

Reading a Selection of Poems by Shel Silverstein



Before you read these poems answer the following:

1. Are you familiar with Shel Silverstein? Can you name any of his works?
2. If so, do you have a favorite? If not, read these and choose your favorite!

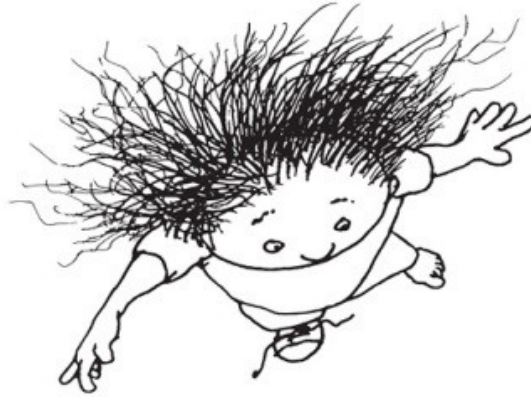
Now **skip** the following questions and come back **after** you read the story

After you read the series of poems, discuss the following questions individually or with a friend.

1. How would you describe Shel Silverstein's style of writing? Do you like or dislike it?
2. How would you describe the illustrations? Do you think they capture the essence of the poem?
3. Which poem out of the selections do you like the best? Why?
4. Have you ever written any poems? What were they about? How much did they differ from Shel Silverstein's writing style?

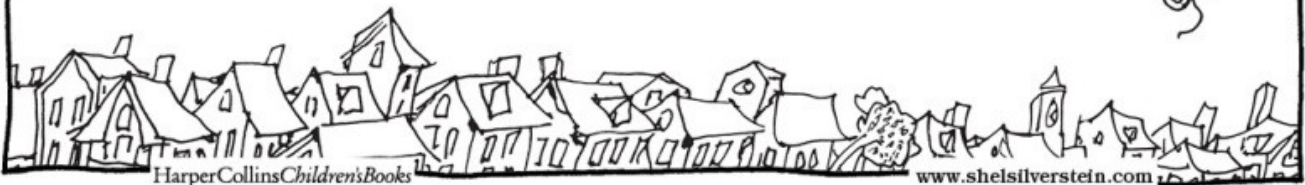
FALLING UP

I tripped on my shoelace
And I fell up—
Up to the roof tops,
Up over the town,
Up past the tree tops,
Up over the mountains,
Up where the colors
Blend into the sounds.
But it got me so dizzy
When I looked around,
I got sick to my stomach
And I threw down.



Read more poems in
Falling Up
by Shel Silverstein!

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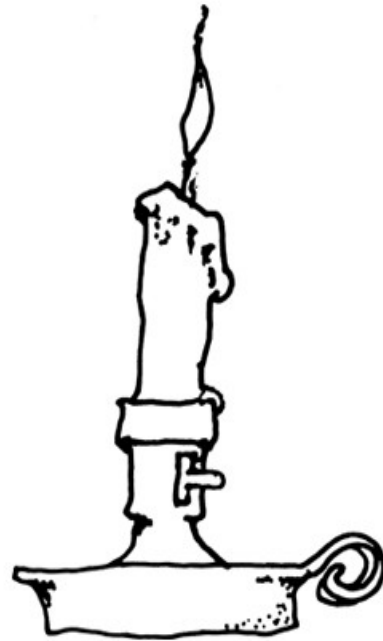
HarperCollinsChildrensBooks

www.shelsilverstein.com

INVITATION

If you are a dreamer, come in,
If you are a dreamer, a wisher, a liar,
A hope-er, a pray-er, a magic bean buyer . . .
If you're a pretender, come sit by my fire
For we have some flax-golden tales to spin.
Come in!
Come in!

Read more poems in
Where the Sidewalk Ends
by Shel Silverstein!



Put Something In

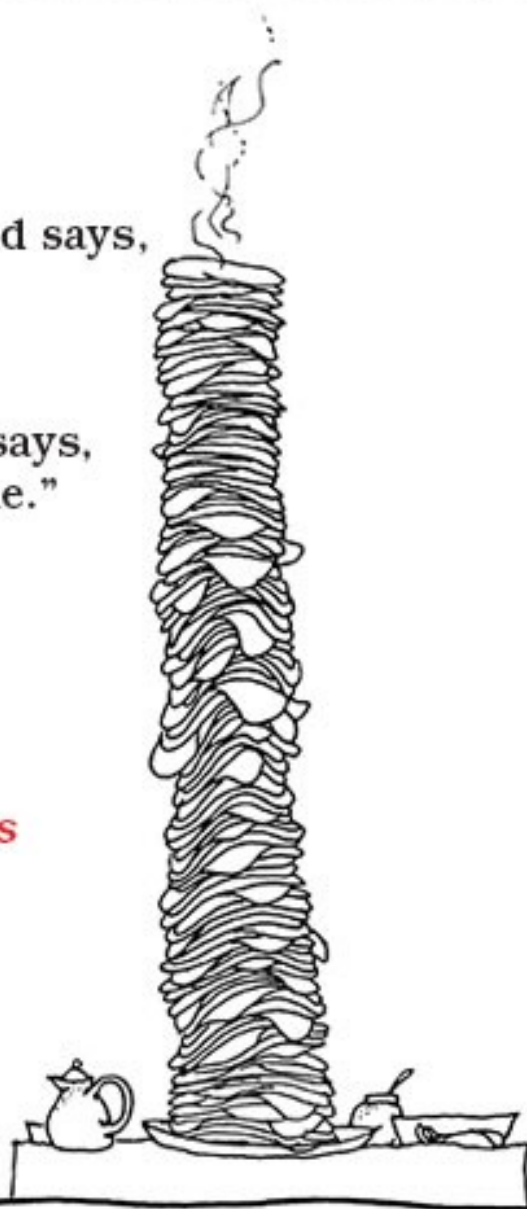
Draw a crazy picture,
Write a nutty poem,
Sing a mumble-gumble song,
Whistle through your comb.
Do a loony-goony dance
'Cross the kitchen floor,
Put something silly in the world
That ain't been there before.

Read more poems in
A Light in the Attic by Shel Silverstein!

PANCAKE?

Who wants a pancake,
Sweet and piping hot?
Good little Grace looks up and says,
"I'll take the one on the top."
Who else wants a pancake,
Fresh off the griddle?
Terrible Theresa smiles and says,
"I'll take the one in the middle."

Read more poems in
Where the Sidewalk Ends
by Shel Silverstein!



EIGHTEEN FLAVORS

Eighteen luscious, scrumptious flavors—
Chocolate, lime and cherry,
Coffee, pumpkin, fudge-banana,
Caramel cream and boysenberry,
Rocky road and toasted almond,
Butterscotch, vanilla dip,
Butter-brickle, apple ripple,
Coconut and mocha chip,
Brandy peach and lemon custard,
Each scoop lovely, smooth, and round,
Tallest ice-cream cone in town,
Lying there (sniff) on the ground.

Read more poems in *Where the Sidewalk Ends*
by Shel Silverstein!

If you are superstitious you'll never step on cracks.
When you see a ladder you will never walk beneath it.
And if you ever spill some salt you'll throw some 'cross your back,
And carry 'round a rabbit's foot in case you need it.



Read the complete "Superstitious" poem in
A Light in the Attic by Shel Silverstein!

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