



When We Were Very Young

By A. A. Milne

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Celebrate the 90th birthday of one of the world's most beloved icons of children's literature, Winnie-the-Pooh!

A classic celebration of childhood, A. A. Milne's *When We Were Very Young* is a collection of poems that have touched the hearts of readers for more than 90 years. His verses sing with a playful innocence, weaving together the worlds of reality and enchanting make-believe. Published two years before *Winnie-the-Pooh*, careful readers will also discover the very first appearance of the Best Bear in All the World. These treasured poems are perfectly matched by Ernest Shepard's whimsical illustrations, which have delighted countless readers.

These poems have been read and re-read to generations of children, and today, they can still find a cherished place on every bookshelf.

From the Hardcover edition.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

In all likelihood, your mother or father read you these poems and remember their parents reading the same. This collection of poetry by the creator of Winnie the Pooh was first published in 1924. With its companion volume *Now We Are Six*, the little books became two of the biggest bestsellers in publishing history. Children all over the world have heard about changing the guard at Buckingham Palace; James James Morrison Morrison Weather by George Dupree; the three little foxes who kept their handkerchiefs in cardboard boxes; and, of course, Christopher Robin, named for A.A. Milne's son. Adults and older children will enjoy Milne's poems too, as some of his humor is subtly directed at a more sophisticated audience. But younger children are the ones who love the naughty Mary Jane (lovely rice pudding again?) and the bears on the corners of London's streets. Read these poems aloud and pass along (or start) a family tradition. (Ages 5 to 9)

From School Library Journal

Grade all levels?Penguin's production amplifies the fact that A.A. Milne has created some of the most memorable poetry and prose in children's literature. Charles Kuralt narrates all the tapes. *When We Were Very Young* resounds with Kuralt's lively reading of the nonsensical and onomatopoetic rhymes that fill the heads of toddlers. Opposite these poems, the narrator reads, with loving care, the verses about the real and imaginary playmates that warm youngsters' hearts. *Now We Are Six* reflects the growing complexity of a child's world. The narrator's voice is soft and vulnerable when reading of the innocent, inquisitive thoughts that preoccupy children, yet Kuralt speaks with a touch of exasperation when reading the poems depicting the young's struggle to understand the adult world. He does equally as well with Milne's stories. All the inhabitants of the Hundred Acre Wood are introduced and their humorous escapades chronicled in *Winnie-the-Pooh*. While portraying the characters, Kuralt's child-like tone reflects their goodness, innocence, and wee intellect. The House at Pooh Corner continues the adventures of Pooh and introduces the bouncing, pouncing, lovable Tigger. Besides the delight children will experience when listening to the light-hearted, captivating stories, young listeners will also identify with the universal hopes, fears, and wishes of the characters. Kuralt's deep, learned-sounding voice gives the narration a fatherly, comforting feel. Libraries will want to acquire these high quality productions.?Mark P. Tierney, William B. Wade Elementary School, Waldorf, MD

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About the Author

A.A. Milne grew up in a school - his parents ran Henley House in Kilburn, for young boys - but never intended to be a children's writer. Pooh he saw as a pleasant sideline to his main career as a playwright and regular scribe for the satirical literary magazine, *Punch*. Writing was very much the dominant feature of A.A. (Alan Alexander)'s life. He joined the staff of *Punch* in 1906, and became Assistant Editor. In the course of two decades he fought in the First World War, wrote some 18 plays and three novels, and fathered a son, Christopher Robin Milne, in 1920 (although he described the baby as being more his wife's work than his own!). Observations of little Christopher led Milne to produce a book of children's poetry, *When We Were Very Young*, in 1924, and in 1926 the seminal *Winnie-the-Pooh*. More poems followed in *Now We Are Six* (1927) and Pooh returned in *The House at Pooh Corner* (1928). After that, in spite of enthusiastic demand, Milne declined to write any more children's stories as he felt that, with his son growing up, they would now only be copies based on a memory. In one way, Christopher Robin turned out to be more famous than his father, though he became uncomfortable with his fame as he got older, preferring to avoid the literary limelight and run a bookshop in Dartmouth. Nevertheless, he published three volumes of his reminiscences

before his death in 1996.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Richard Reid:

Exactly why? Because this When We Were Very Young is an unordinary book that the inside of the book waiting for you to snap the idea but latter it will zap you with the secret the idea inside. Reading this book alongside it was fantastic author who have write the book in such awesome way makes the content on the inside easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning totally. So , it is good for you for not hesitating having this nowadays or you going to regret it. This book will give you a lot of gains than the other book possess such as help improving your expertise and your critical thinking means. So , still want to postpone having that book? If I were being you I will go to the guide store hurriedly.

Tyler Emery:

When We Were Very Young can be one of your beginner books that are good idea. All of us recommend that straight away because this guide has good vocabulary that can increase your knowledge in vocab, easy to understand, bit entertaining but nonetheless delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort to put every word into joy arrangement in writing When We Were Very Young however doesn't forget the main level, giving the reader the hottest in addition to based confirm resource info that maybe you can be certainly one of it. This great information can easily drawn you into new stage of crucial considering.

Elijah McWhorter:

Reading a book for being new life style in this season; every people loves to examine a book. When you study a book you can get a great deal of benefit. When you read publications, you can improve your knowledge, due to the fact book has a lot of information upon it. The information that you will get depend on what kinds of book that you have read. If you need to get information about your review, you can read education books, but if you want to entertain yourself you are able to a fiction books, these us novel, comics, as well as soon. The When We Were Very Young will give you a new experience in looking at a book.

Henry Jones:

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