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Daffy-Down-Dillies

Edward Lear
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Edward Lear : Daffy-Down-Dillies before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Daffy-Down-Dillies:

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Boyds Mills Press publishes a wide range of high-quality fiction and nonfiction picture books, chapter books, novels, and nonfiction

From School Library JournalGrade 3-8-- A collection of some of Lear's silliest limericks. The musical language of this genre is vibrantly brought to life with the imaginative pen-and-ink drawings of this contributor to The New Yorker. These illustrations fairly beg children to read the words, catch the rhythm, tap their toes, and have a giggle or two. The vocabulary may be intimidating to younger readers at times (``umbrageous,'' ``virulent,'' ``invidious,'' e.g.), but once the poem is begun, the words somehow fall into place with nonsensical rhyme and reason. Teachers who introduce this form to students will definitely need this book in their classrooms. Librarians should consider a copy for students and an additional one for the professional shelf. --Mary Lou Budd, Milford South Elementary School, OHCopyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc.From Kirkus sA frequent contributor to The New Yorker selects 37 of his favorite limericks and illustrates them with witty, detailed pen drawings; O'Brien's odd characters and their calm acceptance of

the ridiculous situations described in the verses are much in the spirit of Lear's own simpler, but notably adroit, sketches. The better to attract modern readers, O'Brien adds watercolor in gently glowing colors and sometimes combines several limericks in a single comically imaginative spread--e.g., the old man with a beard full of birds is one of three characters up the same whimsical tree, and another amusing trio is caught at sea--one with a boat that's not afloat, another on a goose, and the third, ``who placidly sat on a post...and called for some hot buttered toast." An unusually felicitous introduction to this well-loved, zany humorist. (Poetry/Picture book. 4-8) -- Copyright 1992, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.