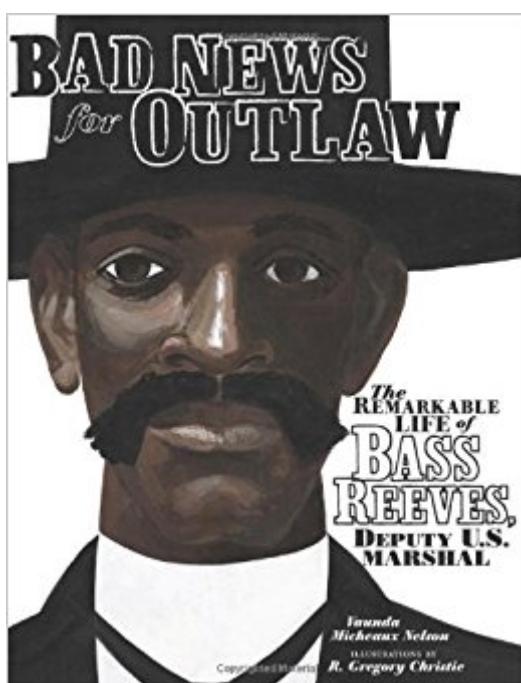


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# Bad News For Outlaws: The Remarkable Life Of Bass Reeves, Deputy U. S. Marshal (Exceptional Social Studies Titles For Intermediate Grades) (Nelson, Vaunda Micheaux)



## **Synopsis**

Sitting tall in the saddle, with a wide-brimmed black hat and twin Colt pistols on his belt, Bass Reeves seemed bigger than life. As a U.S. Marshal - and former slave who escaped to freedom in the Indian Territories - Bass was cunning and fearless. When a lawbreaker heard Bass Reeves had his warrant, he knew it was the end of the trail, because Bass always got his man, dead or alive. He achieved all this in spite of whites who didn't like the notion of a black lawman. For three decades, Bass was the most feared and respected lawman in the territories. He made more than 3,000 arrests, and though he was a crack shot and a quick draw, he only killed fourteen men in the line of duty. *Bad News for Outlaws* reveals the story of a remarkable African American hero of the Old West.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 860L (What's this?)

Series: Nelson, Vaunda Micheaux

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Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 60 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #247,217 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #26 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Law & Crime #157 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > History > United States > 1800s #386 in Books > Children's Books > Biographies > Multicultural

Age Range: 8 - 11 years

Grade Level: 3 - 6

## **Customer Reviews**

Best Books of the Month, November 2009 Tales of the Wild West don't get any better than the life and times of Bass Reeves, the first African-American deputy U.S. marshal and the most successful in American history. Vaunda Micheaux Nelson and illustrator R. Gregory Christie--both Coretta Scott King Award honorees--bring this fascinating historical figure to life in *Bad News for Outlaws*, their

superb book for middle grade readers. Kids will love the colorful language of the Old West, and the bold and dynamically rendered scenes of the heroic Reeves capturing the bad guys. And, they'll learn how the lawman--who was both greatly respected and feared--used his wits and intelligence, courage and character--and yes, incredible marksmanship--to bring more than 3,000 criminals to justice with fewer than 14 deaths in the line of duty. Put this knockout nonfiction book into the hands of readers ages 9-12. Bass Reeves is a name they won't soon forget. --Lauren Nemroff

Bass Reeves . . . "One of the bravest men this country has ever known." "The most feared deputy U.S. marshal that was ever heard of." The first black man to ever be a deputy U.S. Marshall. Sitting tall in the saddle, with a wide-brimmed black hat and twin Colt pistols on his belt, Bass Reeves seemed bigger than life. Outlaws feared him. Law-abiding citizens respected him. As a peace officer, he was cunning and fearless. When a lawbreaker heard Bass Reeves had his warrant, he knew it was the end of the trail, because Bass always got his man, dead or alive. He achieved all this in spite of whites who didn't like the notion of a black lawman. Born into slavery in 1838, Bass had a hard and violent life, but he also had a strong sense of right and wrong that others admired. When Judge Isaac Parker tried to bring law and order to the lawless Indian Territories, he chose Bass to be a deputy U.S. Marshall. Bass would quickly prove a smart choice. For three decades, Bass was the most feared and respected lawman in the territories. He made more than 3,000 arrests, and though he was a crack shot and a quick draw, he only killed fourteen men in the line of duty. The story of Bass Reeves is the story of a remarkable African American and a remarkable hero of the Old West.

I am a primary school librarian and read to the kids in 1st and 2nd grades weekly. It is often challenging to find books that appeal to the boys in this age group that not only they will enjoy, but present an inspiring and heroic figure. This true story of Bass Reeves who rose from slavery to become a Deputy US Marshall under Judge Isaac Parker has proven to be a great choice. When I read the book to them, it held their complete attention and everyone, boys and girls, want to check it out all the time. Bass Reeves was an inspiring figure and the kids have responded to his story. We need more books like this. I can highly recommend it for the younger grades, probably 1st to 4th grades.

This book is more for the elementary or middle school person. It wasn't until Bill O'Reilly Legend

and Lies series did I learned of his existence. Before the episode aired OR'eilly mentioned there would be a surprise by not showing his face until the first commercial break. If someone asked you about: "Wyatt Earp", ."Wild Bill Hickok" or Bat Masterson you would automatically know who they were. But if you were asked about a lawman who rode a white horse had a Native-American assistant, and used to disguises to catch his quarry if you were to answer "The Lone Ranger: you would be incorrect. Bass Reeves was not only longer but the others were amateurs by comparison. Spike Lee, Antoine Fuqua where are you?

This book is fabulous! It is interesting and exciting. Bass Reeves is a great role model for little kids and the book talks about a part of history many people don't know about.

My children were brought up riding a "Silver" rocking horse, and watching Lone Ranger movies, like I was as well, without realizing the truth. I wonder what my from Tennessee horse ranching father would have said if he had known who the real Lone Ranger was? The read is both entertaining and fills a void in my "mixed" Cherokee, Black and Anglo son, after all these years. Why there isn't a full feature length film on this book, I don't know, instead of that pitiful Disney film!

Another remarkable hero brought to life - I've enjoyed western stories and heroes but never heard of this great law enforcement official until I reviewed Bill O'Reilly's western series. Watch out outlaws...

Found this book for our Afroamerican awareness month at elementary school. Bass was a real old west hero. He lived a very impressing life. I am glad we got this well written and beautiful book

My 10 year old son chose to read this book from his school's required reading list. He enjoyed reading it and then telling us all about it afterwards. In my opinion, the illustrations were pretty bad, but my son did not seem to think there was anything amiss, so I gave it 5 stars.

Wow I loved this book, it was fantastic, I only wished it had been longer and had more stories. Great reading. It came in a satisfactory timeframe. The cost was so worth it. I really enjoyed it. Thanks

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