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The King Who Rained



Synopsis

"Originally published by Windmill Books and Simon & Schuster."

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 580 (What's this?)

Paperback: 48 pages

Publisher: Aladdin; Later Printing edition (September 1, 1988)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0671667440

ISBN-13: 978-0671667443

Product Dimensions: 8.5 x 0.2 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (73 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #39,305 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #26 in [Books > Reference > Words, Language & Grammar > Alphabet](#) #41 in [Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Multicultural](#) #238 in [Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Reading & Writing](#)

Age Range: 7 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

Most people over the age of, say, 28 will remember Fred Gwynne most for his role as the flat-headed, bolt-necked Herman Munster on the TV show, "The Munsters." He also starred in a number of miscellaneous movies and "Car 54, Where Are You?" However, many people do not know that he is a gifted and very humorous author of children's picture books. "The King who Rained" is but one of his fine works for children that plays with language, especially homophones. Homophones are words that sound alike but are spelled differently or have multiple meanings, and this book is full of `em!! A little girl explains all the odd things she hears her family say, like "Daddy says he has a mole on his nose". The accompanying illustration has a tall, thin man (who looks profoundly like Mr. Gwynne himself) with a small, brown, furry subterranean mammal perched on his nose. Similarly, the girl's mother is "a little horse" sometimes and asks for the throat spray ("when I bring it to her, she calls me a little deer"). The title of the book itself is a wonderful play on words as well. Mr. G. has written and illustrated three books of homophones, "The King Who Rained" as well as "A Chocolate Mouse for Dinner" and "A Little Pigeon Toad". He's also written a

beautiful and very funny book about a girl taking her mutt dog to a dog show, "Easy to See Why." All these books by Mr. Gwynne are easy to read and lavishly illustrated with large pictures. They're perfect choices to bring into any classroom to illustrate English homonyms and idiom. When I use them in class, I encourage students to create their own (of course, I also love to tell them a bit about Mr. Gwynne the actor, too!!). This and other works by Mr. G. come highly recommended!!

I came across this book about 25 years ago quite by accident and have treasured it (and all the Fred Gwynne books) since. Remember Fred? He played Herman Munster on TV... and was in the old "Car 54, where are you?" show. Little did I know he was a talented children's author/illustrator. The drawings are as precious as the text... some of them resemble Fred (and I assume his children as well). His perception of how children think of routine phrases like "pigeon-toed" or "a king who reigned [rained]" are delightful. My children are grown now, and I will share these with my grandchildren. They are wonderful.

My teacher read this to us in second grade. I thought it was hilarious, especially when "my mother had a frog in her throat."

THE KING WHO RAINED is a humorous collection of a young girl's mental illustrations when she hears various homonyms. The book, written by the late Fred Gwynne, introduces children to the exciting, fun, and sometimes confusing world of the English language. This book is one of three books Gwynne wrote about homonyms and when you put all three together you have a nice trilogy. Children love reading these books and they work well as a springboard into other fun and witty word games. A delight.

I have been searching for the book for a long time and finally realized that the internet was just a click away from finding my favorite book that I read as a child. I used to visit my local library and sit on the floor in front of the shelf where the book was located and read it over and over and over and over again. I could never get enough. Now I am even happier to find that it is still in print and I can have one for my 5 year old. I can't wait until he gets to hear it. I hope he likes it just as much as I did and still do.

My fourth grade class thoroughly enjoyed the humor in Gwynne's books: The King Who Rained, A Chocolate Moose for Dinner, and A Little Pigeon Toed. They thought the books were very funny,

and they tied right in with our spelling unit on homophones too!

Isabella, not James: My son received this book as a gift more than 20 years ago. It was always one of his favorites. I bought it this time as a gift. Forks in the road, Kings who rained, very charming!

I purchased this book and A Chocolate Moose for Dinner. I first bought them when my children were very young and they just came out. I keep a library of good children's books on hand for all my grandchildren to read and to borrow, since I do not use a television, and my grandchildren do not have television either. Thus, the literature I have on hand for when they visit is very important. The King Who Rained has been a favorite of my children and grandchildren throughout the years. It is beautifully illustrated, extraordinarily clever, and teaches children the meaning of the word "colloquialisms". This book is a replacement for my old, chewed up, dog-eared ones. With 21 grandchildren, it gets quite a workout. What a fantastic book and great legacy for Fred Gwynne to have left behind. I can't recommend this book enough. It may have been written for children, but it's a real enjoyment for adults too! You'll love it.

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