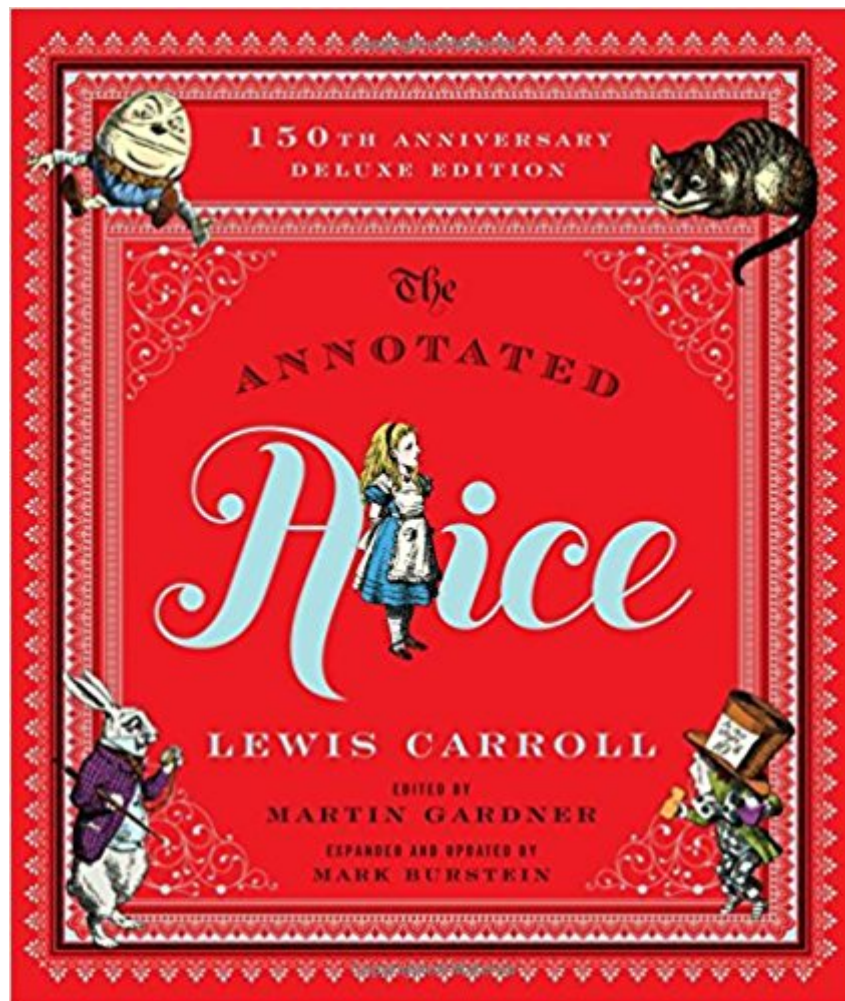


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# The Annotated Alice: 150th Anniversary Deluxe Edition (150th Deluxe Anniversary Edition) (The Annotated Books)



## Synopsis

A richly illustrated and expanded collector's edition of Martin Gardner's The Annotated Alice, including *Through the Looking-Glass*, to celebrate the 150th anniversary of Alice's Adventures in Wonderland. One summer afternoon in 1862, the Rev. Charles Lutwidge Dodgson took a rowboat out on the Thames. With him were three young friends from the Liddell family—the sisters Lorina, Edith, and Alice. Dodgson often spun fairy tales on these boating trips to pass the time, and on this particular afternoon the story was particularly well received by Alice, who afterwards entreated him to write it down for her. Dodgson recalled the pivotal moment thusly: "In a desperate attempt to strike out some new line of fairy-lore, I had sent my heroine straight down a rabbit-hole, to begin with, without the least idea what was to happen afterwards." The tale, initially titled *Alice's Adventures Under Ground*, became *Alice's Adventures in Wonderland*, which Dodgson published in 1865 as Lewis Carroll. So began the journey, now in its 150th year, of one of the most beloved stories of all time. The *Annotated Alice: 150th Anniversary Deluxe Edition* compiles over half a century of scholarship by leading Carrollian experts to reveal the history and full depth of the Alice books and their enigmatic creator. This volume brings together Martin Gardner's legendary original 1960 publication, *The Annotated Alice*; his follow-ups, *More Annotated Alice* and the *Definitive Edition*; his continuing explication through the *Knight Letter* magazine; and masterly additions and updates edited by Mark Burstein, president emeritus of the Lewis Carroll Society of North America. In these pages Lewis Carroll's mathematical riddles and curious wordplay, ingeniously embedded throughout the Alice works, are delightfully decoded and presented in the margins, along with original correspondence, amusing anecdotal detours, and fanciful illustrations by Salvador Dalí, Beatrix Potter, Ralph Steadman, and a host of other famous artists. Put simply, this anniversary edition of *The Annotated Alice* is the most comprehensive collection of Alice materials ever published in a single volume. May it serve as a beautiful and enduring tribute to the charming, utterly original "new line of fairy-lore" that Lewis Carroll first spun 150 years ago. The deluxe anniversary edition of *The Annotated Alice* includes: A rare, never-before-published portrait of Francis Jane Lutwidge, Lewis Carroll's mother. Over 100 new or updated annotations, collected since the publication of Martin Gardner's *Definitive Edition* of *The Annotated Alice* in 1999. More than 100 new illustrations, in vibrant color, by Salvador Dalí, Beatrix Potter, Ralph Steadman, and 42 other artists and illustrators, in addition to the original artwork by Sir John Tenniel. A preface by Mark Burstein, president emeritus of the Lewis Carroll Society of North America, and all of Gardner's introductions to other editions. A filmography of every Alice-related film by Carroll scholar David Schaefer. 225 color and black-and-white illustrations.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

When I was a child, I pored over my mother's handed-down copies of "Alice in Wonderland" and "Through the Looking Glass". I was delighted by the other worlds down the rabbit hole and on the other side of the mirror, enthralled by the Cheshire Cat's magical grin, the live playing cards and chessmen, the further adventures of my old friend Humpty Dumpty, and the antics of the Mad Hatter and March Hare. At the same time I felt some of the frustration that a child feels while sitting in on grown-ups' conversation - "I got the gist of the story, but I somehow knew that there was a lot that I wasn't getting, grownup humor that was going on over my head. Even later, when I re-read Alice as a grown-up, I knew I wasn't getting the point of a lot of the satire. In "The Annotated Alice" Martin Gardner solves that problem completely and charmingly, with affectionate and witty footnote explanations of Carrollian wit that are almost as much fun to read as the original text, especially if you are a trivia nerd like me. Are you curious about the inspiration for "How doth the little crocodile/ improve his shining tail"? Here is the complete text of Rev. Isaac Watts poem "How doth the little busy bee/ improve each shining hour." Is it true that John Tenniel's drawings of the Mad Hatter were meant to represent British Prime Minister Gladstone? Gardner lays that myth to rest. Other notes explain in-jokes - allusions to incidents and people in Oxford and the family of Alice Liddell that would be clearly understood by his target audience, the real Alice and her sisters. If you first met "Alice" in your youth and would like to know her better, I recommend you snuggle up with "The Annotated Alice" as your bedside companion. You will

find unsuspected sophistication in this old treasure, you will feel younger with every page, and your dreams will be haunted by nothing worse than the Jabberwock.

I don't always like annotated editions, but I bought this one because both stories were included and it retains all of the original illustrations like the ones I remember reading as a child. Having said that, I enjoyed the illustrations by other artists included for historical context. Some of them are quite stunning, in fact. The thing I hate about annotated editions is the way the annotations create visual "clutter." Yes, that is the case here as well. I really have to force my slightly OCD-like mind to ignore that and concentrate on the text of the story. However, as a history buff, I enjoy reading the annotations from a historical perspective. It's a big book, so if you enjoy a hefty hardcover, this is the one for you.

I've been an Alice fan for years and have purchased every of the (many) editions of Annotated Alice. You would think that this one would have nothing new to offer after so many previous editions, but it really does. There are many new illustrations included which are not often seen, and other little extras that make this 150th Anniversary Edition a real treat. Great for the Alice novice or advanced fan of the books. The annotations will open a whole new universe to readers.

Wonderful new edition of a must-have book for fans of Carroll, children's literature, and Victorian literature. There are about a hundred new annotations, from eclectic sources, as well as rarely seen illustrations. This is the 150th Anniversary Edition-- is still pushing the 1999 edition.

Martin Gardner, who annotated these two books, made this a labor of love. The categories uses for evaluating books don't quite fit in some ways. Am I evaluating two of the greatest books in 19th Century English literature? Two books which were significant in the education of the majority of those British statesmen who created and managed the British Empire? Two books which are considered in the U.S. to be fit only for girl children to read - when they are filled with wit & wisdom and indelible images - both verbal and visual? Or are we evaluating the enrichment afforded by Martin Gardner's annotations - which are always informative and often amusing and full of information about the events of that time in Britain which has so shaped our own history as well? Every household should have a copy of this book. Every parent who has the wisdom to read to children should employ this book -- taking time to stop along the way and explore the annotations of Martin Gardner. Don't rush. It's fun, not a chore.

The work/writing is engaging but the book itself is dirty/greasy & pages are bent - very disappointed!!! I've been waiting for the book for months and was so EXCITED to receive it. So far (I'm on page 88), the writing, the illustrations) are almost what I expected (I was hoping that the colored illustrations would be a bit more vibrant, but that's probably a matter of taste) and I've only found 1 typo on the book cover (the name of Lewis Carroll's mother is not spelled correctly). As for the book itself, the binding and paper is very high quality. WHAT I CAN'T BELIEVE IS THE FACT THAT BOOK ITSELF LOOKS LIKE SOMETHING I WOULD HAVE PURCHASED AT A 2ND HAND BOOK STORE! The edges of the book look like someone handled it after they finished changing the oil in their car. This is extremely unusual in my experience with , and I hope that no one else, who was eagerly waiting to receive this edition "in celebration" of the 150 anniversary of Alice will be as disappointed.

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