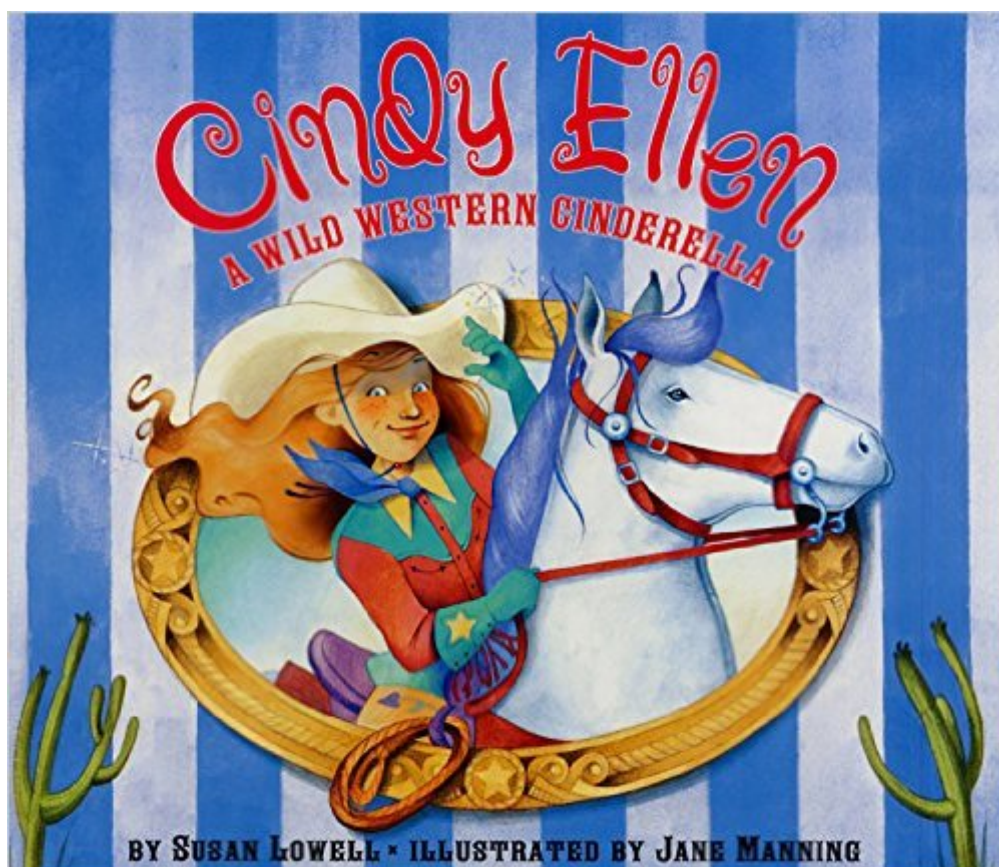


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# Cindy Ellen: A Wild Western Cinderella



## Synopsis

Once upon a time, there was a sweet cowgirl named Cindy Ellen, who lived with the orneriest stepmother west of the Mississippi and two stepsisters who were so nasty, they made rattlesnakes look nice! But when a fast-talkin' fairy godmother teaches Cindy Ellen a little lesson about gumption, Cindy lassos first place at the rodeo and the heart of Joe Prince....You may think you've heard the story before-but you'll get a side-splittin' bellyache after you're through with this hilarious rendition told Wild West-style!

## Book Information

Paperback: 40 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins; Reprint edition (December 18, 2001)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0064438643

ISBN-13: 978-0064438643

Product Dimensions: 10.5 x 0.1 x 9 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (47 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #52,373 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #34 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States > Westerns](#) #124 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > United States](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

When sweet Cindy Ellen's father marries his ornery new wife, she and her nasty daughters take to picking on Cindy. This retelling of the traditional Cinderella tale is full of "twirling swirling" fun. Cindy's fairy godmother helps her get to both the wild and woolly rodeo and the square dance where Cindy Ellen meets the rodeo champion Joe Prince. Of course, sparks fly - as does Cindy at the stroke of midnight, leaving Joe Prince to search out his lost cowgirl. In this version, Cindy Ellen must gather her gumption to receive the fairy godmother's magical gifts and the result is a cowgirl who is strong as well as pretty, making this a positive read for both children and parents.

I bought this book to include in a literature unit on Cinderella stories for my second grade class. They loved it. The story was especially fun for us in Oklahoma. Cindy is much more like my girls and

the events are more familiar. They don't go to balls or fancy parties yet, but they sure know about rodeos and bar-b-ques. Any teacher doing Cinderella stories must have this one.

I don't actually like this story myself, but my daughter loves it so I'm giving it five stars since the book was purchased for her. It is basically the Cinderella story retold in the Old West. The book is heavy on rodeo slang and cowboy terminology, so make sure you know the meanings of all the words before you give it to your child. You will be asked lots of questions.

I loved this book and have read it with several children at different times. It's a twist on the Cinderella story, but easily stands on its own. The use of western vocabulary brings smiles and children love that. Also, the heroine isn't a classic beauty but a "real girl" and that helps send a positive message. The book is short and easily read at one sitting. It's best used to encourage the child to talk about the characters and the story.

I loved using this book when I did a Cinderella unit with students in the library. Cindy Ellen is just a lot of fun. We were able to do a lot of good comparing of the different versions, too. The children really did enjoy the rodeo part of Cindy Ellen as I did. One child said that the Cindy Ellen story was a lot more fun than the original version. I found that interesting. We liked the illustrations and we also liked learning about rodeos and that nice people do end up winning the prizes some of the time. This is a cute story and I do recommend it for elementary school libraries and classroom collections. Five stars from me.

Purchased this book for my daughter who a) loves Cinderella and b) loves being a cowgirl! Great little story with nice illustrations. A bit wordy for 5 and under, but my 4 year old who is familiar with the plotline was interested and engaged.

Add this to your classroom collection for rainy day Compare-Contrast lesson activities based on Cinderella story line. Look for Asian Cindy and even a MALE Cinderella story "Prince Cinders" ,..with same story line.

My 4 year old Texas niece loved this book! So did her mother and aunt (both school teachers) who plan on ordering copies for their classrooms. Delightful story and adorable illustrations. This Yankee aunt hit gold!

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