



The Fables of Aesop (Dover Children's Evergreen Classics)

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The gods help them that help themselves . . . We would often be sorry if our wishes were gratified . . . Appearances are deceptive . . . These and many other familiar proverbs — in fact, many of the moral values that form the foundation of our daily lives — were expressed in tales from ancient Greece, credited to Aesop, the legendary storyteller.

This volume, edited by the celebrated English folklorist Joseph Jacobs, contains a rich selection of these time-honored tales, among them "The Town Mouse and the Country Mouse," "The Fox and the Crow," "The Lion and the Mouse," "The Wolf in Sheep's Clothing," "The Goose with the Golden Eggs," "The Old Man and Death," "Belling the Cat," "The Hare and the Tortoise," and dozens more. Retold with wit and sparkle in simple, direct language, these short, clever stories offer young readers wonderful lessons in right and wrong, and many valuable insights into life, both its joys and perils. Over 170 classic illustrations by Richard Heighway bring the stories vividly to life for readers and listeners alike.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

This British husband-and-wife team has gleaned more than a hundred of the ancient storyteller's fables for this beguiling compendium. Well-known entries (e.g., "The Tortoise and the Hare"; "The Goose That Laid the Golden Eggs") are presented cheek-by-jowl with lesser-known offerings ("The Bald Knight"; "The Crab and Her Baby"). As explained in a detailed foreword, the retellings are served up much as Aesop might have told them, unadorned by the cliched moral epigrams that have come to be attached to his tales over the centuries. The abundant illustrations invite browsing as well as close reading: the pages are peppered with droll black-and-white sketches as well as energetic full-color watercolors. A table of contents and title index are useful additions. All ages.

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From School Library Journal

Grade 1-6-Containing over 100 fables attributed to Aesop, this is one of the most comprehensive collections to be published since the classic V.S. Vernon Jones's edition, which appeared in 1912. It contains obscure but interesting selections such as "The Oak and the Reed" and "The Mice and the Weasels at War" in addition to well-known favorites. The retellings are brief and do away with the stated morals. They are loosely arranged according to main characters, e.g., fables about mice are grouped together. A collector's note and information about Aesop are also included. Like Arthur Rackham, whose illustrations accompany the Vernon Jones compilation, Rowan Barnes-Murphy has chosen to alternate pen-and-ink line drawings with larger, full-color paintings. His numerous pictures are accomplished and capture the essence of each animal and human in the manner of a caricature. While the ink-and-watercolor artwork is effective, Barnes-Murphy seems to be most at home with the black-and-white line drawings. Overall, this oversized volume makes a worthwhile addition to folklore collections.

Denise Anton Wright, Illinois State University, Normal

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From Booklist

Gr. 3-5. Larger than most collections of Aesop's fables, this volume contains more than 100 tales as well as an introduction to Aesop and the stories attributed to him. The storytelling is short and simple, though at times source notes would be helpful. Take, for example, "The Fox and the Turkeys," in which a fox dances "a jig, a rumba, and a waltz, then the can-can, the samba, and of course the foxtrot" around and around a tree until the turkeys perched in the branches become dizzy and fall to the ground. Is this an American variant of an ancient fable or Barnes-Murphy's retelling? Spirited illustrations in ink, sometimes with watercolor washes, appear throughout the book. Recommended for larger collections. *Carolyn Phelan*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Karla Walker:

The particular book The Fables of Aesop (Dover Children's Evergreen Classics) has a lot of information on it. So when you read this book you can get a lot of gain. The book was authored by the very famous author. The writer makes some research prior to write this book. This kind of book very easy to read you can get the

point easily after reading this book.

Mary Grubb:

You can spend your free time to read this book this guide. This The Fables of Aesop (Dover Children's Evergreen Classics) is simple to create you can read it in the area, in the beach, train and soon. If you did not possess much space to bring the actual printed book, you can buy typically the e-book. It is make you easier to read it. You can save the actual book in your smart phone. Thus there are a lot of benefits that you will get when you buy this book.

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