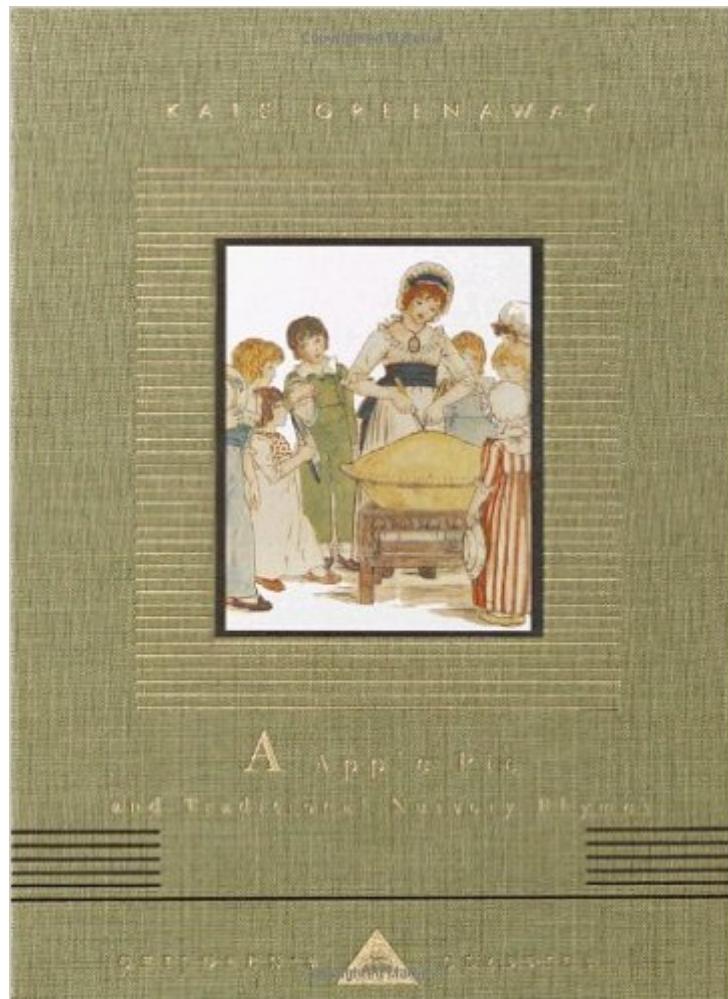


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A Apple Pie And Traditional Nursery Rhymes (Everyman's Library Children's Classics)



Synopsis

This charming volume brings back into print some of the finest illustrated children's books from the Arts and Crafts Movement: Kate Greenaway's much-loved alphabet book, *A Apple Pie*, along with a selection of her illustrated nursery rhymes. Greenaway's drawings conjure up a never-never land of rural simplicity and innocence—“an escape from the squalor of Victorian cities” that is as delightful now as it was when these gems of children's literature first appeared in the 1880s.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars (See all reviews) (3 customer reviews)

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Customer Reviews

While I'm not familiar with this specific Alfred A Knopf/Borzoi/Everyman's Library/Children's Classic edition, I do have an earlier edition of Kate Greenaway's "A Apple Pie", as well as copies of most of her other work for children. Together with Randolph Caldecott she was one of the most important and influential illustrators of young children's books and rhymes of the late 19th Century, and indeed of all time. All of these Everyman's Library/Children's Classic books are sturdily bound with sewn sections that will not crack apart like so many books more cheaply constructed, and are an excellent value. A minor note of clarification for anyone reading "A Apple Pie" aloud who may stumble at the "E - Eat" entry: like all the other verbs used to dispose of the Apple Pie down through the alphabet, this is a past tense form. Here "Eat" is an archaic form of "ate", and is properly pronounced "et" rather than "eet". Of course "Ate" doesn't work as an example of the letter "E".

This is nicely bound with cloth and has gold stamping on it. For a cheap book, that's great. It's thin and much easier to carry around than the other nursery rhyme book we use (the Mary Englebreit

illustrated one). Of the two books included, the Apple Pie is quite funny, although it takes some getting used to in order to read it well. It's way over my baby's head, but I think she'll grow into the humor. The selections from Mother Goose are excellent. Greenaway tends to edit--selecting one or two stanzas from longer rhymes, and the poems included here are far fewer than in the classic Fisher Wright version, but they are selected with a poet's sensibility. Reading these it's easier to tell where Greenaway's own poems come from--she tends to choose funny turns of speech and rhymes that have formulaic sentences from which to pull out a rhythm. On the minus side, the illustrations are washed out and a bit blurry, like badly scanned images. It doesn't horribly detract from the book for me, but I think that's a big reason why the baby isn't very interested in the pictures. Maybe as she gets older.

This slender volume contains a number of well known--and some lesser known--nursery rhymes with Greenaway's justifiably famous illustrations, in addition to her fully illustrated A Apple Pie book. This is very much worth it and was my son's favorite book for several months!

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