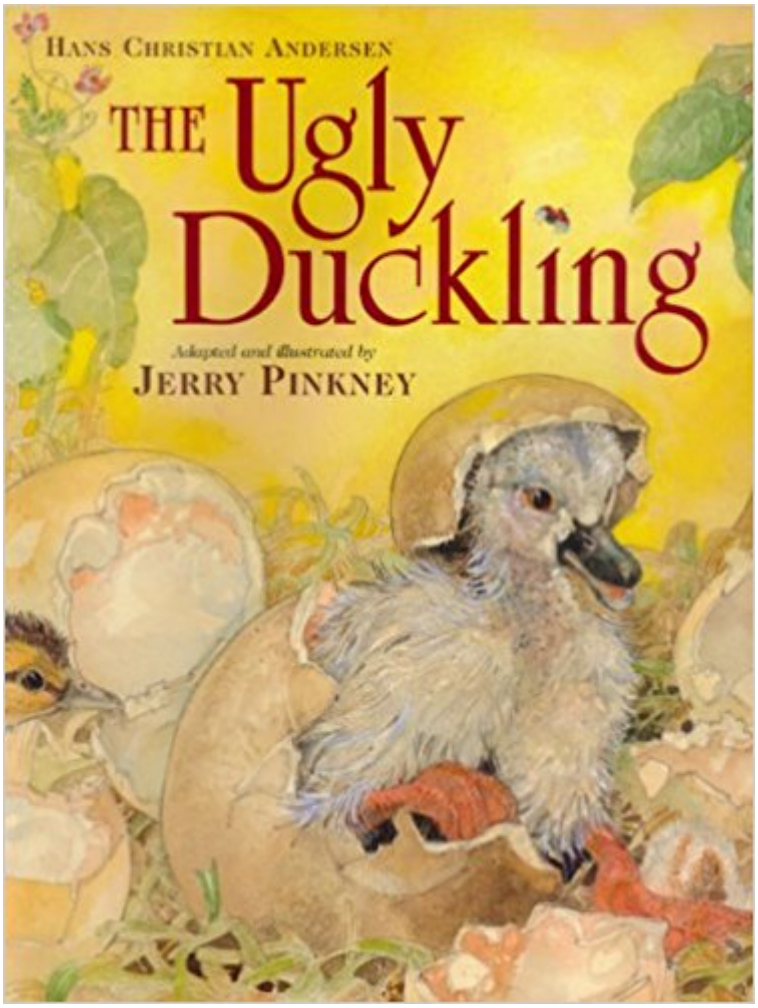
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# The Ugly Duckling (Caldecott Honor Book)




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## Synopsis

A gorgeous, Caldecott Honor-winning version of the classic storyFor over one hundred yearsÃ Â The Ugly DucklingÃ Â has been a childhood favorite, and Jerry Pinkney's spectacular adaptation brings it triumphantly to new generations of readers.With keen emotion and fresh vision, the acclaimed artist captures the essence of the tale's timeless appeal: The journey of the awkward little birdÃ¢â ¬â •marching bravely through hecklers, hunters, and cruel seasonsÃ¢â ¬â •is an unforgettable survival story; this blooming into a graceful swan is a reminder of the patience often necessary to discover true happiness. Splendid watercolors set in the lush countryside bring the drama to life in this hardcover picture book.Ã Â

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD650L (What's this?)
Series: Caldecott Honor Book
Hardcover: 40 pages
Publisher: Morrow Junior Books; 1st edition (March 24, 1999)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 068815932X
ISBN-13: 978-0688159320
Product Dimensions: 9.2 x 0.4 x 11 inches
Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.1 out of 5 stars 2,169 customer reviews
Best Sellers Rank: #76,634 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #35 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Holidays & Celebrations > Easter #69 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Animals > Baby Animals #467 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Religions > Christianity
Age Range: 4 - 8 years
Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

Three-time Caldecott Honor artist and four-time winner of the Coretta Scott King Award, Jerry Pinkney doesn't disappoint with this lovely, old-fashioned, richly textured watercolor adaptation of Hans Christian Andersen's The Ugly Duckling. The mother duck knew from the very beginning that one of her babies would be different from the rest... the sixth egg was large and oddly shaped. When it finally hatches that summer, she thinks the "monstrous big duckling" must be a turkey chick! Other ducks are appalled by the ugly duckling, and he is chased, pecked, and kicked aside. When

he can’t stand it anymore, he runs away from the pond, eventually taking refuge in the warm cottage of an old woman with a cat and a hen. Missing the delicious feeling of the water too much to stay, however, he heads out again into the wide, increasingly cold autumn world.  One day, he heard a sound of whirring wings, and up in the air he saw a flock of birds flying high. They were as bright as the snow that had fallen during the night, and their long necks were stretched southward. Oh, if only he could go with them! But what sort of companion could he be to those beautiful beings?"  At last, after a hard, cold winter--and plenty of the kind of adventures no one really wants to have--the duckling sees the same flock of birds he’d seen in the sky so many months ago. He decides he will follow them, somewhat dramatically preferring to be killed by them rather than suffer any more "cold and hunger and cruelty." Much to his surprise, they welcome him! And when he looks for his dull, awkward reflection in the water, he sees a beautiful swan instead. Children who feel ostracized, even for the tiniest of differences, may shed a few sympathetic tears for the ugly duckling. And no doubt, it was Andersen’s wish to give them the hope of one day finding their own peaceful place. (Ages 3 to 9) --Karin Snelson

Pinkney’s (Rikki-Tikki-Tavi) supple, exquisitely detailed watercolors provide a handsome foil to his graceful adaptation of the Hans Christian Andersen classic. This "duckling" is teased unmercifully by his apparent siblings but loved by the mother duck: "He may not be quite as handsome as the others," she says, "but... I am sure he will make his way in the world as well as anybody." Eventually he runs away, and as the seasons turn, the fledgling has a series of adventures, from a close encounter with a hunting dog to getting trapped in ice. All the while he is growing, transforming, and in the triumphant ending, he finds peace and happiness when his real identity is revealed to himself and to readers. Pinkney’s artwork is a swan song to the beauty of the pastoral, and his lush images flow across the pages in sweeping vistas and meticulous close-ups. Whether depicting the subtle patterns and colors of a duck’s feathers, the murky twilight of a freshwater pond or the contrast of red berries against dried grasses etched with snow, Pinkney’s keenly observed watercolors honor nature in all its splendor. A flawlessly nuanced performance by a consummate craftsman. Ages 3-up. Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

The book is about a ugly duckling, in which everyone was mean to him. So one day he got fed up with them all so he then decided he was going to ran away to a pond but there was a shoot off . Which made him immediately run off. Later he ran across this old ladies home but he animals were also mean to him which he then went off to a pond. The pond happened to freeze in the winter time

which a farmer rescued him which the duck didn’t seem to like that so he then ran away again. But later on her realized he was a beautiful swan which he should of been able to feel all along but other’s made him feel less of his self.This book teaches kids that you can’t judge people by what they look like that it’s what’s on the inside that counts, and that you shouldn’t ever be mean to others just because of their looks. I love this lesson because it’s something that we have been telling our kids so they know not to ever pick on people because we are all the same. Everyone has different qualities that make them special and it’s what makes them who they are so they need to get to know someone by their personality and all.It helps show how some people except who they are faster then others so by judging them it makes them feel less of themselves which is not something we need to be doing at all. You can’t judge a book by it’s cover it’s what’s inside the book that really matters so this is a wonderful lesson to teach kids and even remind adults as well.

This is not the story as I remember it. I guess I prefer the Disney version. As it is, the illustrations were okay but very small and not impressive. This is not something I would read to my grandchildren. Although this was a translation from the original version, the grammar was not in sync and didn’t read well. Sorry, but I did not like it and it will be deleted from my Kindle.

This is a beautiful children’s book. The illustrations are wonderful and something any child will love. For younger children you can skip some of the detail descriptions and simplify the story. Older children with more patience will love it.

5 stars, awesome book, always loved the ugly duckling!! Awesome book, loved it, amazing, cant think anything else is required!!ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•ÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Â•Ãƒ

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A new take on this nursery tale. I loved reading it and looking forward to giving it to one of my grandchilgren.The simple but beautiful illustrations make the book into a treasure.

Definitely a good book that keeps to the spirit of the original story while at the same time leaving quite a bunch to fairytale fans. The writing is simple and easy enough to follow while at the same time allowing the reader to be able to read to a child or vice versa. The illustrations were digital so they were a bit on the strange side. The ones I had so much problems with was the hen as they drew her as a roost. Yes it is trivial and out of place but there is a difference between the two. Al in all a good introduction to the fairytales of Hans Christian Andersen....

This is not a book you can read to toddlers at their bedtime.I remember the Ugly Duckling from my childhood possessions. When I came across this on my Kindle recommendations for toddler bedtime books, I did an immediate "Buy Now".In hindsight, should have read the reviews and gone through the book extracts.Clearly the unabridged, original version is nowhere as simple as all the children’s versions I’ve read through my childhood.The language is archaic, clearly feeling like the almost 200 year old book that it now is. Our 3 year old’s do not come across "the great burdock leaves" in their daily conversations in school, at home, or on the many hours of cartoons they watch on TV every week. The long, complicated sentences make me feel I’m reading The New York TImes and not a children’s book. It is beither pleasurable for the adult reading it, nor for the child / children listening on.I’ll move it to the junk heap of Kindle books I bought because they were cheap, and maybe let the kids come back to it when they are in middle school.

My 5 year old grandson loved this audible book. With volume control different age groups can listen comfortably with less parental involvement required.

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