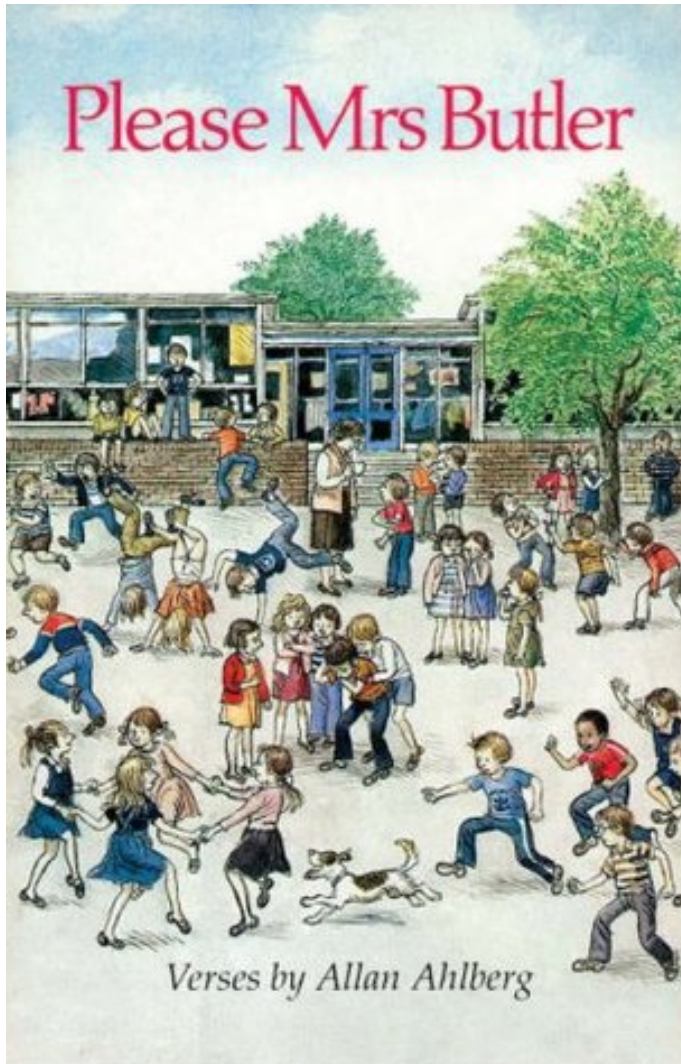

Allan Ahlberg

Please Mrs Butler: Verses (Puffin Books)



Title: Please Mrs Butler: Verses (Puffin Books)

Author: Allan Ahlberg

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Description

The bestselling and much-loved children's poetry classic, *Please Mrs Butler* by Allan Ahlberg is celebrating its 30th anniversary! With a fresh new look for a brand new generation of school children to take to its heart, every teacher, parent and child should have a copy.

Nobody leave the room.

Everyone listen to me.

We had ten pairs of scissors

At half-past two, And now there's only three.

This witty collection of school poems by Allan Ahlberg, re-jacketed for its 30th anniversary and for a whole new generation of school children to fall in love with, is full of typical classroom events that will be recognized and enjoyed by everyone. From never-ending projects, reading tests, quarrelling, making-up, excuses and 'Please, Sir, it isn't fair.'

Fritz Wegner's line drawings beautifully complement the hilarious and poignant verses.

Please Mrs Butler was voted the most important twentieth-century children's poetry book in a *Books for Keeps* poll.

Praise for *Please Mrs Butler*

'Hilarious and poignant school verses about primary school life. A real winner' - *Guardian*

'Clever, funny and nostalgic, the collection is a delight' - *Sunday Times*

PLEASE MRS BUTLER - The most important 20th-century children's poetry book' - *Books for Keeps* poll

Praise for Allan Ahlberg:

'By far our best writer for the young,' - *Telegraph*

Author

Allan Ahlberg, a former teacher, postman, plumber's mate and grave digger, is in the super-league of children's writers. He has published over 100 children's books and, with his late wife Janet, created such award-winning picture books as *Each Peach Pear Plum* and *The Jolly Christmas Postman* - both winners of the Greenaway Medal. He has also written prize-winning

poetry and fiction for older readers. The *Telegraph* described him as 'By far our best writer for the young.'

Insightful reviews

Christian: Having read this book myself as a child and now introducing it to my class at school I would describe this collection of poems as fantastic. The book can be used to provide children with short poems read aloud when there is spare time within the school day and as an introduction into reading and writing poetry. The poems within the book are humorous and introduce poetry to children within a school based context. The book would be best suited to KS2 children in terms of using the poetry to encourage the writing of poetry independently, in partners or in groups. The poems are very well written and introduce a variety of poetry techniques to children and can be enjoyed by all ages.

Laura Verret:

I purchased Please Mrs Butler as a concession to my great enjoyment of poetry. As poems I enjoyed this collection a great deal – they were sprightly, had splendid rhymes, and were extremely realistic. As literature for children I did not enjoy them at all.

Praises. None except that the poems are well-written. But what's the good of that if they aren't fit to be read by their intended audience? The Ordeal of Robin Hood is the one exception to this; I laughed heartily at it.

Dislikes. All of the verses in Please Mrs Butler are based on class-room or school-related experiences. There are poems about trips to the school nurse, fights at recess, substitute teachers, lunchtime, games, etc. I hope my children never experience the public school environment, and do not intend to expose them to it for the sake of a few poems. But even apart from this there were elements which made this collection unacceptable.

There was an underlying element of tension between adults and children; this manifested itself in the form of back-talk, lying, and general disrespect towards adults on the part of the children. The adults in turn are usually exasperated at the children. The children also display a great deal of manipulativness towards each other. Finally, a rather savage (unresolved) argument is reported between a husband and wife in which they throw things at each other.

Conclusion If these elements had been the exception I would have been very reluctant to recommend Please Mrs Butler. Seeing as they were the rule, I find recommending it utterly impossible. This book simply is not worth purchasing, but if you ever get the opportunity, go ahead and read The Ordeal of Robin Hood.

Annie: I think this book is great. It has a range of poems at different levels for children and the understanding of the poems is varied also for many abilities. The poems are based around school and really quite funny. I remember it from when I attended school and I have done work

from it with children recently and they were very excited to do independent reading and discuss the poems with their peers.

Emily: I re-read this recently, as a chum commented on the way it used to be certainly one of their favorite books of all time. I remembered examining it as a tender child, and used to be definitely partial to Ahlberg's different books so used to be happy to revisit this one. The poems are evocative of a main institution day in school and with uncomplicated language, it's a choice of poems beginner reader might definitely learn with out a lot help. an exceptional assortment to introduce youngsters to the concept that of poetry instead of prose.

Sabera: Please Mrs Butler This boy Derek Drew retains copying my work, Miss. What shall I do?...This selection of poems is stuffed with many incidents that ensue day-by-day inside a major institution from little ones telling stories to the vintage factor of the "copycat"! Ahlberg provides a funny twist to every and each poem, corresponding to the identify poem 'Please Mrs Butler' the place the instructor offers silly feedback to the scholars who consistently whine in regards to the behaviour of one other baby at school (such as "Lock your self within the cupboard, dear. Run away to the sea...")This ebook will be really powerful to percentage with top key degree who wouldn't merely comprehend many of the matters which are raised in every one poem but in addition comprehend Ahlberg's use of humour. The poems will be a superb place to begin to getting teenagers partial to the belief of writing poetry and the truth that poems don't constantly have to rhyme. Also, examples equivalent to being picked final for groups might be used as a spotlight for circle time, really in a category the place any little ones many consider singled out.

Luna: this is often one of many first actual books i've got complete on stories of analyzing whilst i used to be more youthful and it was/is one in every of my faves. after we needed to select whatever of our personal to learn in class, this used to be chosen. Alas, my replica turns out to have disappeared to the nation-states of storage, good i'm hoping it has and i will locate it soon.

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