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Opening extract from

Nonsense Limericks

Written by

Edward Lear

Illustrated by

Arthur Robins

Published by

Faber Children's Books

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ABOUT THE AUTHOR AND THE ILLUSTRATOR

Edward Lear (1812–88) was an English artist, illustrator, author and poet. As an artist he was employed to illustrate birds and animals; he made coloured drawings, which he reworked later, sometimes as plates for his travel books; and he was an illustrator of Alfred Tennyson's poems. As an author, he is known principally for his popular nonsense works, most famously 'The Owl and the Pussy-Cat', which use real and invented English words. He is perhaps best known for his bonkers and delightful limericks, a form he popularised.

Arthur Robins (born 1944) is a renowned cartoonist and illustrator. His humorous cartoons have appeared in magazines such as *The Oldie* and *Saga*. He has illustrated many books for children including T. S. Eliot's *Macavity* and Michael Rosen's *Little Rabbit Foo Foo*.



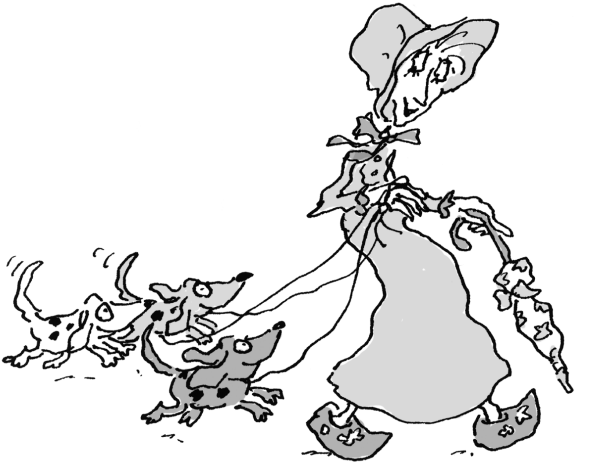
There was an Old Man with a beard,

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!’

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.





There was an Old Man with a nose,

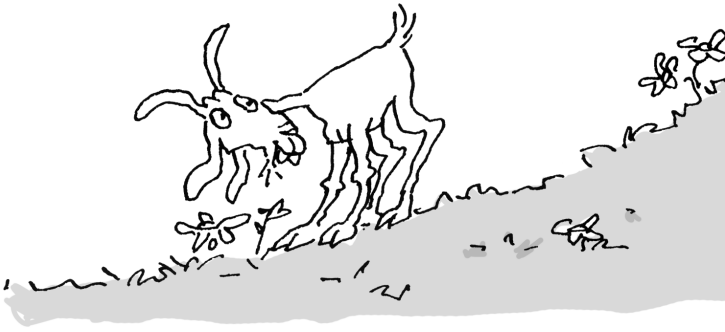
Who said, 'If you choose to suppose,

That my nose is too long,

you are certainly wrong!'

That remarkable Man with a nose.

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.



There was an Old Person of Chili,

Whose conduct was painful and silly,

He sate on the stairs, eating apples and pears,

That imprudent Old Person of Chili.

