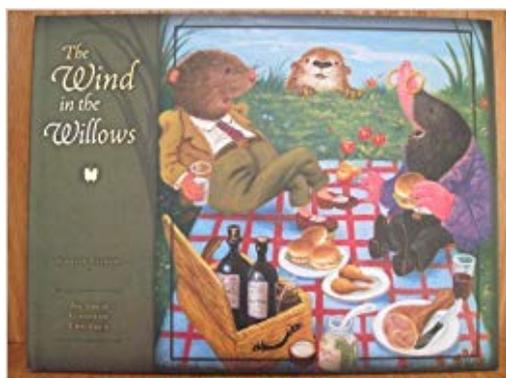


## The Wind in the Willow: The Great Classics for Children (GRAND EDITION) by Kenneth Grahame



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## Reviews of the The Wind in the Willow: The Great Classics for Children (GRAND EDITION) by Kenneth Grahame

ARE

This edition is called "The Classic Edition" and Kenneth Graham is the author. However, beware, this is not the long edition that I have read several times before. This is a shortened edition. I did not realize when I purchased it that "Classic Edition" was not the full version. The illustrations are beautiful, and the story is fine, but the shortened length deprives the reader of the detailed delights in the full version.

Mojind

I first had this story read to me before I could actually read the thing to myself and since that time I

have probably read this particular book/story a couple of dozen times. Each reading reveals more hidden "word treasures" and I enjoy it as much now that I am as old as dirt as I did when I was a young grasshopper.

One thing about it; as you get older, and hopefully wiser, you discover observations of human nature in the pages of this book that are often times overlooked by the young reader. As an old man I can now read this book and picture in my mind individuals I have known and met throughout my life that are living parallels to the characters in this book...good grief, I can even find myself if I am dead honest with myself!

This one is considered a classic and for good reason. I suspect that it will remain so for years and years to come. Some stories are simply timeless.

DABY

With Robert Ingpen's illustrated edition, *The Wind in the Willows* is now given a beautiful makeover. I have read several different editions of *Wind in the Willows* to my children. Each one is gloriously beautiful, but I do adore Ingpen's color and his detail. Fans of Ingpen know his work on such books as *Treasure Island*.

First off, *Wind in the Willows* is a beautifully written tale, as many others here have already told. So well written, it is, that some people believe it shouldn't be illustrated at all. However, as an artist, I am not in that camp. I appreciate a person willing to render 2D or 3D life to the written word. What a task!

This is a book which one can pick it up and put it down as one wishes. We sometimes read our favorite bits over and over. Grahame's writing is perfection, and we voice his characters for fun sometimes. There's a silly claymation television series that was done in the 1980s if you want to show the kids the t.v. version after you've read it to them. It was available on Netflix - not sure if it still is.

Also, for 'purists', fyi, this is the book in its unabridged form (the original full length tale).

For those looking for the abridged version, with lovely illustrations, check out the version with Inga Moore as illustrator. Moore has illustrated a version of *The Secret Garden* which is also lovely.

Uanabimo

The story is great, and the Wordsworth Children's edition offers a complete, unabridged version with original photos - one per chapter. And there's the rub. There are now slightly abridged editions with wonderful illustrations, and full versions with more pictures, which is what small children often enjoy most about reading. I was upset that the reviews for all editions of the book were clumped together, so I couldn't tell which book people actually liked best, unless they pointed it out. As a final note, I've got a degree in literature, and I appreciated the original text. I've since seen the slightly abridged and fully illustrated Candlewick Illustrated Classics version, and would so much have preferred that one, if I had known.

Auau

*The Wind in the Willows* is a very sweet, quaint and cozy collection of stories about animals who are kind of like humans. They have their little gentleman's society which functions pretty much as the English equivalent at the turn of the century. In the cultural regard, it has aged a little, so don't expect a single female character who is, well, basically a character at all, and you might encounter other details that would constitute a faux pas right now, but ultimately, the book is not about that. It's about true friendship, about being kind and nice and generally about the cozy and calm life - a life we seem to never really live anymore in the 21st century. Yes, this is a book I could read to children. This is a book that soothed me so much that it could put me to sleep when I suffered

anxiety. This is a very sweet and lovely book, even despite some of the moralising in the stories (which, by the way, is done in a nice, not preachy way), it was very enjoyable indeed.

You will probably like this if you enjoyed books like Anne of Green Gables.

Dusar

This review isn't about the story; if you haven't read it by now, get the book and read it. This is a nice solid hardcover with a place marker ribbon, a good choice for our six year old granddaughter. The biggest drawback to this edition (and the reason for the 4 stars) is the relatively small number of illustrations.....but what there are are good.

I would probably have preferred an edition with the illustrations by E.H. Shepard or Arthur Rackham (although the former would be more appropriate for someone who is six. However, neither of those editions was available on Amazon at less than collector's prices.

The most dismaying thing in my search for this book is the number of abridged versions for sale, which I believe to be unconscionable. I can well imagine those sections of the book that a modern editor / publisher might feel "superfluous," particularly for young readers. Well, if someone finds a chapter tedious, skip over it. It's not like that won't be necessary later in life, and with any number of other books.

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