



# THE ENGLISH MOSAIC

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## Alice's Adventures in Wonderland – 150<sup>th</sup> Anniversary



"It's sometimes said that Lewis Carroll's Alice books were the origin of all later children's literature, and I'm inclined to agree. There were books for children before 1865, but they were almost all written to make a moral point. Good children behave like this; bad

children behave like that, and are punished for it, and serve them right. In Alice, for the first time, we find a realistic child taking part in a story whose intention was entirely fun. Both children and adults loved them at once, and have never stopped doing so. They

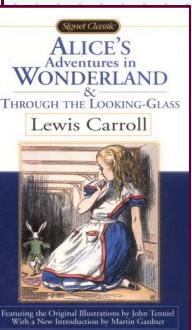
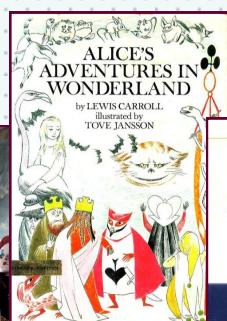
are as fresh and clever and funny today as they were a hundred and fifty years ago."

*This is an excerpt from Philip Pullman's foreword to "The Complete Alice" by Lewis Carroll.*

"Alice's Adventures in Wonderland," Lewis Carroll's 1865 classic about a pert girl in a pinafore who falls down a rabbit hole into a magical and menacing underground world, is marking its 150th anniversary.



Are you interested in "Alice in Wonderland"? Then you are at the right place!



## Quotes

"Curiouser and curioser!"

(*Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, Chapter 2)

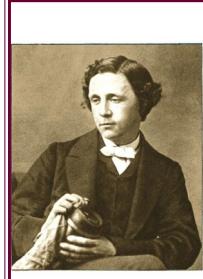


"Who are YOU?" said the Caterpillar.  
This was not an encouraging opening for a conversation.  
Alice replied, rather shyly, "I-I hardly know, sir, just at present- at least I know who I WAS when I got up this morning, but I think I must have been changed several times since then."  
(*Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, Chapter 5)



"But I don't want to go among mad people," Alice remarked.  
"Oh, you can't help that," said the Cat: "we're all mad here. I'm mad. You're mad." "How do you know I'm mad?" said Alice.  
"You must be," said the Cat, "or you wouldn't have come here."  
(*Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, Chapter 6)

"Alice: How long is forever?  
White Rabbit: Sometimes, just one second."

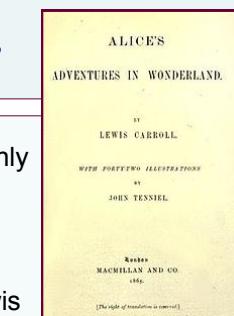


**Alice's Adventures in Wonderland** (commonly shortened to **Alice in Wonderland**) is an 1865 novel written by English author Charles Lutwidge Dodgson under the pseudonym Lewis Carroll. It tells of a girl named Alice who falls down a rabbit hole into a fantasy world (Wonderland) populated by peculiar, anthropomorphic creatures. The tale plays with logic,

giving the story lasting popularity with adults as well as children. It is considered to be one of the best examples of the literary nonsense genre, and its narrative course and structure, characters and imagery have been enormously influential in both popular culture and literature, especially in the fantasy genre.



Alice was published in 1865, three



years after the Reverend Charles Lutwidge Dodgson and the Reverend Robinson Duckworth rowed in a boat, on 4 July 1862, up the Isis with the three young daughters of Henry Liddell (the Vice-Chancellor of Oxford University and Dean of Christ Church): Lorina Charlotte Liddell (aged 13)

("Prima" in the book's prefatory verse); Alice Pleasance Liddell (aged 10) ("Secunda" in the prefatory verse); Edith Mary Liddell (aged 8) ("Tertia" in the prefatory verse).

The journey began at Folly Bridge near Oxford and ended five miles away in the village of Godstow. During the trip the Reverend Dodgson told the girls a story that featured a bored little girl named Alice who goes looking for an adventure. The girls loved it, and Alice Liddell asked Dodgson to write it down for her. He began



## Quotes

"Would you tell me, please, which way I ought to go from here?"

"That depends a good deal on where you want to get to," said the Cat.

"I don't much care where—" said Alice. "Then it doesn't matter which way you go," said the Cat. "—so long as I get SOMEWHERE," Alice added as an explanation.

"Oh, you're sure to do that," said the Cat, "if you only walk long enough."

*(Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, Chapter 6)*

'I could tell you my adventures—beginning from this morning,' said Alice a little timidly: 'but it's no use going back to yesterday, because I was a different person then.'

*(Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, Chapter 10)*

The White Rabbit put on his spectacles. "Where shall I begin, please your Majesty?" he asked. "Begin at the beginning," the King said gravely, "and go on till you come to the end: then stop." *(Alice's Adventures in Wonderland, Chapter 12)*

## "Who in the world am I? Ah, that's the great puzzle."



writing the manuscript of the story the next day, although that earliest version no longer exists. The girls and Dodgson took another boat trip a month later when he elaborated the plot to the story of Alice, and in November he began working on the manuscript in earnest.

To add the finishing touches he researched natural history for the animals presented in the book, and then had the book examined by other children—particularly the children of George MacDonald. He added his own illustrations but approached John Tenniel to

illustrate the book for publication, telling him that the story had been well liked by children.

On 26 November 1864 he gave Alice the handwritten manuscript of *Alice's Adventures Under Ground*, with illustrations by Dodgson himself, dedicating it as "A Christmas Gift to a Dear Child in Memory of a Summer's Day". Some, including Martin Gardner, speculate there was an earlier version that was destroyed later by Dodgson when he wrote a more elaborate copy by hand.

But before Alice received her copy, Dodgson was already preparing it for publication and expanding the 15,500-word original to 27,500 words, most notably

adding the episodes about the Cheshire Cat and the Mad Tea-Party.



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607605, Нижегородская  
область, г.Богородск, 3-й  
микрорайон,  
д. 4а

Учителя английского языка.  
Редактор Созанкова Е.А.



Сайт МБО СОШ №1:  
[www.bogschool-1.ru](http://www.bogschool-1.ru)



## Characters

The following is a list of main characters in *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*.

Alice  
The White Rabbit  
The Mouse  
The Dodo  
The Lory  
The Eaglet  
The Duck  
Pat  
Bill the Lizard  
The Caterpillar  
The Duchess

The Cheshire Cat  
The March Hare  
The Hatter  
The Dormouse  
The Queen of Hearts  
The Knave of Hearts  
The King of Hearts  
The Gryphon  
The Mock Turtle



## Poems and songs

Carroll wrote multiple poems and songs for *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, including:

- " All in the golden afternoon..."—the prefatory verse, an original poem by Carroll that recalls the rowing expedition on which he first told the story of Alice's adventures underground
- " How Doth the Little Crocodile"—a parody of Isaac Watts' nursery rhyme, " Against Idleness and Mischief"
- " The Mouse's Tale"—an example of concrete poetry
- " You Are Old, Father William"—a parody of Robert Southey's " The Old Man's Comforts and How He Gained Them"

The Duchess's lullaby, "Speak roughly to your little

- boy..."—a parody of David Bates' "Speak Gently"
- " Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Bat"—a parody of Jane Taylor's " Twinkle Twinkle Little Star"
- " The Lobster Quadrille"—a parody of Mary Botham Howitt's " The Spider and the Fly"
- " 'Tis the Voice of the Lobster"—a parody of Isaac Watts' " The Sluggard"
- "Beautiful Soup"—a parody of James M. Sayles's "Star of the Evening, Beautiful Star"
- " The Queen of Hearts"—an actual nursery rhyme
- "They told me you had been to her..."—the White Rabbit's evidence



## The used resources:

- <http://dreamworlds.ru/>
- [http://schools-wikipedia.org/wp/a/Alice%2527s\\_Adventures\\_in\\_Wonderland.htm](http://schools-wikipedia.org/wp/a/Alice%2527s_Adventures_in_Wonderland.htm)
- <http://www.goodreads.com/quotes/tag/alice-in-wonderland>
- <http://www.alice-in-wonderland.net/resources/chapters-script/alice-in-wonderland-quotes/>
- <http://aliceinwonderland150.com/>
- <http://www.wsj.com/articles/alice-in-wonderland-turns-150-1433953629>