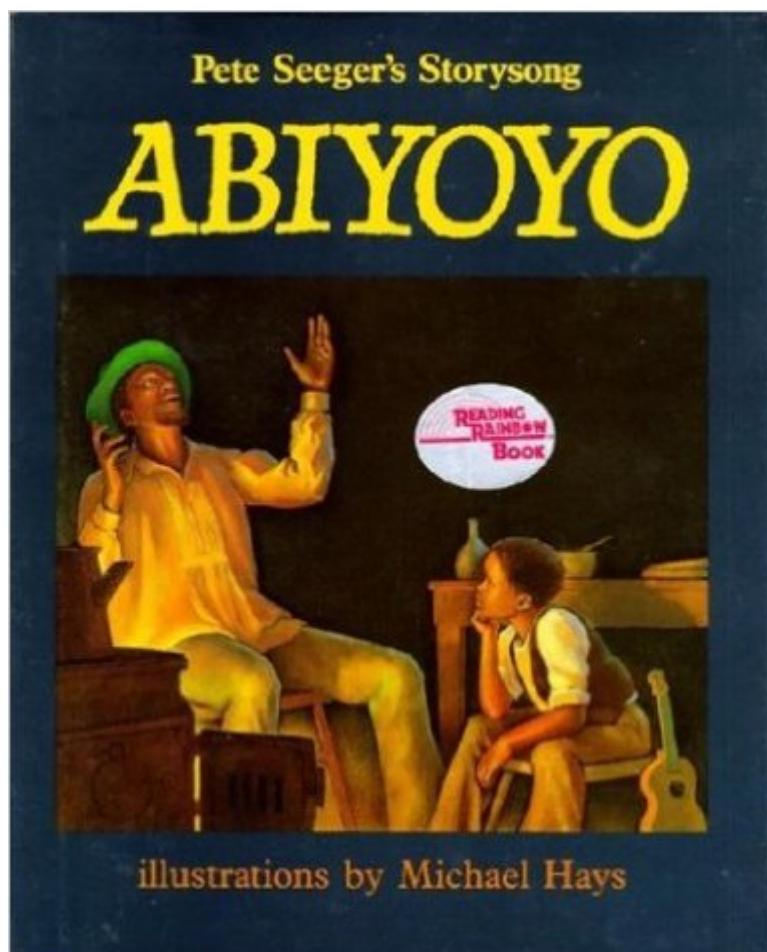


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# Abiyoyo



## **Synopsis**

Once there was a little boy who played the ukelele. Wherever he'd go he'd play, Clink, clunk, clonk. His father was a magician. Wherever he'd go, he'd make things disappear, Zoop! Zoop! Soon the townspeople grew tired of the boy's noise and his father's tricks, and banished both of them to the edge of town. There they lived, until one day the terrible giant Abiyoyo appeared. He was as tall as a tree, and it was said that he could eat people up. Everyone was terrified, except the boy and his father, and they came up with a plan to save the town... Peter Seeger's storysong, made up for his own children, finds its perfect match in Michael Hays's masterful paintings. Together they make a richly vivid and exciting story.

## **Book Information**

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Series: Reading Rainbow

Hardcover: 48 pages

Publisher: Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing (April 1, 1986)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0027814904

ISBN-13: 978-0027814903

Product Dimensions: 7.8 x 0.4 x 10.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (78 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #2,713,893 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #90 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > African #2557 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > African-American

## **Customer Reviews**

Abiyoyo was an African folktale, adapted by folk singer Pete Seeger as a bedtime story for his children, and later used in his concerts. The story is brilliant in its gripping simplicity, perfectly suited to capture the attention of small children and spark their imaginations. A little boy who plays the ukulele and his father, who plays tricks on people by using a magic wand to make things disappear are run out of town because they are annoying everyone. Then a giant from the old days, who eats people alive, comes and threatens the town, and it is only the little boy and his dad, using the very talents that had annoyed everyone, who save the day, and become heroes. This book is the very favorite of my two pre-school boys. Everyday they bring it to me repeatedly asking me to read it to

them. Every night, they request it as their last bedtime story (the story is easy to memorize, and lends itself well to personal adaptations). My four-year old will "read" the book himself, turning through the pages and repeating the story that he has memorized. Abiyoyo has captured their imaginations, and even entered into their play. The book's illustrations are intriguing. As I mentioned, this story was adapted from an African folktale, and the boy and his father are depicted appropriately in character. But the illustrator depicts the town in which they live as a global village, with the residents being of many races and cultures, all wearing classic costumes of those cultures. Originally, this concept put me off a bit - an impossible mish-mash village that seemed little more than a sop to political correctness for kids. But as I watched my kids react to the book, my opinion changed.

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Abiyoyo

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