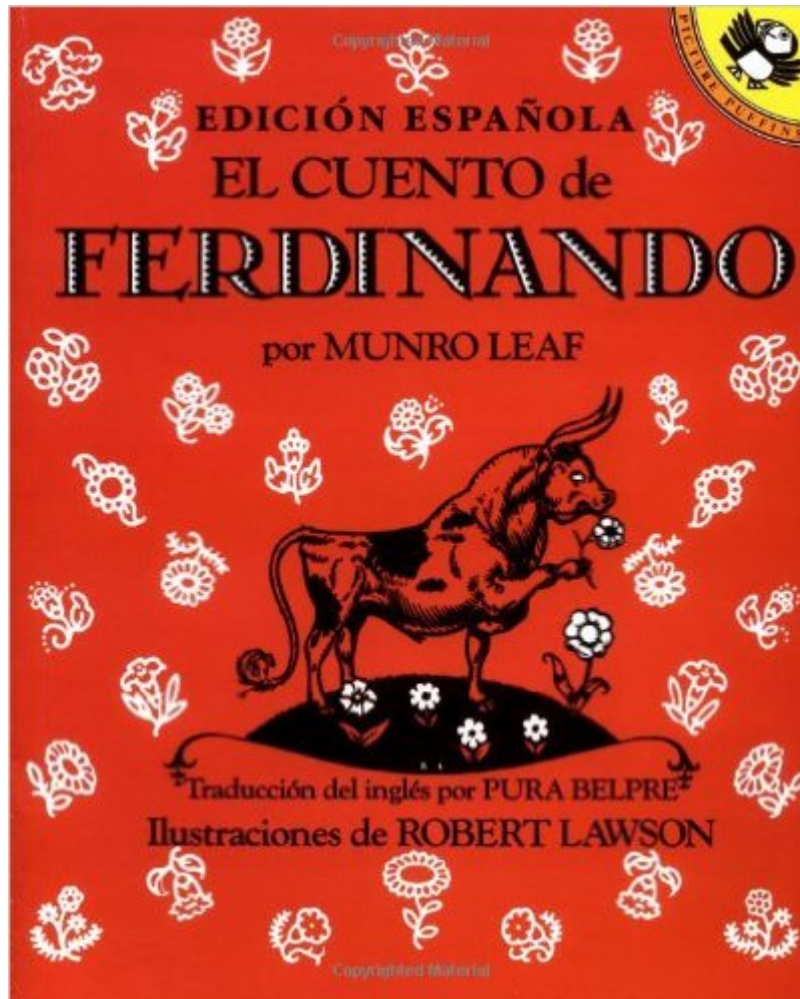


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# El Cuento De Ferdinando (The Story Of Ferdinand In Spanish) (Picture Puffins)



## Synopsis

The Spanish edition of a true classic with a timeless message! All the other bulls run, jump, and butt their heads together in fights. Ferdinand, on the other hand, would rather sit and smell the flowers. So what will happen when Ferdinand is picked for the bullfights in Madrid? The Story of Ferdinand has inspired, enchanted, and provoked readers ever since it was first published in 1936 for its message of nonviolence and pacifism. In WWII times, Adolf Hitler ordered the book burned in Nazi Germany, while Joseph Stalin, the leader of the Soviet Union, granted it privileged status as the only non-communist children's book allowed in Poland. The preeminent leader of Indian nationalism and civil rights, Mahatma Gandhi "whose nonviolent and pacifistic practices went on to inspire Civil Rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr." even called it his favorite book.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0660 (What's this?)

Series: Picture Puffins

Paperback: 72 pages

Publisher: Puffin Books (December 1, 1990)

Language: Spanish

ISBN-10: 0140542531

ISBN-13: 978-0140542530

Product Dimensions: 7.1 x 0.2 x 8.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars See all reviews (32 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #52,171 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #27 in Books > Libros en espaÃol > Literatura y ficciÃn > ClÃsicos #36 in Books > Libros en espaÃol > Infantil y juvenil > Animales #51 in Books > Libros en espaÃol > Infantil y juvenil > Gente y Lugares

Age Range: 3 - 5 years

Grade Level: Preschool - Kindergarten

## Customer Reviews

The well-known story of Ferdinand the bull who refuses to fight first appeared in 1936 just before the outbreak of Civil War in Spain. According to Wikipedia, Franco and Hitler loathed its pacifist themes but Mahatma Gandhi loved it. Whether Munro Leaf intended "The Story of Ferdinand" as an outright anti-war statement apparently remains speculative, but given the timing of its publication and the

fact that Leaf grew up during World War I, many have interpreted the calm, peace loving bull - an animal considered synonymous with ferocity in popular culture - as a symbol of non-violence. The book seems to challenge the notion that animals, including humans, presumably created to fight do not have to fight. Other options exist. So Ferdinand just sits and smells the flowers while his testosterone saturated peers whack and gore each other pining for glory in the bullfighting rings of Madrid. When the men wearing strange hats come looking for robust bulls, Ferdinand inadvertently sits on a bee, who of course stings him, launching Ferdinand into a rampage that makes him an easy choice for Madrid. Once in the area, since all of the women wear flowers in their hair, Ferdinand resorts to his usual tranquil ways. Despite the matador's protestations, he doesn't budge. So they send him back home. If only life were that easy. Some have interpreted Ferdinand as an anti-hero, satirically oblivious and ineffectual concerning the wider world around him. Others have seen him as the embodiment of passive resistance in the face of pointless and gratuitous violence. Even simple stories can evoke numerous interpretations, but grounds for determining the "correct" one typically remain elusive and tenuous.

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