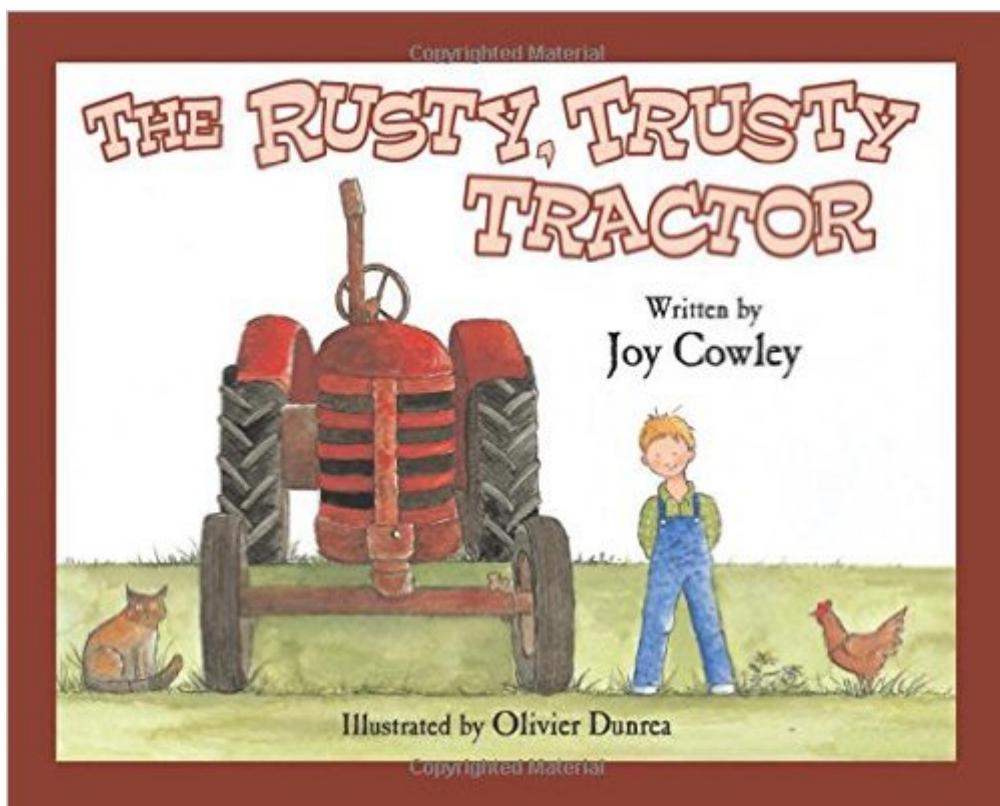


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# The Rusty, Trusty Tractor



## **Synopsis**

Mr. Hill of Hill's Tractor Sales is doing his best to sell a brand-new tractor to Micah's grandfather. He even wagers twenty jelly doughnuts that Granpappy's old tractor won't make it through haying season. As the days go by, Micah learns that the tractor is Granpappy's old friend, and as Granpappy says, "Friends don't let each other down."

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 530 (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Boyds Mills Press; Reprint edition (February 1, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1563978733

ISBN-13: 978-1563978739

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 10.2 x 8.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (34 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #327,341 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #23 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Cars, Trains & Things That Go > Construction Vehicles #89 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Science, Nature & How It Works > Heavy Machinery #165 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > Country Life

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## **Customer Reviews**

Joy Cowley's new book has at its core a strong message about ties that bind and relationships that last a lifetime. Granpappy and grandson Micah are approached by Mr. Hill of Hill's Tractor Sales with a tempting offer to buy a shiny new tractor. But Granpappy has farmed using his rusty but trusty tractor, ever since his old plow horse died. There is no way the old tractor should last another season, and Mr. Hill even bets 20 jelly donuts (one for every acre Granpappy plants in hay) that it will break down before the end of the summer. It doesn't. Mr. Hill pays up, and in a humorous conclusion that ol' rusty tractor even rescues Mr. Hill when he's bogged down in mud. This book is a lovely story about valuing people and things for their true worth, not their looks. All children are tempted by the "new," especially when it's bright and shiny and offers all the bells and whistles. But just as Granpappy cares for Micah and for the land, he cares lovingly for his old but reliable tractor.

When he burdens it with nearly impossible chores, he talks to it and coaxes it to perform. The language of the story is just as delightful as the message. It is perfect for read-alouds or storytime. The characters come to life with their dialogue ("Wang-a-dang, sir! You got more good luck than a hound dog in a butcher's shop!"). I recommend this book 100% for young readers and non-readers. The illustrations are lovely, with the old-fashioned farm warmly created in glowing tones. Joy Cowley has created another wonderful story!

This book is a very nice book for keeping children aware of the fact that sometimes "old is best" and maybe more reliable in some cases. Also it teaches that you don't have to have everything new in life to be happy. The relationship between the boy and his grandfather is wonderful. My 5 year old grandson is well aware of these facts, and this book reinforced these feelings. Thank you for a well-written children's book.

We like this book. When I was reading it to my son before school, my husband stopped what he was doing to listen. I didn't finish it before my son left for school and my husband picked the book up and finished it. Later in the day, I picked it up and finished it. I just had to know if the rusty old tractor was going to last through the season. This is a very good book. It is also an AR book worth 0.5 points. Living on a farm, this book reminded us of Grandpa and his old tractor.

Great book according to my 2 year old son! I have to agree with him but probably our reasons differ -- he loves the colorful, fun pictures of tractors, a small boy and his grandfather's farm. The story is not his main draw yet although it does keep him listening. I love the idea presented by the author that an old tractor has value and is maybe even worth more than a newer piece of farm equipment. It's one of those stories with a moral that doesn't scream "Important! Moral Ahead!"

Cute story about a boy, his grandfather, and an old tractor. My preschoolers enjoyed it, and I particularly liked the message that new isn't always better. The old tractor continues to work even when others didn't think it would. The grandfather wouldn't give up on an "old friend". Good for reinforcing not being a throw-away society.

Nostalgic and nice looking back into the history of an old tractor and how it came in to the family. The reliability of an old piece of equipment and the importance of family belongings and how the history of an object can tell a story.

Grandkids had already heard of it and had a few lines memorized. Perfect book for the boys in the family. Now we quote it too! As a teacher, parent, grandparent, my joy is in buying quality children's books for children. This one fills the bill.

I've read this book many time to my children. I'm glad I bought it. It's about a boy, his grandfather and their old tractor and farm. Grandpa doesn't want to give in to the new tractor sales man who it betting grandfathers old tractor will fail him - well it doesn't and it even comes through at the end to help the salesman.

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