



story
weaver

No Fear...Come Here!

Author: Sukumar Ray

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Level 2

About the Author

Sukumar Ray was born on the 30th of October in 1887 and went on to contribute a great deal of creativity and freshness to the genre of children's literature. He was a celebrated writer and poet from Calcutta who was born to Upendrakishore Ray, a famous painter, illustrator, musician and a Bengali writer himself, and Bidhumukhi Devi. Sukumar Ray studied the art of photography, lithography and printing technology at the School of Photo-Engraving and Lithography in London and became the pioneer of the same in India.

His illustrations, writing and unique sketches often found their way in Sandesh, a children's magazine which was launched by his father in 1913. He opened up a refreshing genre of nonsense literature that combined a great sense of humour, absorbing wit and a sharp ability of observation that fascinated both children and adults alike. Some of the famous and quirky fictional characters he invented include Kumropotash, Huko Mukho Hangla, Pagla Dashu, Hijibijbij and so on. Abol Tabol is a popular collection of his rhymes and poems for children which first appeared in Sandesh but was later published as a book.

Sukumar Ray passed away on the 10th of September in 1923, leaving behind his son, Satyajit Ray.

About the Poem

Published as a part of *Aabol Tabol* in 1923, this poem evidently qualifies for nonsense verse. Sukumar ray brilliantly explores the power hierarchy existent in society while constructing a poem with elements of both awe and terror.

The 'fear', as discussed in this poem, treads on being nonsensical as it is devoid of any physical attributes and relegates to the background while making a firm impression on the reader.



Don't be afraid, come
come, I will not hurt you,
Listen, in a boxing
match, could I ever
defeat you?

My heart is so kind,
I have never known
anger

I will chomp you up?
That will happen never!





These horns on my head have scared you silly
I may be crazy but I have never butted like a billy
Come come, come into my hole, stay for days four
I will pet you night and day as soon as you walk through the door.



Is the club in my hand
scaring you at the
sight?

This club is so light it
will not hurt you one
mite.

Stop being a ninny, or
should I catch you by
your legs?

When I sit on your
head, don't you try to
beg!



I'm there, and the wifey, and my sons nine,
All of us will bite you if you don't stop your whines!

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No Fear...Come Here!

(English)

A rhyme bordering on fun and scare, the elements of emotion most relatable to a child, Sukumar Ray's nonsense verses should be read by one and all!

This is a Level 2 book for children who recognize familiar words and can read new words with help.



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