TOO GOOD FOR WORDS:
An Annotated Bibliography of Wordless Children's Books
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TO ERIC AND ORGANIZATIONS OPERATING UNDER AGREEMENTS WITH THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF EDUCATION.
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   This is the story of a black child and his dog. The dog dreams that he grows in size and is able to help his master.

   A pigeon flies in through a kitchen window and causes chaos until a little boy takes over and calmly solves the problem for the panicked adults.

   The adventures of a boy and a dog are illustrated with small cartoon drawings. One of the adventures takes the characters into the air by kite and a balloon. Then they make a rapid decent into a sand castle that they rebuild.

   This is a mystery story done with black and white pen and ink drawings. It is difficult to follow and understand.

   Not really a book but more of a fold-out strip with pictures of animals.

   Each letter of the alphabet looks as if it is carefully made of wood. Look again. Something is wrong with each letter. The letters are matched with an unusual picture and the border contains small pictures of things that begin with the letter.

   This book has one page of explanation at the beginning. It is pure fantasy that stretches the imagination. A clown takes the reader on a tour of all of the circus acts.

   Another imagination stretcher. This book has strange out of this world pictures and situations such as the ceiling being the floor.

   This is a story about a little boy who has a bad day. His family is mad at him for spilling milk and repping his pants. To make up for his mistakes the boy takes his mother some flowers.
10. Aruego, Jose, *Look What I Can Do*, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1971. The book begins with one water buffalo saying to another, "Look what I can do". The second animal imitates the first and they have fun until they drop from exhaustion. At this point a third water buffalo arrives on the scene and says "Look what I can do". This is basically a wordless book except for the first and last pages.


12. *In the Eye of the Teddy*, Harper&Row, 1973. This is the story of a child's world as seen through the eyes of a teddy bear.


17. Carle, Eric, *Do You Want to Be My Friend*, Thomas Y. Crowell Co., 1971. A mouse is out looking for a friend but is asking all big animals. Finally the little mouse finds another mouse for a friend.

18. *I See A Song*, Thomas Y. Crowell Co., 1973. A story of a musician playing his violin. Bright colored forms begin to flow from his instrument and as his mood changes so do the forms coming from the violin.
   Each page is cut into two parts. The top half is for colors and the bottom is of different objects. The idea is to flip through the pages and match the color to the correct object.

   This book operates on the same principle as **My Very First Book of Colors** described above.

   This is a long fold out book. A tiny mouse follows a huge green tail looking for a friend. Each page introduces another tail. The page must be turned to see what animal the tail belongs to. Names of animals are printed on the back of each picture.

   A fold out book featuring a train carrying different animals.

   Story of a drop of water that enters a house through a leak in the roof. The drop passes by the baby and wakes up the dog. On a sunny day the leak in the roof is fixed.

24. Carroll, Ruth, **Chimp and Chump**, Reynal, 1933.
   Monkeys escape from the zoo cage and get into mischief before being caught.

   A chimp dressed up as a baby is marching in a circus parade with a clown. The chimp gets away and has many adventures before the clown catches up with him.

   A kitten gets into the Christmas tree and the family tries to get her out.

   A story about a mermaid, a dolphin, and their friends. The tranquility of the sea is interrupted by a diver, who captures the mermaid, and by a polluting family.

   A kitten and a puppy get tangled up in a ball of yarn. They are carried through ponds, forests, and other animals homes. Lots of action.
   A dog runs away and is chased into a rabbit hole. He makes friends with the rabbits and then returns home.

   A kitten takes the witch's broomstick and goes for a ride but encounters troubles.

   A very different book that uses little cloth finger puppets that are attached to the book. Two puppets take turns being little and big. Puppets can be manipulated on any of the pages. Drawings are done in black and white.

   A boy catches a small fish which in turn is swallowed by a larger more colorful fish, etc. Finally they all fall off his hook and he is left with a small dull fish.

   The story of a boy, a chicken and an egg. This story is difficult to follow and understand.

   A series of easy to follow simple stories.

   The story of how a ball loses and regains its freedom in the courtyard of a prince.

   A lion and a rabbit are room mates. This is the story of their friendship. It is done in black and white cartoons.

   Story about an astronaut and his space trip. All done in the abstract.

   A pig runs off to join the circus. He has several adventures and finally returns home. Done in black and white.

A pig sets out on a ballooning trip and has a series of adventures before returning to a joyous welcome home. Half pages are used to extend the action.

40. , Creepy Castle, Atheneum, 1975.
A brave mouse and his lady find a deserted castle and decide to go in for a look. A hidden villain locks them in. A lot of excitement and action takes place before the two escape. Half pages extend the action.

A complex tale using half pages to extend the action. Jacko is a monkey belonging to an organ grinder. Jacko escapes and has an adventure with a ship and some pirates.

A toy bear, a ragdoll, and a toy mouse step into the landscape picture and travel down rivers to a village fair. The mouse is caught and the others must save her.

43. , Naughty Nancy, Atheneum, 1975.
Nancy is the flower girl in her sister's wedding. The little mouse innocently causes one crisis after another at the elegant affair. A funny tale told with half pages.

A clumsy pig falls into the orchestra pit at a theater performance and spends much time and effort trying to get out of the spotlight.

The exciting events of a birthday party, from a stolen purse to a gala party are told.

An exhausted owl flees his home after it is struck by lightening. He goes out looking for a new home and after some difficulty moves in with another owl.

A humorous hook about a chicken who finds a lost egg and settles down to hatch it. To her surprise it turns out to be an alligator. The alligator causes numerous problems on the farm as he grows until one day when he saves the life of the hen and then becomes one of the "family".

A first lesson in basic geometry done with photographs. Reader locates geometric figures in common objects.
    A very outstanding book done with black and white photographs. In front of each photograph is a blank page with a square cut in it, thus revealing a small portion of the photograph. After each photograph is another of the same object but taken at a distance. It is a lot of fun trying to guess what the photographs are by looking through the small square hole.


    White shapes on a black background are used here. The various items included are kitchen utensils, sewing items and food items.

    A boy and animals eat apples and drop cores in the field and an orchard slowly grows there.

    Dolls and their blocks build a house. There is a fire so they use the blocks to build a fire engine. Too much water causes a flood so they re-arrange the blocks into a boat and so it goes until they have a new house.

    A rabbit learns how good a carrot tastes but then has difficulty getting carrots.

    An optimistic hen, who wants a baby chick, sits on a variety of found eggs. She hatches a turtle, an alligator, and an ostrich until she finally gets the right egg and her baby chick.

    The flight of a saucer of spaghetti from a little girl who doesn't want it to a little girl who really needs it.

    Santa takes off in his sleigh but the harness snaps leaving sled and all in the snow. Several failures at take-off cause frustration. Finally some angels arrive and carry the sleigh to a roof top where the reindeer are waiting.

    Three separate fantasy adventures of a little boy. This abstract book is done mostly in black and white.
   A snowman is formed as a small ball of snow gets larger as it rolls downhill. The snowman enters the town just in time for the holiday festivities. He is decorated with a wreath and joins the people for a jolly Christmas.

   Double page pictures of a variety of places and people offer children a chance to use their imagination. Places include the zoo, an airport, a train station, the beach, a playground, a store, and a farm. Each picture is full of things to look at.

   Sent to her room a little girl and her cat climb to the attic where they meet a witch. The witch invites them to enter a mirror and they emerge in a cave full of Halloween paraphernalia. They have some wild adventures together before the story abruptly ends with the girl asleep in her bed.

   A little boy becomes fearful and confused when he is separated from his parents while on an outing at the zoo.

   The story follows a worm and an apple through metamorphosis.

   A hen lays an egg and later it hatches.

   A boy blows up a balloon but it gets away. The balloon changes into an apple, butterfly, flower and finally an umbrella which the boy then gets.

   A boy buys a magic bubble-maker and blows fantastic bubbles in the shapes of cars, boats, and animal monsters.

   Boy and his dog go out to catch a frog but the frog keeps getting away. Finally they give up but then the frog is unhappy because he really wanted to be caught. The frog follows the boy home and joins him in the bathtub.

   The adventures of a boy, his dog, and a frog. In this book they add a friend turtle. Full of fun and action.

   The boy and his family go to a fancy restaurant. Frog stows away in the boy's pocket. The frog causes a number of disasters during dinner.
70. _______ Frog On His Own, Dial Press, 1973.
The adventures of the frog in the park. Frog is caught by a cat but his friend the boy rescues him.

The boy and dog lose their frog and look everywhere for him. They have various adventures until they get the frog back.

A cat in a baby carriage rebels in his dress-up game with a little girl. The cat escapes. The little girl is helped in the chase after the cat by a little boy dressed up as a policeman.

This book has two words - yours and mine. This is the story of a grabby little boy who is eventually rebuffed.

74. _______ Two Moral Tales, Four Winds Press, 1974.
First story is titled "Bears New Clothes" and is about a scavenging bear who dresses himself in discarded finery and is satisfied until he meets someone fancier. Second story is "Birds New Hat". Two bird adversaries seek to outwit each other over a hat.

75. _______ Two More Moral Tales, Four Winds Press, 1974.
First story is "Just a Pig at Heart" and is about two well dressed pigs who wallow in a mud hole. Second story is "Sly Fox's Folly" and is about a dishonest salesman who is outwitted by a clever customer.

A girl in red tries to find a boy in blue who hides in a tree, a barn, a house, and a garden.

77. _______ Vicki, Atheneum, 1969.
The story of a lonely girl who makes a friend.

Alphabet book utilizing photographs that have in them letter shapes. Uses overlay pages to show where the letter is found.

A big "Golden Book" with busy, busy pictures. Lots to look at.

Story of a merry band of buccaneers and their pirate ship. An excellent story with a moral. The colors are bright and bold. An overall excellent book.
A fantasy about a boy and a girl who float in a balloon. After their balloon collapses they set up a theater.

Three photo stories in a series showing how children in different parts of the world live.

Black and white pen and ink drawings show a bird out for a walk in the snow. He leaves foot prints. A cat follows the bird and then a dog follows the cat. All leave their foot prints. When the bird calls for help he is assisted by many birds who chase off the predators.

An unusual story about a family of thirty one which includes a dragon. The father of the story keeps house while the mother drives a submarine for a living. The story is of a "typical" day in their strange life.

Black and white photographs showing just what the book title suggests.

86. , Baby Animals and Their Mothers, Hill and Wang, 1964.
Black and white photographs showing just what the title says.

Black and white photographs of cats.

Black and white photographs showing children and their fathers.

89. , Children and Their Mothers, Hill and Wang, 1958.
Black and white photographs showing children and their mothers.

90. , Children of Many Lands, Hill and Wang, 1958.
Black and white photographs showing just what the title suggests.

Black, white and color photographs of dogs.

Black and white photographs showing birds and airplanes in flight.

Black and white photographs showing horses.

95. **Laughing Camera II**, Hill and Wang, 1969. Another book for older children done with black and white photographs. The pictures are very amusing.


100. **Rice, Brian and Evans, Tony, English Sunrise**, Flash, 1973. The sunrise shape, one half of an oval basically, is found in every picture from car upholstery to gates and fences. This book is geared more toward adults and older children.


105. **Ross, Pat, Hi Fly**, Crown, 1974. A girl becomes the size of a fly and sees her home from the fly's point of view.

Shows numbers one through ten with corresponding pictures. Also shows a cartoon countdown from ten to one. Book contains an adult section in the back with different ideas on how to best use the book.

A book suitable for young children showing traffic signs and safety rules. It is an all picture chronicle of a holiday outing.

Black and white drawings bordered with a red flowering vine. Black kitten follows a girl home from school and she gets to keep the kitten for her own.

A cute story of a little child who gets a new puppy.

The story of a family of three that becomes a family of four. The mother in the story has a baby. The sister stays with her grandmother.

A little boy who is anxious for wheels of his own goes to a county fair with his dad. The boy sees all kinds of wheeled vehicles but encounters frustration when later trying to build a vehicle. Dad comes along to save the day with a tricycle.

Originally published in Japan, this is a book of photographs showing a white fluffy kitten discovering the mysteries in a roll of felt.

A printed number corresponds with objects presented by a little child. Each number receives a beautiful double page. All done in bright colors. Originally printed in Japan.

Large full color pictures tell of a boy and his Saint Bernard dog. There is no real story line but instead happy pictures of the two enjoying each other. First published in Japan.

A stuffed elephant unbuttons its stomach and another animal pops out which then unbuttons its stomach to
reveal another and so it goes.

117. Ungerer, Tomi, One, Two, Where's My Shoe, Harper&Row, 1964. This is a game of hide and seek. Each picture has a shoe or shoes hidden in it and the idea is for the reader to locate the shoes. Very clever and well done.
