



PECOS BILL

A TALL TALE RETOLD AND ILLUSTRATED BY
STEVEN KELLOGG

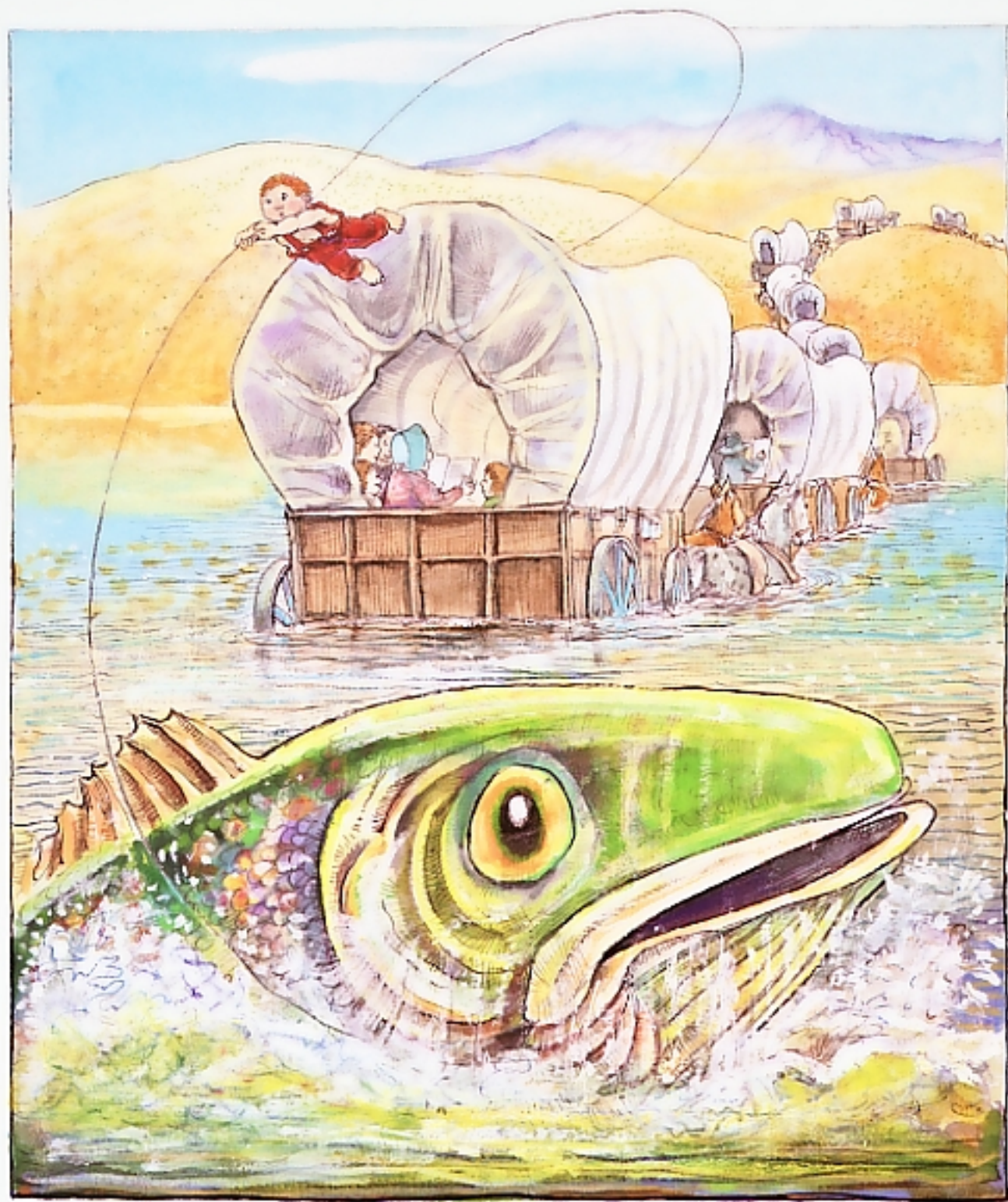


Back in the rugged pioneer days when Pecos Bill was a baby, his kinfolk decided that New England was becoming entirely too crowded, so they piled into covered wagons and headed west.

The clan considered settling in East Texas, until Bill's ma noticed a homesteader putting up a shack about fifty miles away. "Another crowded neighborhood," she grumbled. "Let's push on."



As they crossed the Pecos River, Bill threw out a fishing line. But when a Texas trout nibbled, Bill was yanked overboard.



He was towed far downstream, and he would've drowned for sure if an old coyote hadn't grabbed him.



Her family adopted Bill and taught him the ways of wild creatures.





PECOS BILL

Raised by coyotes, Pecos Bill grew up to be the greatest cowboy in Texas or anywhere else. Besides inventing lassoing, cattle roping, and rodeos, he could tame rattlesnakes, wrestle dangerous critters, and even make the terrible Hell's Gulch Gang turn respectable! But his two greatest feats were winning the hearts of Lightning and of Slewfoot Sue—the wildest horse and the wildest woman in the West!

"The hilarity is infectious and the language as smart and clean as a whip-crack. . . . For pre-readers and beginning readers, there could scarcely be a more satisfying introduction to the mystique of those legendary frontier days." —*Washington Post Book World*
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