



The Woods

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Being afraid of the dark doesn't mean being afraid alone. When a boy can't find his favorite stuffed bunny, he bravely heads into the woods to look for it. Instead, he finds a big, scary brown bear! But the bear is just lonely, so the boy shares his night light and forges ahead with his new companion, until...they run into two frightening giants! As the boy continues on, he comes across other seemingly menacing creatures, but finds that—like him—they're just looking for some comfort and security before bedtime. Simple text and classic European style meet a fresh, modern twist in this delightful picture book.

The Woods Details

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Author : Paul Hoppe

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From Reader Review The Woods for online ebook

Barbara says

When his favorite stuffed bunny is missing, a boy summons his courage to find him in the woods. After all, he needs his bunny in order to sleep comfortably. In the dark woods, he encounters a bear, giants, a dragon, and a scary monster, but each one turns out to be not so scary after all. With a hug and a kind word, all the scary things end up back in the boy's bed. This would be a good read aloud about facing one's fears and illustrating the fact that everyone wants to feel understood. The pen and watercolor illustrations have a rustic quality about them that fits an adventure in the woods--even if it is taken in the imagination--quite well.

Tricia says

Every night before bed, a boy gathers his bedtime things, except the night that his pink bunny goes "missing". On this night he steps into "the woods"--on an imaginary journey during which he meets scary creatures that are, well---adorable. Loved it (as did my children). I used it for a rapt preschool storytime audience with a few "he doesn't look that scary" comments thrown in for good measure--just in case the most impressionable find adorable three-headed dragons even slightly frightening fodder for nightmares.

Tori says

A little boy gets ready to curl up in bed with his bunny... but his bunny is missing! He'll have to go into the woods. There, he'll encounter bears, giants, dragons, and monsters. This was a great selection for this year's monster themed storytime. The little boy is both brave and kind, and all the monsters turn out to be misunderstood but friendly. At the end, of course, it's all just pretend - the boy's toys were the stars the whole time. The children loved it, particularly pointing out all the toys at the end.

Adam Silvera says

Loved this! I immediately wanted to run to my phone while at work just to add this to my Read-Shelf and 5 star it. I prefer it over "Where the Wild Things Are", the Caldecott winner that many will reasonably compare this story to.

In a poll, I'll happily select "The Woods".

Coreena McBurnie says

This is such a cute book! My daughter loves when I read it to her. The illustrations are bright and simple, and the text is suspenseful and engaging. This is a great book for kids who are afraid of the dark, as well as providing some great lessons on empathy and sharing.

The story has a young boy in bed at night, but he can't find his stuffed bunny, so he goes looking for it in the woods. He is not afraid, until... The boy deals with his fear, then moves onto the next adventure. Kids will love the suspense of every "He's not afraid, until.." and they have to turn the page to see what the boy comes across next. The boy then comes up with a creative solution and moves on to the next adventure.

I highly recommend this charming book for kids. It has everything kids love: suspense, good, inviting illustrations and a character they can identify with, one who takes control and works out his problems. My kids love it and have me read it over and over.

Rani says

#GoodNight #books where could a boy's favorite toy have gone? #YoungReaders #PictureBook
#BookReview #ChildrensBooks #amreading #adventure #boys #bedtime

Loyal says

The Woods was a really cute book, about a boy making a journey to recover his stuffed animal. But what will he encounter on the way? Very cute, loved reading this with my niece.

Darinda says

A boy can't find his favorite stuffed bunny at bedtime, so he decides to go look for it in the woods. On his journey, he encounters a big brown bear, two giants, a three-headed dragon, and a scary monster. Full of imagination, a fun bedtime story for little ones.

Anna says

This book follows a little boy at bedtimes as he conquers his fears. When he is about to go to sleep he realizes that he does not have his bunny to hug. He realizes the only place that it could be is the woods. He then meets scary animals and monsters but it turns out they are not scary at all. In the end they meet the scariest monster of all, and they all decide to share the bunny, so that everyone is happy. I really enjoyed this book and I think that it would be a good book to read to your children before bed, especially if they are scared of monsters. One of the morals of the book that I really like was that people that you might be scared of, just need a little bit of care and then they will be your friends. This is important for people to learn at an early age of social skills later on in life.

Franki Sibberson says

A fun new cumulative tale. The repeated/predictable text will be a great support for new readers.

Alyssa Tabor says

Love this one! Short, text that can be made interactive, and surprises. Perfect for storytime!

Danielle says

It's almost bedtime and suddenly none of this boys nighttime toys are anywhere to be seen. With no way of possibly going to bed without them he does what any other boy would do in this situation...he goes into the woods. Along his journey he meets a number of strange creatures from a three headed dragon to giants and even a monster, but are they really so scary or do they just need a little help of their own? In the end he may just learn that it's better to stick together than face the night alone.

For anyone who has ever had a little kiddo struggle with nightmares or simply being afraid of the dark, you must read this book! Not only do I absolutely love the illustrations and the feel of the pages (it's less glossy than most picture books), but I love the entire concept. Of course we've dealt with nighttime issues since the time Turkeybird was old enough to get out of his own bed, and even before that! What do you say to a child when they are afraid of the dark or have a nightmare? Yes, there's the traditional comforting and even the more fun "monster spray" in the form of a clean spray bottle that's been decorated, but sometimes those things simply aren't enough. When we reached that last stage I was grateful for the many books we discovered that gave him comfort and me ideas to help him with, including this one.

In *The Woods* by Paul Hoppe this little boy is an adventurer from the start. He sets out to discover the whereabouts of his bunny and along the way makes a few friends to take home. What's unique about this is that it's not only an adventure story, but a way to teach children to be kind to others and offer help when you can give it. Instead of the little boy becoming overwhelmed by the things that could potentially frighten him he turns it into an opportunity to make things better. It's a fantastic concept and one that's shared simply enough that young readers will love and appreciate it again and again. *The Woods* by Paul Hoppe is definitely a bedtime book you don't want to miss!

Originally reviewed and copyrighted at my site, [There's A Book](#).

Rebecca says

This is a clever concept (I don't want to give it away) that would make this a great storytime book, especially if you are doing bedtime or not-so-scary. Would be fun paired with *Where's My Teddy?* or *Where the Wild Things Are* or *Go Away, Big Green Monster!* or "Going on a bear hunt."

Erin says

A boy conducts his nightly ritual of turning on his nightlight, reading a book, getting under the covers, and hugging his bunny goodnight. One night he could not find his bunny, and so begins a fun, adventurous story about his night in the "woods" to find his bunny. I would recommend this book to any kid who is afraid of the dark or is having difficulty sleeping because of bad dreams, scary shadows, etc. It shows how another kid handles that problem and how well it turns out in the end. Cute story and nice illustrations! I think this would

also be a good storytime book.

Megan says

A boy can't find his toy bunny when it's time for bed, so he enters the woods to look for it. He runs into a scary bear....but it turns out the bear is just scared of the dark. The boy helps the bear and they travel together further into the woods. They meet more scary creatures, but each one is not actually scary once they get to know each other. When the boy finally finds his bunny and returns home, the reader is left to wonder whether the adventure really happened or whether it was all pretend (much like *Where the Wild Things Are*).
