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# Lavender's Blue



## Synopsis

Originally published in 1954, *Lavender's Blue* was received with immediate acclaim, and was chosen as a runner-up for the prestigious Hans Christian Andersen Medal. Beautifully designed and illustrated by the influential artist Harold Jones, the book never went out of print, and has been enjoyed by generations of children. This facsimile edition has been lovingly produced to recreate the look and feel of the first printing of this much-loved book. The most definitive collection of nursery rhymes and songs published, it will delight every child in your life, including you.

## Book Information

Paperback: 180 pages

Publisher: Oxford University Press; 1 edition (May 1, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0192782258

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Product Dimensions: 9.8 x 0.7 x 7.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (10 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #816,441 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #129 in [Books > Teens > Literature & Fiction > Poetry](#) #10425 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry](#)

## Customer Reviews

"Lavender's blue, dilly, dilly, lavender's green: when I am king... you shall be queen." I have read, and as a matter of fact have owned quite a number of nursery rhyme collections over the years. Many have been very good, some have been great, there were a few rather poorly done ones that popped up now and again and of course each year quite a number of new versions are published around the world. I must say though, that the book being reviewed here could quite well be the granddaddy (or grandmother) of them all! Year after year it has held its own and several generations of children have been raised with this one. A good nursery rhyme has three main characteristics; it can be read as a poem, it can be sung as a song and, for the most part, can be acted out in one way or another. Most of the rhymes in this work are classics that have been around for years and years; as a matter of fact quite a number of them have been around for multiple centuries in one form or another. Now reader take note: Many of the nursery rhymes in this work are not the gentle little stories that are being produced and written these days for the youngest members of our families. My goodness no! Many of these old original stories; and indeed, they are stories, have a

rather violent aspect to them, unhappy endings and they most certainly are not gender neutral! You could say that some of them are down right politically incorrect by our today's standards. (More about this later). This particular collection of nursery rhymes was first published around 1954 and has not been out of print since that time. There are reasons for this. First, it is one of the most comprehensive collections of children's poems to date. Secondly, the author has pretty well stuck to the original (if, in the case of these old stories, "original" can be defined and identified) and recorded them as such. Thirdly, and just as important as the words found in the text, are the illustrations by Harold Jones...they simply do not get much better than this. A good nursery rhyme book needs; almost demands, good illustrations and we certainly get them here. "Sing a Song of Sixpence," Humpty Dumpty," "Hey Diddle Diddle," "Bye, Baby Bunting,," they are all here folks! The lessons taught and the lessons to be learned in many of these rhymes are just as valid today as they were decades and centuries ago. One of the nice things about a collection such as this is the wide, wide variety of subject matter. Most of these are to be read to the child rather than the child reading for themselves. This gives the parent the option of what to read and what not to read according to what the individual parent deems appropriate for their young one. I personally find no fault in any of the verses here; hey, I was raised on them! Note: I have seen a trend over the past twenty years or so, of anthologies such as this being heavily annotated by learned folks detailing and explaining obscure and nonsense words and phrases. I find this trend rather disturbing in a way. Little kids (Note that these are called NURSERY rhymes), for the most part could care less about the meaning of the words. It is the rhyme and rhythm of the piece that matters. Often times complete nonsense words are much more effective in soothing and entertaining than "regular," and acceptable words. Every kid needs a collection of nursery rhymes made available and I truly feel that a person could do far worse than selecting this one to meet that need. Note: The poem Lavender's Blue was performed as a folk song (modified a bit) by the great Burl Ives...check it out! Note: I see that on the product page that this book is targeted for the 4-8 group age. I do not agree with this. Many of these rhymes can be read to children much, much younger and can be quite effective. Don Blankenship The Ozarks

What a wonderful book! The illustrations are charming, and the rhymes included practically constitute an exercise in cultural literacy. My 5yo daughter LOVES this book, and read the whole thing in two days as soon as I brought it home. She still pours over it. A lovely addition to your family's library, particularly if you have young children! (and I am VERY picky!)

Published in celebration of the 100th anniversary of Oxford Children's Books, "Lavender's Blue" is a collection of classic children's nursery rhymes expertly compiled by Kathleen Lines and beautifully illustrated by Harold Jones. The result of the Lines & Jones collaboration is a simply wonderful volume of poetry for children that evokes a visual nineteenth century elegance and a timeless legacy of rhymes. Of special note at the end of "Lavender's Blue" are several pages of nursery rhyme games! An intrinsically lovely volume of verse, "Lavender's Blue" is enthusiastically recommended for personal, family, school, and community library poetry collections for kids.

My children, ages 22 and 18, grew up on this book, and I'm pleased to see it's still being published. It has all of the old nursery rhymes in it and delightful pictures. It has some finger plays as well. I will keep buying this for gifts!

A beautiful old fashioned book, which I shall give to my niece for her first born. She mentioned this book to me when I was singing the nursery rhyme "Lavender's Blue" as I rocked her newborn, and she said she remembers a book from her childhood with the name "Lavender's Blue" and how much she loved it. I hope this is the book she remembers, but even if it isn't its a beautiful book with delightful illustrations and lots of traditional nursery rhymes.

This is one of the best collections of Nursery Rhymes for children: both in the content (many lesser known rhymes that are delightful to discover) and the fantastic illustrations. I have read up on the way the rhythm and cadence of rhyming stories, like Dr. Seuss and classic nursery rhymes, stimulates babies' reception of language even as young as 10 months. And I noticed, with my youngest, that it really does work

Lavenders Blue, A book of nursery rhymes by Kathleen Lines and Harold Jones  
Cute nursery rhymes that I recall myself. Some my mother taught us with how to demonstrate some of them.  
Audio book for children and adults alike. Love the a for apple pie then b bit it, etc all the way through the whole alphabet. House that Jack built is another really good one. Fun games to play also and you are told how to do them.  
I received this book from National Library Service for my BARD (Braille Audio Reading Device).

This is the book I give as a first birthday gift to all our extended family babies. Naturally have a copy that is fifty years old kept from my children's book collections.

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