



Hector Protector and As I Went Over the Water: Two Nursery Rhymes

Maurice Sendak (Illustrator)

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Maurice Sendak has interpreted these old' Mother Goose rhymes in animated sequences that have the aliveness and immediacy of a child's own imaginings.

There is little in these verses to suggest the settings, the characterizations, the unforeseen twists and turns of Mr. Sendak's fantastical picture-stories. They extend the boundaries of the short rhymes and add surprising dimension.

The many admirers of *Where the Wild Things Are* and *The Nutshell Library* will recognize in Hector Protector and the seafarer of *As I Went Over the Water* the same pugnaciousness, love of mischief, and derring-do that characterize Max and Pierre. And they will agree that Mr. Sendak has created a true picture book of astounding originality.

Hector Protector and As I Went Over the Water: Two Nursery Rhymes Details

Date : Published November 6th 2001 by HarperCollins (first published 1965)

ISBN : 9780060286422

Author : Maurice Sendak (Illustrator)

Format : Hardcover 64 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Poetry, Fiction, Nursery Rhymes

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From Reader Review Hector Protector and As I Went Over the Water: Two Nursery Rhymes for online ebook

Garren says

Worthwhile nonsense.

Duncan Wilson says

another great little title for fans of Maurice Sendak. once again its the animals and monsters that really shine for me. there is an almost medieval sensibility to some of the designs; which of course i love. these are short but very fun. there is lots to look at on each individual page and each one carries the story forward almost like a limited animation. after over fifty years this has lost none of its glorious weirdness and charm :)

Andy Verschoyle says

Two stories in one book, with a wallpaper page inside front and back covers (see where the wild things are) two boys, one character. Both fight but with different results. Great blackbird as a taunting devil-on-shoulder type, ends up with the cake. There is lots here to talk about, opportunities to raise or resolve issues, for both parents and children.

Hector rages when forced to wear green and take cake to the queen, bunking off with his subjugated friends (toys?), Lion and Snake - courage and cunning? - who accompany him to the unimpressed king and queen. End result bed with no tea!

The second boy (victor) only plays, there is no parental conflict. Its playfighting with the team who all end up on his boat wearing the crew hat. Safe rough and tumble with friends.

Sendak gets our attention with wonderful, sometimes grotesque drawings, and surprising, unusual stories with animals both awe-inspiring and friendly, telling some hard truths. So they invite you to read them again, looking for meanings you know are there but which don't come easily.

Ronyell says

“Hector Protector and As I Went over the Water” is another set of nursery rhymes from the famous children’s author, Maurice Sendak. This book contains two nursery rhymes detailing the adventures of two boys where one of the boys gives his mother and the queen a hard time and the other boy where he encounters various creatures around the water. This book is a pure delight for anyone who loves nursery rhymes and is a fan of Maurice Sendak’s books.

Maurice Sendak has done a great job at both the illustrations and in interpreting these old Mother Goose rhymes. The nursery rhymes themselves are extremely creative in a lyrical sense as they detail both the main characters' adventures in rhymes. Maurice Sendak's illustrations are beautiful and creative as he illustrates all characters being colorful and original. I love the way that he illustrates both the Lion in "Hector Protector" and the sea monster in "As I Went over the Water" as being somewhat threatening towards the characters, even though both main characters attempted to stand up to these threatening creatures. The image that probably stood out the most would be the recurring images of the sea monster from "As I Went over the Water" coughing up the boat since I found it funny that the sailor was so busy with the blackbirds that he did not notice his boat coming out of the monster.

"Hector Protector and As I Went over the Water" is a wonderful nursery rhyme book from the creative mind of Maurice Sendak and anyone who is a fan of nursery rhymes will surely find this book extremely funny and interesting to read. I would recommend this book to children ages four and up since the format is simple enough for children to read, but parents may need to discuss about Hector Protector's behavior and the violent image of the blackbirds getting their teeth knocked out to their children so that they could understand that these acts are not suitable for children to imitate.

From my Epinions Review:

<http://www0.epinions.com/review/Hecto...>

Mommooshka says

Dark Rhymes, not well suited to young kids.

Laila says

Hector Protector and As I Went Over the Water

Grade Level: Preschool

Summary:

This book contains two nursery rhymes. Both of these nursery rhymes are about a boy and his adventures. In hector protector it is about a boy who is sent to the queen to give her a cake. Along the way he comes across scary animals and befriends them. He eventually gets to the queen and king just to get kicked out them he goes back home and gets sent to bed. In As he Went Over the Water a boy falls off his ship into the water and meets a sea monster. As the story goes on the boy makes it to land and finds two birds who are very annoying. So he decides to knock their teeth out. Apparently these birds were maybe teasing the sea monster and he was grateful. The boy was very proud and made all the animals crew members of his ship.

Review:

This book is an interesting twist on nursery rhymes. I do not know exactly what rhymes they were based off of but none the less they were cute. Tommie dePaola gives this book some spunk with his illustrations and words. I enjoyed it very much.

In Class Uses:

In the classroom you can use this book as a way to show how nursery rhymes can be adapted into many different ways. Another way this book can be used is to show an example of some of the works the author and illustrator Tomie dePaola has done as part of an author themed week. One more way you can use this in the classroom is by using it as an example to have kids make their own nursery rhymes. You can look up the structure for how to make one and help the kids make their own nursery rhymes with pictures as well as words.

Calista says

Maurice uses to obscure nursery rhymes that I never heard of. They are short rhymes. He almost turns this into a wordless story. He uses the sentences to craft a much bigger story. I love the art here. Maurice is amazing at creating unusual characters that are unique. Maurice has a wonderful voice. He is a man who has a strange point of view. He gave the world something great. I enjoy this little story. It was a lot of fun.

The kids laughed at this book too. They thought it was fun. They gave it 4 stars. This went over well in our home.

Justyn Rampa says

Using two (somewhat obscure) Mother Goose rhymes, Sendak creates a book to showcase his wonderful and imaginative illustrations. The pictures are quite enjoyable as he tells a story in both words and illustration.

Linda says

A delightful rendition of Mother Goose rhymes with illustrations only Sendak could dream up. As the rhymes are short, Sendak makes up for them by suppling wonderful illustrations which invite the reader to explore their own imaginations and enhance the story with their own thoughts. Pre-K - 1st grade.

From Publisher's Weekly:

"Sendak conveys as much plot through the artist's wordless spreads as with the minimal text. For collectors and budding readers alike."

From NY Times Book Review:

"Since Caldecott and Lesley Brooke, nobody has illustrated nursery rhymes this well. . . These wonderfully funny, charming drawings are just as good as those Mr. Sendak did for *Where the Wild Things Are*."

Kest Schwartzman says

all the things one wants in a book to be read aloud (including plenty of wordless pages to improv over)

Min says

This one was a bit more confusing, for an adult---for whom these are not written, yet, I am entirely unsure how I'd feel as a youth reading these.

I see a spoiled boy, in both stories.

The first is a boy sent to give the queen a cake--he said No NO No for several panels while he is being dressed, then sent off, says he hates the queen, finally throwing down the cake.

On the way, he meets a lion and a snake that join him on the journey, sans cake. Once to the palace he charges in, so the queen, and the king do not like him, and sent back. Again, saying NO NO the entire time he undresses. Then, in the night, he asks the crow eating the discarded cake for a piece, and he says, "no".

The second boy is a captain on his vessel which a sea creature swallows. Through the panels the creature expels the ship. Meanwhile, on land, the boy beats the teeth out of two crows, for calling him a thief, and a rascal. He returns to the boat to sail away, joined by the sea creature, and the crows.

Hilary says

2.5 stars. Two nursery rhymes have been illustrated by Maurice Sendak. Some of the drawings are lovely, the rhymes aren't very interesting. They are nonsense rhymes but not much fun either. I wonder what made him choose these two? I can think of loads that would be more fun to read and illustrate in my opinion. My daughter said she liked the illustrations but didn't understand what's going on. Personally I wouldn't read this to small children as there's lots of shouting no, hitting, punching and knocking out of teeth! The dragon in it is lovely.

Christopher Bunn says

Maurice Sendak is pure gold. I figure he's one of the best children's illustrators in existence. I'm not sure if he's still alive, but if he's dead then I bet God has him illustrating stuff up in heaven. *Hector Protector* was/is one of my favorites of Sendak's. An excellent children's book should be enjoyable for adults as well. If you're an adult and have a decent sense of humor, then you'll probably enjoy this one, as well as pretty much any of Sendak's books. *Higgledy Piggledy Pop* is another classic. Everyone should enjoy an edible mop now and then.

Ashton says

The only reason is because getting three stars is because the art is amazing. But honestly the stories confused me. I mean I know that the idea is for The reader to see him using his imagination but I just felt like it wasn't executed very well.

Robert says

Gorgeous illustrations, but thin to non-existent stories for both parts, and terrible to non-existent rhyme structure for what are ostensibly nursery rhymes.
