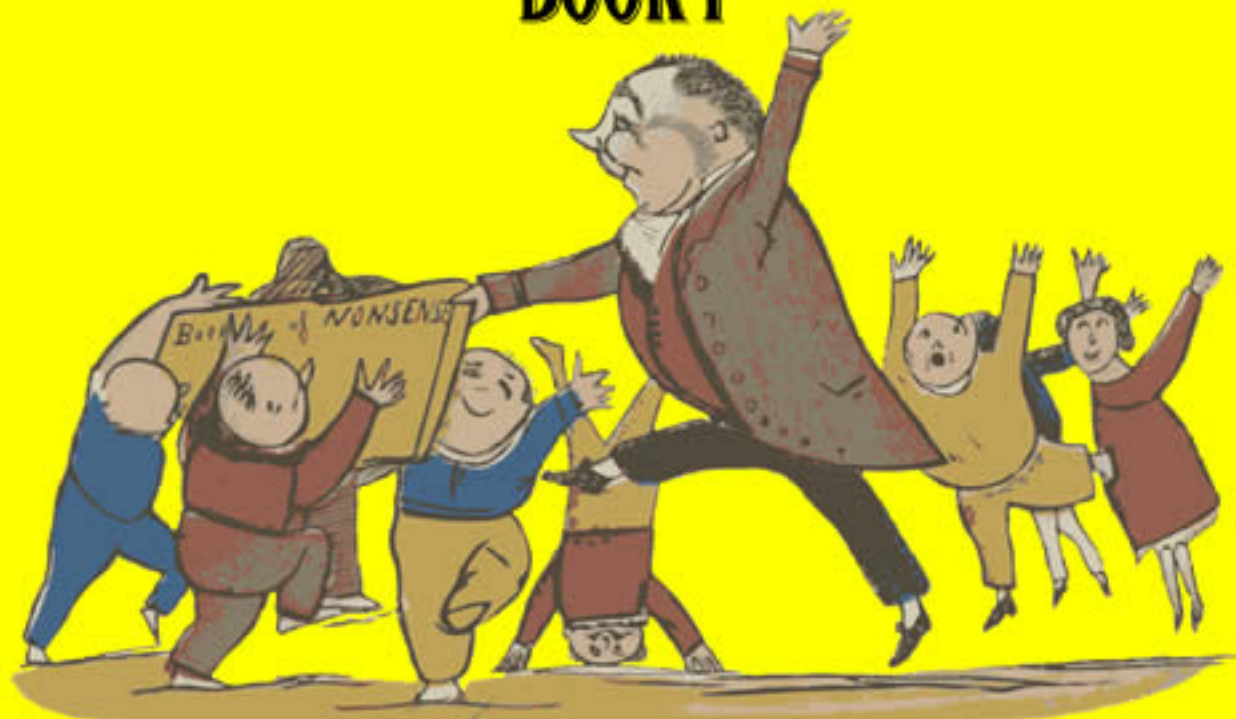


Edward Lear's NONSENSE LIMERICKS

BOOK I



There was an Old Derry down Derry, who loved to see little folks merry:
So he made them a Book, and with laughter they shook,
Of the fun of that Derry down Derry.

written and illustrated by

Edward Lear

edited by Dr. Bruess

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Edward Lear's Nonsense Limericks Book 1

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Edward Lear

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Original Dedication

TO THE GREAT-GRANDCHILDREN, GRAND-NEPHEWS,
AND GRAND-NIECES
OF EDWARD, 13TH EARL OF DERBY

THIS BOOK OF DRAWINGS AND VERSES
*(The greater part of which were originally made
and composed for their parents,)*

Is Dedicated by the Author

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Edward Lear". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a large, decorative flourish at the end of the word "Lear".

London, 1862

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There was an Old Man with a Beard,
Who said, "It is just as I feared!—
Two Owls and a Hen, four Larks and a Wren,
Have all built their nests in my Beard!"

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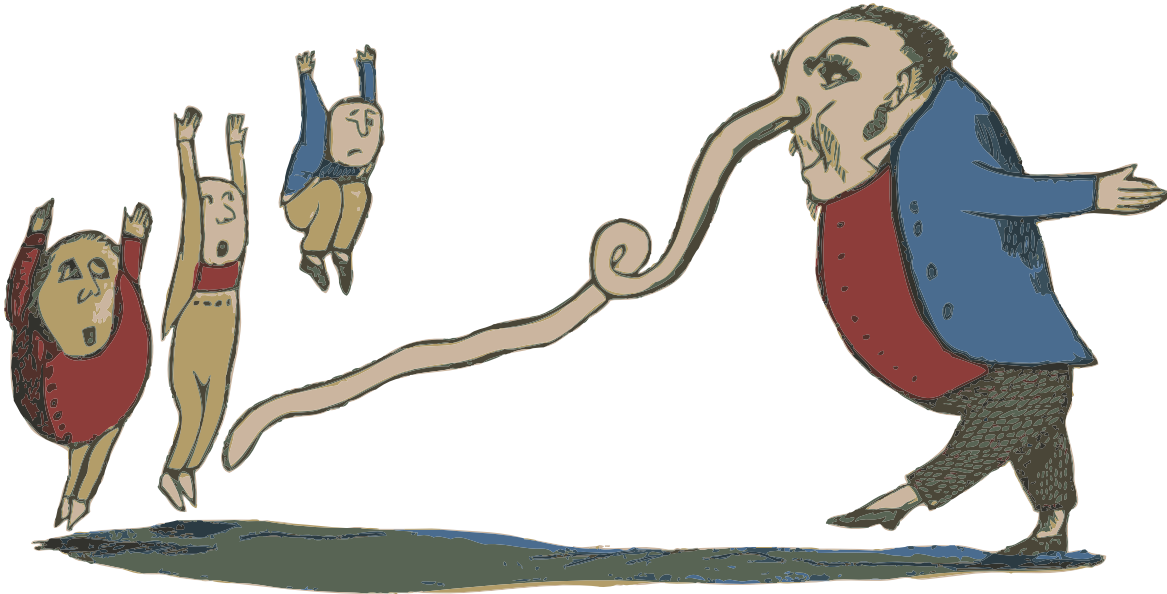
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There was a Young Lady of Ryde,
Whose shoe-strings were seldom untied;
She purchased some clogs, and some small spotty Dogs,
And frequently walked about Ryde.

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There was an Old Man with a Nose,
Who said, "If you choose to suppose
That my Nose is too long, you are certainly wrong!"
That remarkable Man with a Nose.

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There was an Old Man on a Hill,
Who seldom, if ever, stood still;
He ran up and down, in his Grandmother's gown,
Which adorned that Old Man on a Hill.

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There was a Young Lady whose Bonnet
Came untied when the Birds sat upon it;
But she said, "I don't care! all the Birds in the air
Are welcome to sit on my Bonnet!"

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There was a Young Person of Smyrna,
Whose Grandmother threatened to burn her;
But she seized on the Cat, and said, "Granny, burn that!
You incongruous Old Woman of Smyrna!"

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There was an Old Person of Chili,
Whose conduct was painful and silly;
He sat on the Stairs, eating apples and pears,
That imprudent Old Person of Chili.

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There was an Old Man with a Gong,
Who bumped at it all the day long;
But they called out, "Oh, law! you're a horrid old bore!"
So they smashed that Old Man with a Gong.

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There was an Old Lady of Chertsey,
Who made a remarkable Curtsey;
She twirled round and round, till she sank underground,
Which distressed all the people of Chertsey.

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There was an Old Man in a Tree,
Who was horribly bored by a Bee;
When they said, "Does it buzz?" he replied, "Yes, it does!
It's a regular brute of a Bee!"

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There was an Old Man with a Flute,—
A "sarpint" ran into his Boot!
But he played day and night, till the "sarpint" took flight,
And avoided that Man with a Flute.

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There was an Old Man with a Beard, who said, "It is just as I feared!—
Two Owls and a Hen, four Larks and a Wren,
Have all built their nests in my Beard!"

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