



An Undone Fairy Tale

Ian Lendler , Whitney Martin (Illustrator)

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Now, Ned and I admire how well you read. But the story will be ruined if you turn the page right now.

So please don't.

A beautiful pie-making princess is trapped in a tower. Can Sir Wilbur rescue her? And more importantly, can he do it while wearing a tutu? He's going to try! But if you read the story too quickly, Ned won't be able to make the pictures or costumes in time. And happily-ever-after may start to go a bit haywire.

Join Ian Lendler and Whitney Martin for a fairy tale that takes off into hilarious uncharted territory -- all because you won't *slow down!*

An Undone Fairy Tale Details

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Author : Ian Lendler , Whitney Martin (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review An Undone Fairy Tale for online ebook

Heidi-Marie says

This was fantastic! If I weren't at the desk reading it, I would have had some great, long, loud laughs. The illustrations are great. The story is wonderful. And the idea of it all--absolutely hilarious! Not really one to read for a story time, but a great lap-sitting book or on one's own.

7/1/10 So, I was doing an "Out of the Ordinary" theme in school-age, because I love books that "speak" to the audience, etc. That go against the norm. And this one is one of my favorites in that genre. For some time I didn't think I'd be able to handle reading this in a storytime. Wouldn't it be too confusing? Could they get it? But I determined that the older children could. And then decided to use a British accent during the actual story part, and my normal accent in the interjections. I also, while doing the picture-panning, asked the audience if we should turn the page or not. All of these really helped and oh my word it was a FANTASTIC story for them! They loved it so much and I had such a great time reading it. Definitely takes longer (and I forgot to look at just how much time it took), but the school-age was the perfect group for it.

10/23/13 With only about 5 kids in my ST, they were just the right size to sit through this slightly longer book. I did British accent for story part, and Southern accent for the interjections. The kids followed along pretty well, though lowering or raising my voice on the interjections may also have helped. Still, the kids got it and enjoyed it. So accommodating, too, as by the end when the guy asked if they could finish the book later, half of the kids said "OK." :-)

9/24/18 We now own this book (thank you, Book Sale). SD read had Daddy read it for her bedtime book. He did fabulously reading, and she enjoyed it immensely.

Brooke says

it was so silly

Dolly says

This is a hilarious take on the typical fairy tale. The back and forth conversation with the reader is highly entertaining and our girls laughed out loud the whole time I read this book. I find it to be a fun coincidence that we're also reading another book with a lot of conversation with the reader: A Tale Dark and Grimm. That's a very different story but the fun conversation has much the same effect of making the reader laugh. We really enjoyed this story and we've read it together a couple of times.

george says

The book starts out as a nice fairy tale, but keeps getting interrupted. See, Ned, the illustrator, can't keep up

with the reader's pace and continually begs the reader to slow down and not turn the page yet. As a result, Ned is forced to alter his work to keep up: the knights have to wear tutus and ride fish into battle because that's all Ned has ready; the dragon is in the shower and is replaced with a pretzel. The mix of fairy tale and speaking to the reader is well-done and humorous.

I loved this book! And the 8 and 3-year-olds I read it to loved it as well. The fairy tale is original(ish) and the parts directed towards the reader are hilarious. Fun all around and a great read.

Gen says

What a hilarious book! *An Undone Fairy Tale* took a classic fairytale and gave it a comical twist. The story begins with a princess locked in a tower and needs rescuing. Many knights have attempted to rescue the princess in despair, but none of them had any success. Now here comes the twist, as the reader continues to read, the author jumps in and interacts with the reader, telling them to slow down because the painter (Ned) needs more time to complete his artwork. The readers, of course, continue to flip through the pages, and due to the lack of time, the illustrator rushes and begins creating random pictures (a donut on the king's head instead of a crown, a prince riding a giant fish, tutus in place of armor). At the end, the princess becomes impatient and rescues herself and her knight in shining...tutu? Because this book is so interactive, the children will definitely become curious and giggle their way till the last page is turned. This story is clever, humorous, wacky, and unique.

Miriam says

This cute, mad-lib style fairy tale tells two parallel stories, one of a princess whose stepfather locks her up because he doesn't want to lose her pie-baking talents, and the other of Ned, the hapless artist who is trying to build/illustrate the story. Running out of time to complete the scenes, Ned starts throwing in whatever he has at hand: bananas for swords, his dog (with a snorkel and strap-on shark fin) for a sea monster, etc. The characters have to cope with these unexpected substitutions and missing pieces. Lots of humorous details and sight gags.

Lisa Vegan says

This is a brilliantly funny and very cleverly illustrated story.

It's perfect for all independent readers, readers of all ages, particularly those who know the difference between the words knight and night, and also for insecure or struggling readers.

I laughed so many times, and it cheered me up from what was otherwise a significantly dark mood.

This book has an unusually unique melding of story and picture. And, the story ended up really working; it's not just a gimmick. It's hilarious and has some good things to say too.

I got such a kick out of this original and wacky fairy tale.

A huge thank you to Goodreads' friend Kathryn for alerting me to this charming book.

Paloma Calvillo says

The book *An Undone Fairy Tale* would be categorized as a traditional tale, more specifically a fairy tale. The reasoning is because of its traditional folkloric characters that are featured. The beginning starts with a princess locked in a tower and throughout the book there are knights, princes, and dragons. The book is based on a "once upon a time" setting with that being the opening line of the book. This is definitely a modern and quirky fairy tale, but has all the essentials to qualify as a traditional fairy tale.

Ashley says

From cover to cover the book seems unfinished but it is completely finished in its own way. The illustrations were great, the image of the person actually illustrating the pages was creative and interesting. I enjoyed the narrator at the bottom of the page telling the reader to wait and also telling the reader that they are a great reader. This book would appeal to young readers because of the humor and also the appraisal that is received by the narrator. This story is a complete twist of what normal fairy tales are and I think that is what makes it interesting.

Emily Hofmann says

What starts off as a traditional fairy tale with many handsome suitors attempting to rescue a beautiful princess, quickly takes a hilarious turn in *An Undone Fairy Tale* by Ian Lendler (illustrated by Whitney Martin). When Ned, the man who paints the pictures for the unraveling story, gets overwhelmed from the audience's speedy reading, he must improvise to create the scenes quick enough to keep up. As a result, the knights must wear tutus and ride on fish to slay what would have been the dragon if he wasn't busy taking a shower, so instead is an evil pretzel! Read *An Undone Fairy Tale* to find out what other twists Ned will create in the nick of time to create a story just for you.

This story is so much fun to read with children in primary grades because it has age appropriate humor that they think is hilarious. I love reading this story, along with other twisted tales, as a part of my fairy tale unit and then having students write their own versions of a traditional fairy tale. The kids are so creative and their tales are a blast to read!

Kathryn says

Hilarious! The story begins rather like a typical fairytale, with a princess locked in a tower (because she makes the best pies in the land and her father will not part with her pie-making abilities) and lots of knights attempting to rescue her with no success. But, as you read, the author interjects--urging you to slow down a little, because the illustrator hasn't quite finished the artwork for the next page yet. Of course, enthusiastic readers just can't quite bring themselves to stop, so turning the page reveals the "undone" part of the

fairy tale. The story progresses, but with some very amusing variations as the artist and author scramble to fill the void when the eager reader simply can't put on the breaks. (It all starts when the illustrator hasn't had time to finish his illustration of the king and has to put a donut on the king's head instead of a crown. The story/art "crumbles" from there!)

This could easily be a five-star book for many. I almost gave it five stars. It's very funny and creative. I could also see it annoying some people, but so it goes with humor. Definitely recommended to those who enjoy "fractured fairytales" and funny illustrations. Also, those looking for a take-charge princess won't be disappointed.

Malissa Bishop says

Such a funny kids' book. I really enjoyed it and I'm 27 haha!

Cheryl says

If I had to choose the very best of the 'meta' picture-books out there, this would definitely be on the short list, right up there with *The Monster at the End of this Book* and *Press Here*. Even literal children, who know that books don't get changed while one is reading them, will get a kick out of pretending to try to slow down to give the illustrator a chance to get the next page done. And the thing that makes it a keeper is that the story itself, even disregarding the gimmick, is silly fun.

kristen says

My class laughed so hard reading this book. What a refreshing twist on a fairy tale! My students were begging me to turn the pages when Ned, the illustrator, was telling us (the readers) not to. I loved that the heroine was the princess. Turns out she helped the prince out!! Yippee!!!

babyhippoface says

This title is reminiscent of "*The Monster at the End of This Book*" in that a character keeps begging you to stop turning pages. In this case, the anxious narrator explains that Ned, the illustrator, is working as fast as he can, but he hasn't finished the illustrations yet.

Case in point: Sir Wilbur calls for his horse and armor, but Ned hasn't finished drawing them yet. All Ned has is some fish, and the only completed costumes are tutus, so, since you just will not stop reading so fast... the knights will just have to wear tutus and ride fish.

No time to draw a dragon--you're turning pages too quickly!--so substitute the closest thing poor Ned can find. A pretzel. Oooh! A fierce pretzel!

Which leads us to a sentence like this (which, I am confident in saying, has never been written or possibly

even uttered before): "Suddenly a flock of pretzels flew down and melted the Popsicle walls into a rushing river that swept the pickles away and WHACK! the princess knocked the king into the moat and then...."

See what I mean?

Cute, funny, at times ridiculously silly, this one is sure to elicit lots of dainty giggles and downright guffaws from the K-2nd grade set.

My favorite page? Ned's dog, Trevor, with a shark fin tied to his head, pretending to be a shark. Fierce shark-dog, indeed.
