

Copyright Information for Illustration used in the story "Why the Chimes Rang That Night"

Researched by Lois Sprengnether Keel, December 20, 2021:

"I'm going to give you more background into the maze of copyright requirements.

I prowled fairly carefully because artwork might still be under copyright since Bobbs-Merrill did a variety of editions with an equally varied number of illustrators. Past 1925 (soon, on January 1 of 2022, it will become 1926 changing annually) IF the illustrator filed for their own illustrations used in the book to be renewed, copyright for the artwork is possible. Bobbs-Merrill, however, renewed three books -- 1924 (now expired), 1945 & 1954. That's including illustrations for the books, so any previously agreed upon coverage for the illustrators goes through them, but cannot exceed copyright law dates of expiration. Bobbs-Merrill no longer exists, but was taken over by first one publisher and then yet another. Wikipedia notes "In 1959, The [Howard W. Sams Company](#) purchased Bobbs-Merrill. When Sams was acquired by [Macmillan](#) in 1985, the Bobbs-Merrill name ceased being used, with the exception of continued sales of the Fifth Revision of [The Joy of Cooking](#). This book continued to be a steady seller for Macmillan. There were also selected College Division titles, such as the Library of Liberal Arts.^[4]" What that means is now Macmillan is tasked with keeping track of old copyrights still enforceable and would receive payment for the 1945 & 1954 editions. (Aren't you glad that 1945 edition wasn't used?)

The Baldwin Project and their later site of Gateway to the Classics used the Yesterday's Classics' version. I'm not sure if Yesterday's Classics is their own imprint or merely the reprint publisher they promote. They do operate as a membership required site for full access to what they offer online. Yesterday's Classics used a book (1924) out of copyright which they reprinted.

I checked a source for verifying copyright renewal you might want to know about, <https://exhibits.stanford.edu/copyrightrenewals> .

The illustrator of the copyright expired book used by Yesterday's Classics was Katharine Hayward Greenland from 1908. She didn't renew any of her work. She was probably dead by the time, 28 years later, it had to be done. Even if she was dead, her estate could have done so and didn't. Three versions published by Bobbs-Merrill were indeed renewed. I'm using the one with illustrations by Katharine Sturges because it went out of copyright in 2020 even though it was renewed. The 1945 and 1954 editions are still protected, but the story itself is not. This is why, when Yesterday's Classics went to produce their own reprinted book, they chose that earliest 1908 edition. Yes, they have a very limited bit of copyright coverage. They say:

Cover and arrangement © 2007 Yesterday's Classics, LLC.

This edition, first published in 2007 by Yesterday's Classics, an imprint of Yesterday's Classics, LLC, is an unabridged republication of the work originally published by The Bobbs-Merrill Company in 1908.

The underlining is my own. Their "cover" used an expired version, but I'm avoiding it. The "arrangement" puts the two boys right above the story's title and omits the tiny (too tiny to read, which is why I contacted you) signature in a box next to the taller boy. That signature was for Katharine Hayward Greenland. You do not have your posting arranged the way Yesterday's Classics arranged it AND your illustration includes that signature, showing it's not their version.

Breathe a sigh of relief and know Yesterday's Classics cannot come after you for copyright infringement. <sigh!> Isn't it a shame we have to worry about such things? For your ease of mind, if you want me merely to repeat the story of the family tradition and not include a link to it, please just let me know. Otherwise I will give <https://www.faithpoulsbo.org/component/content/article/11-news/55-why-the-ch> and name your church and location. Because I knew there were indeed versions still under copyright was why I contacted you.

I confess there is one area where my last email erred about safety. Not every book is out of copyright at Internet Archive, as opposed to a site like Project Gutenberg. They loan some books (usually for an hour!) and only give preview coverage of older books like the '45 & '54 prior to such loans. Since I have begun using as many online resources as possible to avoid strain on my oldest books, realizing the difference has been helpful and this has explained something worth my discovering."

LoiS(orry this has been so filled with legalese, but maybe it will ease your mind about your posting the story)

Lois Sprengnether Keel

<https://www.lois-sez.com/>

and blog at <https://www.StorytellingResearchLois.com>

[Storyteller in MI Arts & Humanities Directory](#)

and in Historical Society of Michigan Directory

<https://hsmichigan.org/resources/storytellers-speakers-performers/storyteller-lois-sprengnether-keel/>

State Liaison for National Storytelling Network

Webmaster for <https://michiganstorytelling.org/>