



A Child's Christmas in Wales

By Dylan Thomas

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A Child's Christmas in Wales By Dylan Thomas

In print for fifty years, this gem of lyric prose has enchanted both young and old from its very first edition.

Dylan Thomas, one of the greatest poets and storytellers of the twentieth century, captures a child's-eye view, and an adult's fond memories, of a magical time of presents, aunts and uncles, the frozen sea, and in the best of circumstances, newly fallen snow.

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A Child's Christmas in Wales By Dylan Thomas Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 3 Up—Raschka's illustrations will surely enhance children's enjoyment of this nostalgic, bittersweet memoir. Executed in ink, torn paper, and gouache on sensuously textured paper, they are full of tiny details that beg for closer inspection. Some libraries may still have copies illustrated by Fritz Eichenberg (New Directions, 1997), Edward Ardizzone (Godine, 1980), or Trina Schart Hyman (Holiday, 1985). Of these earlier editions, Hyman's probably succeeds best at capturing the story's time and place. Raschka, however, finds the universal elements that a contemporary child can relate to—the eccentric aunts, the joy of pretending to smoke candy cigarettes, the classification of gifts into "Useful Presents" and "Useless Presents." This is a handsome book that most libraries will want.—V. W.

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From [The New Yorker](#)

The texture of the engravings has an almost tactile vibrancy.

From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 3-6. First published in book form in 1954, this haunting memoir of the poet's childhood Christmases is back in a well-designed package. Creating the art with ink and gouache on torn and textured paper, Raschka reflects the spirit of this read-aloud favorite without always adhering literally to descriptions in the text: observant children will find that one of the "long" cats is not long and the "fawn-bowlered" man wears a bowler of black and red. Appearing on nearly every page, the pictures are alight with color and express an almost musical sense of movement. Though many readers will prefer the older editions with more traditional illustrations by Edward Ardizzone and Trina Schart Hyman, Raschka's fans will enjoy the art for its own sake. *Carolyn Phelan*

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Users Review

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