

WALTER CRANE'S  
PICTURE BOOKS  
RE-ISSUE

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THE  
ABSURD  
A·B·C



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JOHN LANE  
THE BODLEY HEAD  
LONDON & NEW YORK

# THE ABSURD ABC

WALTERCRANE'S

Picture Books

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THEBODLEYHEAD·

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The absurd ABC originally published 1874.

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**A for the APPLE or Alphabet pie, Which all get a slice of. Come taste it & try.**

**B is the BABY who gave Mr Bunting Full many a long day's rabbit skin hunting.**

**C for the CAT that played on the fiddle, When cows jumped higher than 'Heigh Diddle Diddle!'**

**D for the DAME with her pig at the stile, 'Tis said they got over, but not yet a while.**



**E for the Englishman, ready to make fast The giant who wanted to have him for breakfast.**

**F for the Frog in the story you know, Began with a wooing but ending in woe.**

**G for Goosey Gander who wandered upstairs, And met the old man who objected to prayers.**



**H for poor Humpty who after his fall, Felt obliged to resign his seat on the wall.**

**I for the Inn where they wouldn't give beer, To one with too much and no money, I fear.**

**J does for poor Jack and also for Jill, Who had so disastrous a tumble down hill.**





**K for calm Kitty, at dinner who sat, While all the good folks watched the dog & the cat.**

**L for Little man, gun and bullets complete, Who shot the poor duck, and was proud of the feat.**

**M for Miss Muffet, with that horrid spider, Just dropped into tea and a chat beside her.**

**N for the Numerous children they who Were often too much for their mother in Shoe.**

**O the Old person that cobwebs did spy, And went up to sweep 'em Oh ever so high!**

**P for the Pie made of blackbirds to sing, A song fit for supper a dish for a king.**



**Q for Queen Anne who sat in the sun Till she, more than the lily resembled the sun**

**R stands for Richard & Robert, those men Who didn't get up one fine morning till ten!**

**S for the Snail that showed wonderful fight, Putting no less than twenty-four tailors to flight!**



**T** stands for Tom, the son of the piper, May his principles change as his years grow riper.

**U** for the Unicorn, keeping his eye on The coveted crown, and 'ts counsel the Lion.

**V** for the Victuals, including the drink, The old woman lived on surprising to think!





**W for the WOMAN who not over nice, Made very short work of the three blind mice.**

**X is the X that is found upon buns, Which, daughters not liking, may come in for sons.**

**Y for Yankee Doodle of ancient renown, Both he & his pony that took him to town.**

**Z for the Zany who looked like a fool, For when he was young he neglected his school.**