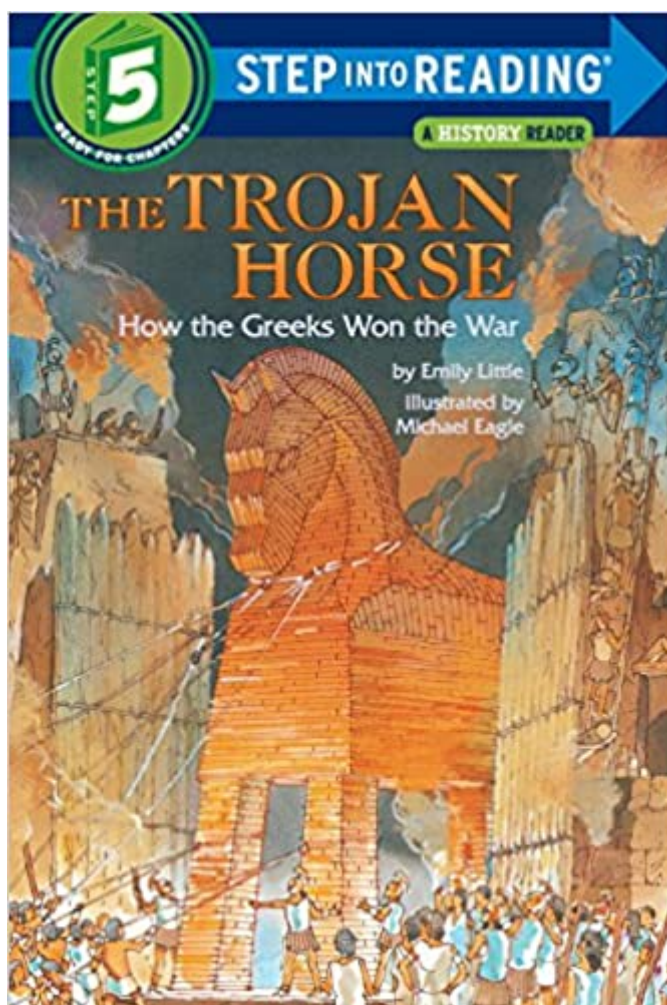


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# The Trojan Horse: How The Greeks Won The War (Step Into Reading)



## Synopsis

Illus. in full color. "An ancient history lesson emerges from this account of the way the Greeks tricked the Trojans and rescued Helen of Troy. The book is well tailored to younger readers with careful explanations and short sentences; a pronunciation guide is appended. Drawings portray the story's main events. A nice supplement to units on ancient Greece or mythology."--Booklist.Â Â

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 450L (What's this?)

Series: Step into Reading

Paperback: 48 pages

Publisher: Random House Books for Young Readers (November 8, 1988)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0394896742

ISBN-13: 978-0394896748

Product Dimensions: 6.1 x 0.2 x 9.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 62 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #16,686 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #6 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > Military & Wars #11 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Europe #25 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Military & Wars

Age Range: 7 - 9 years

Grade Level: 2 - 4

## Customer Reviews

Grade 2-4 This basic vocabulary treatment presents the Trojan War on a scale that is less than epic. The plodding present-tense voice and pedestrian style are almost definitive in the way in which they bland the story out. "The chariots race around the battlefield. The Greeks chase the Trojans. The Trojans chase the Greeks." Little's fall of Troy has all of the excitement (and none of the tension) of being stuck in traffic for two hours. A much better treatment of the destruction of Troy, both in text and illustration, is James Reeves' *The Trojan Horse* (Watts, 1968; o.p.). Reeves maintains the Homeric narrative in a less edited form: including, for example, the death of Laocoon, which Little omits. Reeves' first-person voice creates the vivid, immediate, and dramatic effects so suitable, even necessary, to the epic and so glaringly absent from Little's bleached, textbook prose.

The illustrations are representational but bland, done primarily in shades of brown, buff, and gold with touches of blue and red. The bare bones of Homer's epic is here, but it is not presented in a style that will inspire young readers. Ann Welton, Lake Dollof Elementary School, Auburn, Wash. Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Illus. in full color. "An ancient history lesson emerges from this account of the way the Greeks tricked the Trojans and rescued Helen of Troy. The book is well tailored to younger readers with careful explanations and short sentences; a pronunciation guide is appended. Drawings portray the story's main events. A nice supplement to units on ancient Greece or mythology."--"Booklist.

My parents bought me this book when I was very young and I've happily bought copies first for my nephew and now for my daughter. It's a simple, spare account of the Trojan War focusing on the causes of the war and the end of the war itself. The Trojan Horse introduces a handful of the Iliad's cast--Odysseus, Menelaus, Helen, Priam--but omits stories like that of Achilles and Hector. It also includes a lot of archaeological information, making this a hybrid of archaeology and Homer. The final chapter briefly describes the rediscovery of Troy by the 19th century archaeologist Heinrich Schliemann, a chapter that excited me as a child about the reality of history and the fact that much of it still out there somewhere, waiting for us beneath the dust. Perhaps my favorite part of the book is the illustrations. These excited me even before I could handle reading the story on my own. They're detailed, dynamic, and powerfully evocative of the world created by the story. With names like Agamemnon floating through the story, The Trojan Horse may be best suited as a transitional text for kids learning to read with a parent's help. With such good illustrations, it also works as a picture book you can read to a preliterate child. I recommend it heartily for anyone with a child showing an early love for history and myth. Highly recommended.

I bought this for my five year old son. He really loves it! and I like that I'm also teaching him about history and something worthwhile. I feel like most children's books these days are nonsense. Im very pleased with my order!

Excellent book. Well written. Engaging story. Grandson loved it, and requests it often.

My son loved reading this book and learning about the Trojan war!

This was a very interesting book about the Greeks winning the war against Troy. I had meant for my 11 year old and I to read it together but my 6 year old became very interested and so she joined in listening along as well. The pictures were not great but the story was not boring and that is what I was looking for in this book.

This is a very competent introduction to The Iliad and The Aeneid for children (the story really conflates elements of the two epics, e.g., there is no Trojan Horse in the Iliad). The book presents a plausible political back drop for the conflict (that does not appear in either epic but makes sense), as well as Helen's betrothal to Paris, as the catalysts for the conflict. There are battle scenes. The construction of the horse, Sinon's deception, and the ultimate fall of Troy are well dramatized in language easily understood by children. There are maps to orient the reader to the locations of Greece, Asia Minor, and the Aegean and Black Seas. No, it's not eloquent but it's written in language easily understood by my seven year old boy and even enthralling to my near four year old boy (in combination with the pictures). That's quite an achievement given the relative complexity of the story that's told, I'd say. My boys love it, and nearly have it memorized. They are already enthralled by a seminal element of Western literature and for that I am in debt to this little book.

I bought this for my 7 year old daughter Gracie. She usually isn't in to history but once she started to read it she didn't stop reading she read it 3 times. And ask me to buy more books like it I was really pleased with this book I recommend this book!

Easy to read

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