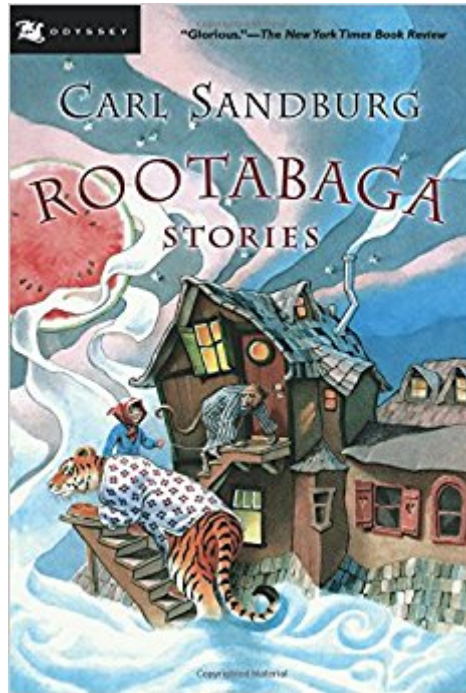




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# Rootabaga Stories



## Synopsis

Welcome to Rootabaga Country--where the railroad tracks go from straight to zigzag, where the pigs wear bibs, and where the Village of Cream Puffs floats in the wind. You'll meet baby balloon pickers, flummywisters, corn fairies, and blue foxes--and if you're not careful, you may never find your way back home! These beautiful new editions retain the original illustrations by Maud and Miska Petersham, and feature gorgeous new jackets by acclaimed illustrator Kurt Cyrus. Carl Sandburg's irrepressible, zany, and completely original *Rootabaga Stories* and *More Rootabaga Stories* will stand alone on children's bookshelves--when they aren't in children's hands.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1130L (What's this?)

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; 1-Simul edition (April 1, 2003)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 015204714X

ISBN-13: 978-0152047146

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.5 x 7.6 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars 41 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #222,955 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #8 in [Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Collections](#) #1796 in [Books > Children's Books > Classics](#) #10157 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction](#)

Age Range: 7 - 10 years

Grade Level: 2 - 5

## Customer Reviews

"Takes the home-bred American fantasy of *The Wizard of Oz* even further."--School Library Journal  
"Glorious for reading aloud."--The New York Times Book Review

Joyous, humorous, poetic, and always uniquely American, Carl Sandburg's *Rootabaga Stories* are an important part of our children's literary legacy. In inimitable prose, Sandburg created Rootabaga Country--where the railroad tracks go from straight to zigzag, where the pigs have bibs on, and where the Village of Cream Puffs floats in the wind--and populated it with baby balloon pickers, flummywisters, Poker Face the Baboon and Hot Dog the Tiger, the White Horse Girl and the Blue

Wind Boy, corn fairies, blue foxes, and many more fanciful characters. Rootabaga Stories, Part One is irrepressible, zany Americana-an anthology to delight admirers of Sandburg's genius. --This text refers to an alternate Paperback edition.

Originally I was interested in the book because of it being a Carl Sandburg writing. After reading a chapter or so I lost interest. I felt the book tries too hard to be clever. I felt it was trying to appeal to children with overly descriptive character names and circumstances. I found it hard to follow myself, so perhaps younger readers would find it hard to follow also.

I first encountered these stories when my children were small. All of us responded with delight to the word music and rhythm of Sandburg's writing. The off-beat names for people and things and the imaginative/implausible events and explanations delighted them. Now we are using that sense of skewed reality to prompt the imagination of seniors. The stories are wonderful and timeless.

My son, who works on programming for English as a second language programs, loves this book and will use it in his work. The stories are so delightful. I wish I had heard of them much earlier. I would have read them to my children when they were little.

Entertaining for young and old, but difficult to read to someone else. Some of the sentences are tongue-twisters

I bought this book for my children and though they don't really get it yet, I hope one day they will. They are 5 and 8 years old. I remember my dad reading this book to me when I was a child and I loved the stories and still remember some of them, but I guess maybe I was a little older? Can't really remember. But if you have younger kids, this may not be the best story book. But it's a great book for older kids.

As a child, my twin sister and I were lulled to sleep by a parent reading these wonderful stories. So enthralled was I, I've remembered them into my dotage. I was delighted to find them still out there, and purchased them (and the beloved Uncle Wiggley Stories) for the children of a friend. Not sure how the present generation of children would relate to these old stories, I was delighted to find these children had become just as enthralled as I was! Some books are timeless, and these stories are among them. I think adults would love them too, if they missed them in their youth.

Love these because they are timeless and I used to read them to my classes when I taught school.

Carl Sandburg writes with a unique perspective of life and this is carried into his children's stories as well. A little non-sensible and filled with witty rhyming schemes and silly topics, this is a fun book to share with a child, or to read as an adult.

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