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Ounce, dice, trice

Alastair Reid

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Alastair Reid : Ounce, dice, trice before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Ounce, dice, trice:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. A gundulum of garbage cans!By Sherry ThomasI first came across this treasure while shelving books as a library page in the public library when I was a teen. Intrigued, I checked it out and was delighted with the creativity of the author. I still remember his list of collective nouns including "a gundulum of garbage cans", a phrase that has stayed with me over the decades. A scribbitch of papers, a snigglement of string, a snuttering of monkeys. Counting from one to ten: archery, butchery, treachery...oh boy, don't get me started.Now that I have a little grandson, I jumped at the chance to secure a copy of this classic for him when he is old enough to enjoy it. So glad I was reminded of the existence of this book, lo these many years later!By the way, I think the talented artist/illustrator of this book, Ben Shahn, created a whimsical painting of my favorite composer, Johann Sebastian Bach. I believe it was featured as a cover on Time magazine. I loved that illustration and saved it for many years but have since lost track of it. I wish I could see that painting again. :)0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The book is fun but the made up words made it confusing for ...By Warren and Nancy FordThe book is fun but the made up words made it confusing for me as an adult: felt like I needed a dictionary to figure out which were real and which were not. Children (7 and 5 year old) lose interest.0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. WHAT A HOOT!!!By KevinI've been reading this to my daughter regularly. And she reads it to me. It's FUN! It's a mouthful of great words that sound funny when you say them. The book needs better art, but the words more than make up for it! I HIGHLY recommend this book to parents of young children! It's a fun and fantastic read! Gets kids thinking about new words and gets them to come up with words of their own!

A collection of old and new words features words to be said in singing moods, words for times of day, and rude names for nitwits, and defines such words as gongoozler, tantony, and cosse

"I want every children's book editor and also every primary and middle school teacher and librarian in America to read this book. It is the antidote to plotting, plot-driven, two-line synopsisable, anti-imagination books....[Ounce Dice Trice] can be read cover to cover, back to front, middle to end, upside down, any way you like." --Daniel Pinkwater, Weekend Edition Saturday, NPR, 12/12/09 "Ben Shahn's drawings turn Ounce, Dice, Trice, a word-nonsense book by Alastair Reid, into an art book."--Los Angeles Times "The book, with more than 100 pictures by Ben Shahn, was designed to amuse and the words belong on the borderline where 'the poet and the child meet.'" --The New York Times "Quite marvelous. Illustrated masterfully by artist Ben Shahn. A highly-unusual treat for ages 6 to 100." --Orange Marmalade Books "For decades, New Yorker writer Alastair Reid has been collecting words, weird ones. In Ounce, Dice, Trice, the words play tricks on each other and on the reader. Gongoozler. Piddocks. Mumruffin. Reid twists them into rhymes and draws odd connections between them in this book part dictionary, part gonomy receptacle...With black-and-white sketches by painter Ben Shahn, Ounce, Dice, Trice amounts to great fun for the average gongozler (idle person) of any age." --The Bergen County Record "There are 57 pages of this delightful nonsense, with equally delightful illustrations. My wife and I love it." --David Halperin "Alastair Reid is a word magician." --Bill Buford "Ben Shahn is among the most important American artists of this century." --Library Journal "Ounce, Dice, Trice, an Alastair Reid book of poems for juveniles, introduces children to the fun of words. Introducing children to words in any form is, to my mind, one of the noblest of endeavors. Alastair himself has had great fun with words, both poetically and prosaically." --Los Angeles Times "If you like nonsense words with meanings they ought to have then you'll like this book. If you get tired of counting to 10 in an ordinary way, try it ounce, dice, trice, quartz, quince, sago, serpent, oxygen, nitrogen, and denim. The pictures are fine too. An enjoyable book." --Los Angeles Times

About the Author Alastair Reid is a poet, translator, essayist, and scholar of Latin American literature. He had been on the staff of The New Yorker since 1959 and has translated works by Pablo Neruda and Jorge Luis Borges. Among his many books for children are A Balloon for a Blunderbuss, I Keep Changing, and Millionaires (all illustrated by Bob Gill), and Supposing (illustrated by Abe Birnbaum). In 2008 he published two career-spanning collections of work, Inside Out: Selected Poetry and Translations and Outside In: Selected Prose.

Ben Shahn (1898–1969) was a painter, muralist, print-maker, and illustrator. He was best known for his socially and politically informed artwork, including a famous series of paintings depicting the trial of the anarchists Sacco and Vanzetti. His 1956 Charles Eliot Norton lectures were collected and published as The Shape of Content, and he illustrated numerous books of poetry. Ounce Dice Trice is the only book he illustrated that was written specifically for children.