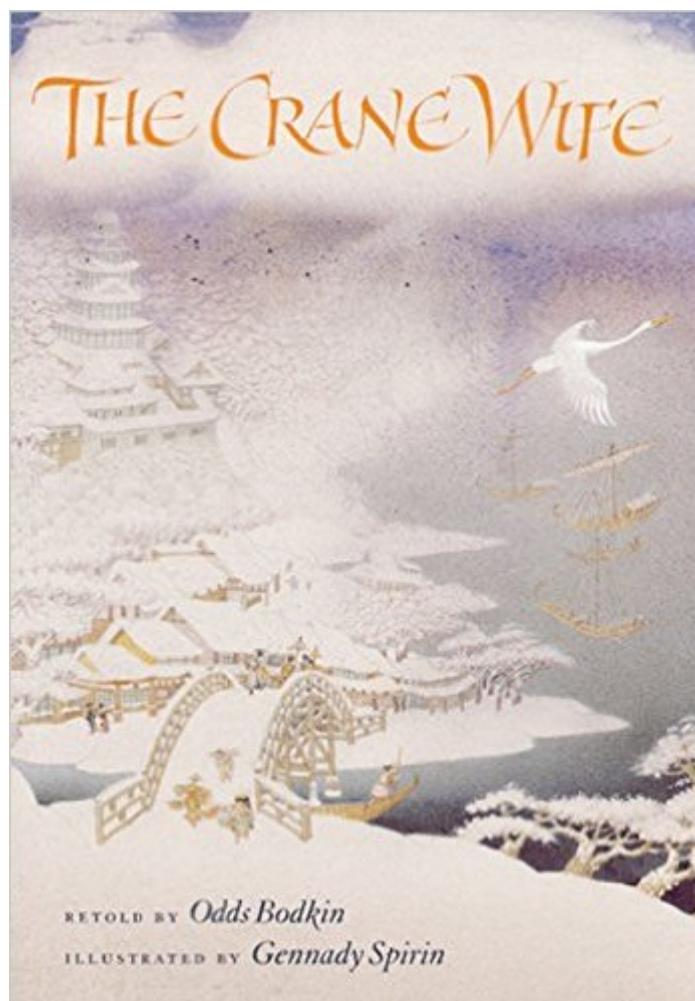


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# The Crane Wife



RETOLED BY *Odds Bodkin*  
ILLUSTRATED BY *Gennady Spirin*



## **Synopsis**

When Osamu, a lonely sail maker, nurses an injured crane one blustery night, he never suspects that this simple act of kindness will change his life forever. This retelling of a traditional Japanese folktale teaches readers young or old a lesson about life and love.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 320 (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; 1 edition (October 1, 2002)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0152163506

ISBN-13: 978-0152163501

Product Dimensions: 8.2 x 0.1 x 11.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (10 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #145,285 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #6 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Collections #175 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Multicultural #8255 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## **Customer Reviews**

"The Crane Wife" is one of those tragic Japanese love stories. Osamu is poor sail maker and he loves to watch cranes. He thought that cranes were very special and pretty. Osamu wants a wife but because he's poor, Osamu doesn't think he could get a wife. One night, a crane came by his door and the crane was hurt. Osamu nursed it back to life and the crane left. Time passes and a lovely woman came by and she became his wife, her name is Yukiko. When Osamu and Yukiko had no more money for food, Yukiko decided to make a magic sail. She makes one and tells Osamu to sell it. When Osamu sells it, he gets enough money to last for six months. Osamu starts to get greedy but Yukiko tells her husband that making these magical sails, take too much of her. Nevertheless Osamu demands Yukio to make these sails but when Osamu demands Yukiko to make these sails, would he destroy her? I love the pictures that come with this story. It's really detailed and very pretty and the colors made the pictures very vivid. The only thing that I hated about this story was how this story illustrates its moral of not taking things for granted. It's a tragic love story but in a way Osamu

deserved it.

This is a fairy tale about real life. Set in Japan, poor Osamu will never marry. One stormy night, he encounters an injured crane, and takes it in, and feeds and tends it. After it heals, it flies away. And one day, another storm blows a beautiful woman to his door. He tends her and marries her, and she gives him a wonderful gift. Twice. But he wastes her love and ignores her warning. Gennady Spirin's masterful illustrations are perfect for this story. What a joy to read a fairy tale this well-done.

I think adults may appreciate this one more than the children will. I've attempted to read it to my younger sisters (ages 4 and 6) and they're just not into it. It's a beautifully illustrated book with an interesting and tragic story, and you might want to save it for those a little older.

This story is so touching and moving it is hard to forget. I borrowed it from the library a few years ago and always remembered it. When I ran into it at a book store, I bought it immediately. The book really touched me and I love the story.

Beautifully illustrated traditional Japanese story of a lonely sail maker who nursed an injured crane back to health; shortly afterward the companionship he had always longed for literally knocked on his front door. The Crane Wife is a sad yet sweet fable of love, appreciation, and regret.

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