

The Wind in the Willows (Dover Children's Evergreen Classics)

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Generations of children have roamed the English countryside in the company of Rat, Mole, Toad, and Badger, the immortal animal friends of *The Wind in the Willows*. From their genesis nearly a century ago as bedtime stories for the author's young son, these timeless tales of friendship amid the natural world have captivated readers of all ages.

The adventures begin when Mole, feeling all the restlessness that springtime brings, abandons his burrow to discover the magic of the great river. With the able assistance of Rat, Mole learns to row and swim, and the chums fill their idyllic days with summertime rambles along the river and cozy fireside feasts on crisp nights. The pair take to the open road with the pleasure-loving Toad, track reclusive Badger to his snug lair, and stand together to reclaim Toad Hall from an invasion of stoats, ferrets, and weasels.

This memorable collection of stories, now available in an inexpensive and unabridged edition, offers a joyful retreat to a rustic world of wonders. Young readers (and listeners) will want to return again and again to the ageless charm of Kenneth Grahame's childhood classic.

"[Mole] thought his happiness was complete when, as he meandered aimlessly along, suddenly he stood by the edge of a full-fed river. Never in his life had he seen a river before--this sleek, sinuous, full-bodied animal, chasing and chuckling, gripping things with a gurgle and leaving them with a laugh, to fling itself on fresh playmates that shook themselves free, and were caught and held again." Such is the cautious, agreeable Mole's first introduction to the river and the Life Adventurous. Emerging from his home at Mole End one spring, his whole world changes when he hooks up with the good-natured, boat-loving Water Rat, the boastful Toad of Toad Hall, the society-hating Badger who lives in the frightening Wild Wood, and countless other mostly well-meaning creatures. Michael Hague's exquisitely detailed, breathtaking color illustrations on almost every generous spread--along with Kenneth Grahame's elegant, delightfully old-fashioned characterizations of the animals--make this book a wonderful read-aloud. Grahame's *The Wind in the Willows* has enchanted readers for four generations, and this lavishly illustrated gift edition is perhaps the finest around. (All ages, or 9 to 12)

This reviews refers to ISBN 0805002138.

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Other Books

Bowker's Guide to Characters in Fiction.

Ⓜ Ⓜ Ⓜ Ⓜ Ⓜ . (0-688-05992-9 , Greenwillow Bks .) HarperCollins Children's Bk . Group - Lion King Read Along - The Brightest Star ... 18.95 (0-9641861-1 - X) Redhawk Publishing Osborne , Mary Pope . Lions at Lunchtime . 1998 . (Magic Tree House ..."