



## Cowboy Small

*Lois Lenski*

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Cowboy Small takes good care of his horse, Cactus. In return, Cactus helps Cowboy Small get work done on the range. Together they round up cattle for branding and live the good life. At night, Cowboy Small eats at the chuck wagon, sings with his friends, and sleeps under the stars.

## **Cowboy Small Details**

Date : Published October 24th 2006 by Random House Books for Young Readers (first published 1949)

ISBN : 9780375835704

Author : Lois Lenski

Format : Board Book 32 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books

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## **From Reader Review Cowboy Small for online ebook**

### **Lizzie says**

"and that's all for cowboy small!" Oh my GOODness, I have such great memories of reading this little gem to my kids. It was one of our favorite stories when they were very young. Wonderful clear illustrations. Thank you Lois Lenski, where ever you are. =)

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### **Alexandra says**

I really enjoyed this bilingual (Spanish-English) picture book. The illustrations help with understanding the text and they are beautifully quaint.

I obtained this book at my library, and had initially ignored it because it was old, but it is a very enjoyable book even though it was worn.

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### **Marina says**

My kids are huge fans of the Mr Small books:). It really doesn't get much better for them than to have a character named Cowboy Small!

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### **Betsy says**

My kids LOVE the "Small" books. We found a copy of this one in our local library that was translated into Spanish and was bilingual--from the '60's!! How progressive...

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### **Valerie says**

Summary: Cowboy Small takes good care of his horse, Cactus. In return, Cactus helps Cowboy Small get work done on the range. Together they round up cattle for branding and live the good life. At night, Cowboy Small eats at the chuck wagon, sings with his friends, and sleeps under the stars. I read the Spanish version of this book, entitled "Vaquero Pequeno," which had a side-by-side Spanish and English text.

Potential Audience (reading level): Emergent/Early Reader

Genre: Bi-lingual fiction book (Spanish and English)

Topic: cowboys, life on a ranch, bilingual book

Specific curricular uses: This book would be great for a guided reading activity in Spanish class. The teacher

could first model reading the book, and then guide students as they read through and learn the Spanish words. Have students match the Spanish and English terms.

Social issues the book addresses: life on a ranch, how Spanish and American culture have intertwined

Specific literary elements: The two-language text establishes this book as multi-cultural. The author uses some dialogue to give readers a sense of cowboys talk and some onomatopoeia to make this book special. An example of onomatopoeia is when the author is referring to the sounds a horse makes with its hoofs, "Clopety, clopety, clop!" Examples of dialogue include, "Giddap, Cactus!" and "Yip-pee! Ride 'em, cowboy!"

Interactions and counter actions of text and images: The pictures do a good job of helping readers visualize the text because many children may not know what a ranch looks like or what cowboys do on a ranch. Because most children have never experienced or visited a ranch first-hand, the illustrations follow the text very closely so there is no confusion for readers.

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\*I would like to nominate the book, "Cowboy Small/Vaquero Pequeno" by Lois Lenski (Spanish translation by Donald Worcester) for this award because it is a simple tale about an American cowboy that has the Spanish translation of the text side by side with the English. I like the fact that the topic of the book is not about Spanish culture, yet it has a Spanish translation, because it shows how our cultures have influenced one another and can exist in harmony with each other. This book would be excellent for 1st through 4th grade readers, and any beginning Spanish readers! Because I believe this book does a good job of showing how American and Spanish cultures have intertwined, and that the Spanish language is, in fact, an important part of America, I feel that this book is deserving of the "All around the world" award.

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### **Jeremiah says**

I became interested in these books after watching too many Lone Ranger & Tonto reruns on television when I was about very young. The stories are simple, Small and his horse Cactus on some adventure on the range or the farm. Each is sweet, innocent and teach respect, manners and the value of simple things.

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### **Audrey Dailey says**

This book has a neigh-neigh so it's a big hit.

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### **Liane Marie says**

*Category: Boardbook*

*Age:* 0-3+ years

*Synopsis:* A sweet little book detailing a day in the life on a ranch for Cowboy Small and his horse, Cactus.

*Bilingual benefit:* With old-timey charm and illustrations, this book is a great source of Americana for a child living abroad. The text also features onomatopoeia (the horse goes “cloppety clop”), expressions that are uniquely American (“giddyup!” and “yip-pee!”), and unusual words that will build a child’s English vocabulary (“bunkhouse” and “range”). In addition, there is a reference to the classic American song, “Home Home on the Range,” the unofficial anthem of the cowboys of the American West.

*Availability in Israel:* I have not found this book in Israel and it does not seem to be readily available in bookstores in the United States either. However, it can be ordered online via Amazon.

*Previewing the book:* This book is available for preview on Amazon USA. (last checked 6/10/2014)

*Lil guy:* An all-time favorite.

*Mama:* Highly recommended. I would buy this again and for a friend.

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### **Brent says**

Still our favorite Lenski.

"Giddyap, Cactus."

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### **Babette Reeves says**

My oldest loved these books (there's a whole series). They are from the 40's so they show only men, but children just love them. Most reprints I have found are in board book format.

Recommended ages: birth through age 3

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### **Christy says**

Cowboy Small takes good care of his horse, Cactus. In return, Cactus helps Cowboy Small get work done on the range. Together they round up cattle for branding and live the good life. At night, Cowboy Small eats at the chuck wagon, sings with his friends, and sleeps under the stars.

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### **Sylvester says**

4\* art

4\* story

Wonderful fun, and Lenski uses the proper words for things (bridle, corral, etc.) instead of dumbing down. Squirt will like this even more as time goes on, I think.

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### **Amy says**

Ah, little boys and cowboy stories... My nephew loved this book about Cowboy Small, and he loved hearing about all of Cowboy Small's adventures. I did have to chuckle a little, though, when on one page Cowboy Small slept under the stars in his bedroll, and on another page he slept in a bunkhouse. When my nephew saw him sleeping in the bunkhouse, he said with a tone of derision in his voice, "Huh. Well *last night* he slept *outside*." Apparently cowboys are supposed to forgo comfort. :-)

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### **Jon(athan) Nakapalau says**

Beautiful return to a time and place that is long gone.

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### **Hayley says**

Wonderful story for children. This story makes me want to be a cowboy. I love all the details and the glossary too.

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