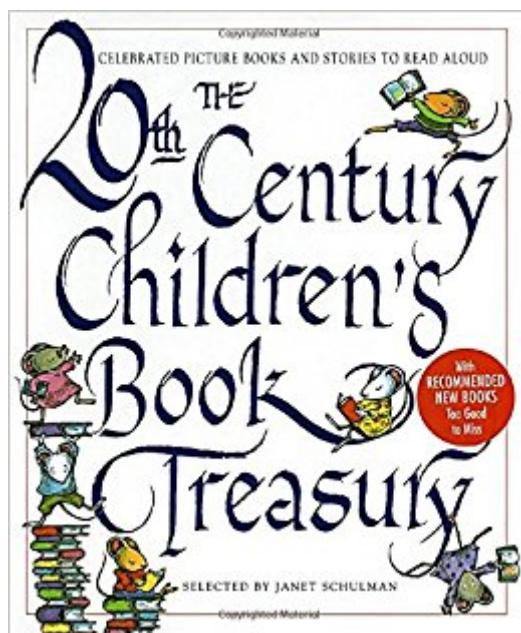


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# The 20th-Century Children's Book Treasury: Picture Books And Stories To Read Aloud



## **Synopsis**

Unparalleled in scope and quality and designed for reading aloud and sharing, this splendid anthology brings together some of the most memorable and beloved children's books of our time. Here are classics such as *Madeline* and *Curious George*; contemporary bestsellers such as *Guess How Much I Love You* and *The Stinky Cheese Man*; Caldecott Medal winners such as *Make Way for Ducklings* and *Where the Wild Things Are*; and family favorites such as *Goodnight Moon*, *The Sneetches*, *Winnie-the-Pooh*, and *Alexander & The Terrible, No Good Very Bad Day*, soon to be a motion picture. The selections range from concept books and wordless books to picture books and short read-aloud stories, and represent the complete array of childhood themes and reading needs: ABCs, number and color books, stories about going to bed and going to school; tales about growing up, siblings, parents, and grandparents; animal stories, fantasies; fables; magical stories; stories about everyday life--and more. This beautiful edition includes a recommended list of books published in the time since this anthology's original compilation, including Caldecott Honors *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* and *Olivia*, with descriptive annotations intended to guide parents to these new books and new voices of the 21st century. Also included are an introduction from editor Janet Schulman, capsule biographies of the 62 writers and artists represented in the collection, color-coded running heads indicating age levels, and indexes. As a gift, a keepsake, and a companion in a child's first steps toward a lifelong love of reading, *The 20th Century Children's Book Treasury* belongs in every family's bookcase.

## **Book Information**

Series: Treasured Gifts for the Holidays

Hardcover: 320 pages

Publisher: Knopf Books for Young Readers; Later prt. edition (September 14, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0679886478

ISBN-13: 978-0679886471

Product Dimensions: 9.4 x 0.9 x 11.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 3.2 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 334 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #39,365 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #64 in Books > Children's Books > Holidays & Celebrations > Christmas #82 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Short Story Collections #319 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Short Stories & Anthologies >

Anthologies

Age Range: 5 and up

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 12

## Customer Reviews

Believe it or not, 44 complete read-aloud classics and future classics--from Goodnight Moon to Stellaluna--are packed in this remarkably svelte, positively historic anthology. Flipping through the 308 pages of The 20th-Century Children's Book Treasury is like browsing a photo album of beloved friends and family. The familiar faces of Curious George and Ferdinand the Bull peer earnestly from the pages, and scenes from Madeline and Millions of Cats resonate as if you just experienced them yesterday. Think of the advantages of carrying this book on a vacation instead of a suitcase of single titles! (Your kids can always revisit their dog-eared hardcovers when they get home.) This impressive collection of concept books, wordless books, picture books, and read-aloud stories was artfully compiled by longtime children's book editor and publisher Janet Schulman. Stories are coded red, blue, and green to designate age groupings from baby/toddler books such as Whose Mouse Are You?, through preschool books such as Where the Wild Things Are, to longer stories for ages 5 and older such as Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day. The reason the book isn't bigger than Babar is because many of the illustrations from each story were reduced or removed to fit the anthology's format. (Leo Lionni's *Swimmy*, for example, takes up 5 pages total, compared to its original 29 pages.) Brief biographical notes that are surprisingly quirky shine a little light on the 62 authors and illustrators, and an index helps, too, for the child who likes one story best. We love the idea of being within easy reach of a Star-Belly Sneetch, a William Steig donkey, and a Sendak monster at all times, and we're sure your little bookworms will, too. (Click to see a sample spread from The 20th-Century Children's Book Treasury, compilation copyright © 1998 by Janet Schulman, illustrations © renewed 1997 by William Steig.) (All ages) --Karin Snelson

PreSchool-Grade 4-Forty-four selections fill this shiny, heavy compendium, gathered to encourage parents to develop the reading-aloud habit. Most are well-known picture books, but there is a short story by Joan Aiken, a chapter from Winnie the Pooh, and stories from books in beginning-to-read series. Goodnight Moon, a small set of Helen Oxenbury's board books, a Berenstain Bears entry, and other short pieces for the very youngest children are mixed with Stellaluna, The Stinky Cheese Man, Madeline, and older and newer favorites quite disparate in size and design. Some appear in spacious spreads, similar to their original formats. Others are compressed with great chunks of text

and few pictures or several pages of the original full-length version stacked on a single page, diminishing details, colors, or the delicious moments of humor, drama, or innuendo. Gone are most of the illustrations for Millions of Cats, and Richard Egielski's Tub People have lost their unique patina and pose in these minuscule renderings. Though much is lost in the translation, the treasury does indeed offer an eclectic variety of good stories, and many children might encounter new favorites here. Concluding biographical notes on the authors and illustrators, a listing of the stories by three age categories, an index, and acknowledgments of original publication details complete the package. Margaret Bush, Simmons College, Boston Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

The amount of stories in the book are mind-boggling, I flipped through it with my wife and we were both amazed at the sheer number of stories they managed to cram into a book no thicker than your average cookbook. My chief complaint though is the formatting. the stories are spread out in such a way that you'll have page 1 and 3 of a book on the left side and page 2 and 4 on the right. It was very confusing to me until I realized what was going on. Not only does it make reading the stories a little awkward, but it also upsets the pace of the illustrations. I'm using this book to read to my daughter at night, but I won't be giving it to her to read since I don't want any weird reading habits forming. As a companion to the original books though this book is a god send. I can hand the book to my daughter and let her read along in her own book as I read from the Treasury book. (any weird reading habits I have are fully engrained by now). There are no loss of illustrations that I've found so far, and there is even a small icon on the pages that let you know the reading level of the book you're reading. The "too long didn't read" version is this book is a great companion book, but shouldn't be used on it's own unless you're reading it to someone. So 3 1/2 stars as a stand-alone products and 5 stars as a book companion.

I've loved this book for years. It's a much smaller, far less expensive way to remember and love the classic children's books so many of us grew up reading. Very, very good selection! I discovered some in here I'd never read or heard of before that quickly became some of my favorites.

very nice , such a nice childrens collection

I was a skeptic but seriously this is a great find. It was a gift when my oldest was 3, and we still can pick this book up and find bedtime stories for all, now 5,8, and 10. Sure we love the "real" book experience, but how much would all of these stories cost?? And how hard is it to find the right

books? They are in here. Especially if you are looking for a gift for a young family who are never going to put that much money into books, or for parents who are wondering what in the world to try to read to their kids.

Everybody needs a book to read to their children, even if their little ones are so young as my twin baby 9 month-olds. Ok, I know they don't understand the stories yet, but they seem to hold the book itself, which is filled with pictures, in awe. And they listen to me when I read the beautiful children's stories. When they get older, they'll like this book much more. They'll be able to understand the stories. I like the stories myself. Children's stories are very interesting. I've come to respect authors of such books greatly. This nice hardcover book will continue to come in handy, especially at bedtime.

bought this because i gave my grandson his mothers copy. so that we could read together. great variety of stories with good pictures.

This book comprises different classic stories. Some include Madeline, Winnie the Pooh, Goodnight Zoo, and Amelia Bedelia, It is a wonderful book and we have bought several to give away to cousins.

This book has the same stories and illustrations you would find in the single book editions. The book is large enough for sharing on a lap. The large size will be difficult for small children to hold without help, but the book is well bound and should bring hours of pleasure.

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