grandpa?

Jordan Chamorro says

An amazing book about a kid who told the truth but was never belied. I recommend this book to all kids

Mehsi says

Why cry Wolf when you can cry for Ninjas instead? I would know who I what I would pick.

So I was actually looking to read another book by Alex Latimer, but then I bumped against this book, I was instantly intrigued by the title. A boy who, instead of wolf, cries ninja and thinks of elaborate excuses? Sign me up. And I found some great dudes on Youtube reading this book aloud, which made the book even more hilarious. Especially since they are giving comments on what happens and also adding sound effects.

But apparently this book isn't just about ninjas! Oh no, this kid thinks of the most fantastic things when making excuses. But are they really excuses? Or is Tim actually telling the truth? I definitely had such a laugh when the truth came out, and then I wondered what Tim would do. Would he keep on going on, even if his parents got angry at him because they didn't believe him (then again, I could imagine, would you believe it if a kid kept telling you such things?).

I can say that I believed that this would just be a book about a kid crying ninja or another creature and then getting a lesson from it in, hopefully, a fun but educational way, but instead the author grabbed a bit from the Boy who cried Wolf story and then gave his own spin to it. *thumbs up*

I loved what Tim cooked up in the end, and then seeing the parents (and other people's) reaction to it.

I am also kind of happy that there is no moral. This is just a fun story about a boy who cried ninja, or mermaid, or no you will have to read what other cries pop up. I am not going to tell you, and the unexpected things that happen after that.

The art? Fabulous, I quite like Alex Latimer's illustrations. His style is just too much fun.

All in all, I would recommend this silly book to everyone!

Review first posted at <https://twirlingbookprincess.com/>

Lisa says

I thought this book might be a cautionary tale about "crying wolf" but it wasn't. Actually it was quite confusing. My 8 year old asked towards the end of the book, "was he lying or not?" Which was exactly my thoughts through the story. Skip it.

Matt says

Whenever Tim tells the truth, he is scolded by adults in his family. Even IF a ninja ate the last piece of cake or a monkey snapped the tv antennae, Tim ended up raking leaves as a punishment. Choosing to lie and take the blame does him no better, as he is still blamed for everything. Finally, Tim has an idea, one that might solve all his issues. Neo laughed about why a ninja might want to eat cake, since they can chop up whatever they want, including a mom who does not share. Oh, Neo!

Garrett says

I adapted lyrics from a the Mountain Goats song as a review for this book:

"When you punish Tim for seeing ninjas/
Don't expect him to thank or forgive you./
The Boy Named Tim Who Cried Ninja/
Will in time both outpace and outlive you!/
Hail Squid!/
Hail Squid tonight!/
Hail Squid!/
Hail Hail!"
