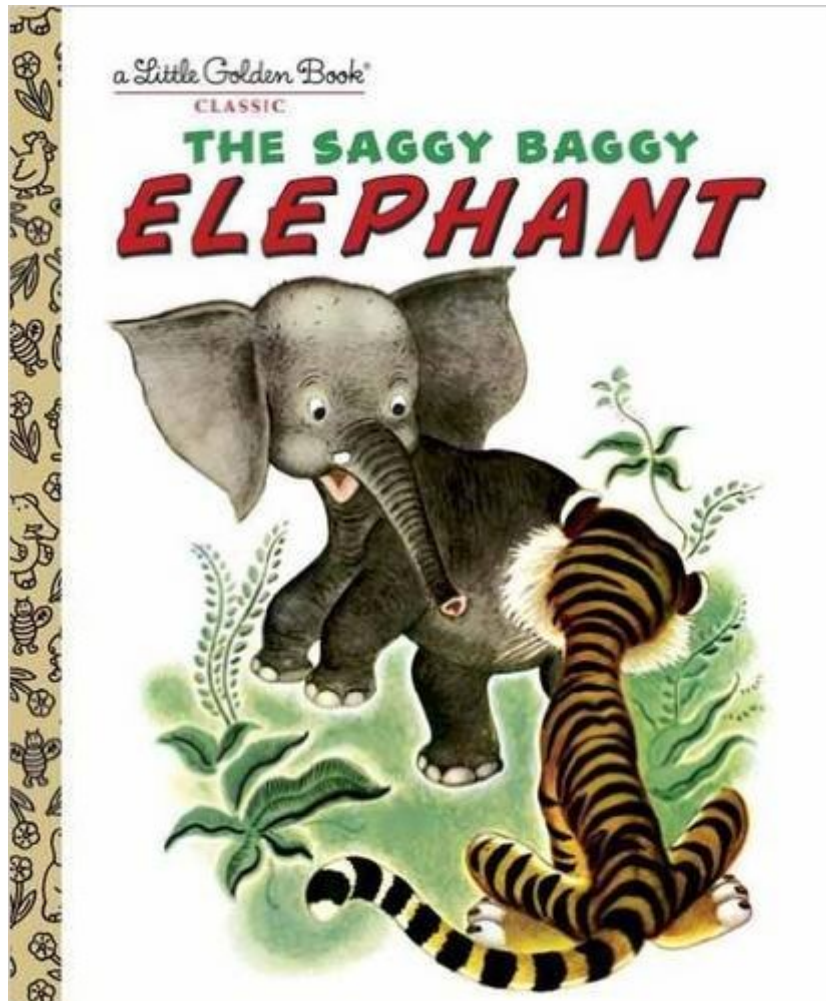


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# The Saggy Baggy Elephant (Little Golden Book)



## Synopsis

After a parrot makes fun of Sooki's big ears, long nose, and wrinkled skin, the saggy baggy elephant isn't too sure of himself. But once he meets some beautiful creatures who look just like him, Sooki celebrates with a joyful one-two-three-kick. For over 50 years, parents and children have treasured this tale, with gorgeous art by Gustaf Tenggren, the illustrator of *The Poky Little Puppy*.

## Book Information

Series: Little Golden Book (Book 20154)

Hardcover: 24 pages

Publisher: Golden Books; 1 edition (September 21, 1999)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0307021106

ISBN-13: 978-0307021106

Product Dimensions: 6.6 x 0.2 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (156 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #11,847 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #38 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Elephants](#) #1069 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction](#)

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

## Customer Reviews

When I first met my wife she had this book (*Saggy Baggy Elephant*) and what made it unusual was the book's actual size was about an inch and a half to two inches square. Just as a joke one night I asked her to read me the story of Sookie the Saggy Baggy Elephant in which she did. I fell in love with that book for sentimental reasons but the more it was read to me I realized its message is so good for children. I highly recommend this for anybody with small children. We lost that little book and this was back before computers were so popular that when I went looking to replace it I had a very hard time finding it in print. After a long exhaustive search I found a printing company that had a couple of copies and I think after paying about 40 to 50 bucks to get that book I wrapped it up and gave it to my wife for Christmas. The tears in her eyes when she saw that book again told me that she loved the story of Sookie the Saggy Baggy Elephant as much as I did. A gift I know she will never ever forget getting. A great book.

One week as a jr. high camp counselor, I was writing down names on a sign-up sheet with this book as the writing surface. Some girls came up that said they were bored, so I offered to paraphrase the book for them. It was quite possibly the best story I could have told them. As a story about self-image and how we are all beautiful, that we are exactly as we should be at that point, it is perfect for kids and even junior high girls. It is a message we don't hear nearly enough.

This is a fun and charming story of a happy little elephant that meets a tactless parrot. This parrot comments on the saggy skin of the elephant. He tries to improve himself, but without success. Sad and self-conscious, the little elephant decides to hide in a cave where no one can see how unattractive he is. Very soon something wonderful happens, however, and our sweet friend is happy once again. This children's classic will touch your heart and have you smiling.

Illustrations were lovely, as usual, and as a kind of odd child I was pretty familiar with the primary subject: getting bullied and not fitting in. The elephant in the story gets harassed by a parrot who says he looks like his skin doesn't fit, unlike all the other animals he was partying with. So, predictably, he's hurt and tries to find (possibly painful and dangerous) ways to be like everyone else, until he joins up with other elephants whose skin is as baggy as his and he realizes he's fine the way he is. Now on the one hand, it's true that it's an immense relief when you're different and you get made fun of and then you find people who are just like you. And this book is reassuring to kids who wonder whether their pack is out there. But on the other hand, even if there weren't others like the elephant in the book, surely he could have still found a way to work toward self-acceptance. I know these books have to be simplified to appeal to very young children, but I wish the elephant's feelings of self-worth hadn't been contingent upon finding others like him. Some people never do find the other elephants, or they don't exist. Becoming proud of the skin you're in is still possible in a tribe of one, and I think I like that message better than the one this story told.

I remember this book from my childhood and I get teary just telling people about it. It's the story of a baby elephant who is lost in the jungle and gets made fun of by the various other animals for the way he looks. Then he's found by a great herd of gray elephants who tell him he's a perfectly wonderful little elephant. Every child should have this book. Bill Cosby should read this book; he's probably already written his own version of it!

The Saggy Baggy Elephant is such a cute book, about an elephant that has no idea what kind of animal she is. Sooki, the elephant makes her way through the jungle and encounters lots of creatures that are happy to take a bite out of her. She is even made fun of because of her big ears, saggy skin, and long nose. Then she sees some beautiful elephants and wants to be beautiful like them. Guess what, she is! My daughter (age 6) loved this little golden book. Perfect read for us! I used this in her elephant study in our homeschool just to have a great fun book about a cute elephant!

My kids loved this book, so I bought it for my oldest son's soon to arrive baby. Saggy Baggy Elephant thinks her skin is too loose, so she doesn't look good enough, and races around trying to find out how to get nice sleek skin, until she finds a herd of elephants who tell her she is a perfectly dandy baby elephant. I hope I haven't spoiled the suspense of the story for anyone ;-)

I wanted to get my 3 year old nephew books that my sister and I enjoyed as a child and these were the first that popped into my mind. I am very pleased that the quality of Little Golden Books is still there! Looking forward to sharing this stories with him for years to come.

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