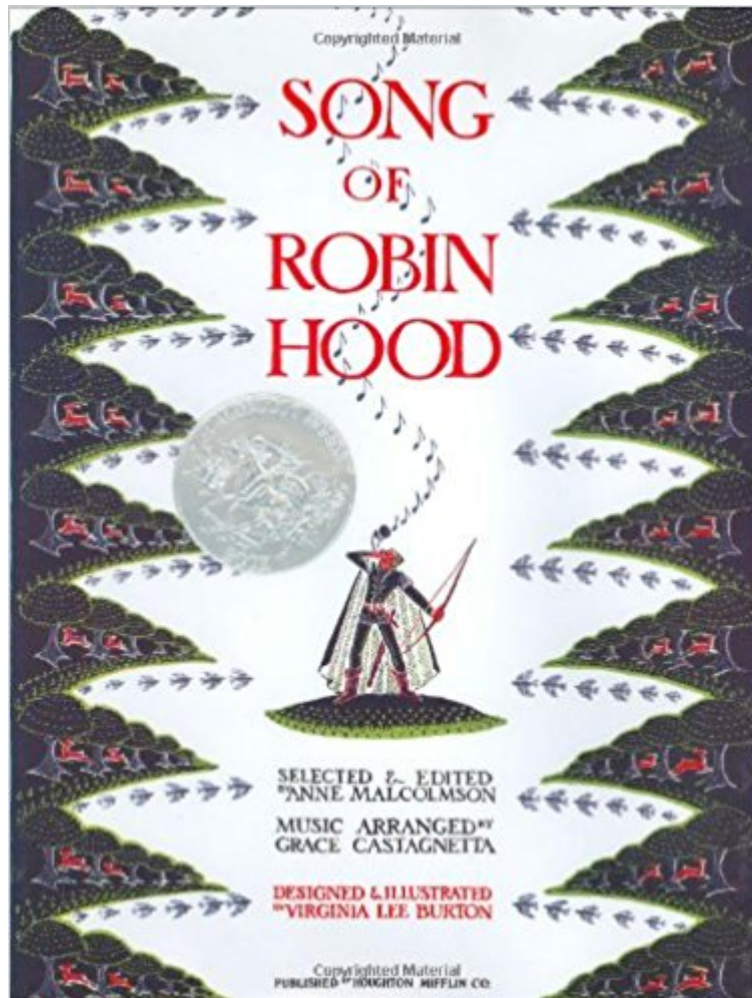




The book was found

The Song Of Robin Hood



Synopsis

Anne Malcolmson, Grace Castagnetta, and Caldecott medalist Virginia Lee Burton joined forces in 1947 to produce the definitive edition of *The Song of Robin Hood*. Their triumphant achievement was one of the most distinctive presentations of the legend ever published, and it received a Caldecott Honor Medal in 1948. Through meticulous research and unfailing perseverance, Anne Malcolmson rediscovered fifteen of the original ballads of Robin Hood; Grace Castagnetta adapted them to modern musical notation. Virginia Lee Burton spent three years on drawings to accompany the songs, ultimately producing a work of art filled with exquisite detail and worthy of comparison to the greatest illuminated manuscripts of the medieval era. The text, the music, and the illustrations combine to form a harmonious and timeless work of art. There is no better way to introduce young readers to the legend of Robin Hood, or to renew a love of the tale in the hearts of those who already know the classic story. Lovingly revived and beautifully reissued, *The Song of Robin Hood* stands as one of the truly stunning books of our time.

Book Information

Hardcover: 128 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; Reissue edition (August 28, 2000)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0618071865

ISBN-13: 978-0618071869

Product Dimensions: 8.9 x 0.6 x 11 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.8 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars 5 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #871,215 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #180 in [Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Other](#)

Age Range: 10 - 12 years

Grade Level: 5 - 7

Customer Reviews

Fans of Sherwood Forest and admirers of the book arts will want to see Virginia Lee Burton's design and illustrations for *Song of Robin Hood*, edited by Anne Malcolmson, music arranged by Grace Castagnetta. First published in 1947 and now reissued, the Caldecott Honor-winning book contains 18 classic ballads of Robin Hood's deeds, set to traditional tunes and arranged with modern musical notations. Burton supplies a lapidary sequence of intricately detailed black-and-white vignettes, one

for each stanza of the different ballads; her chapter openers and borders have the delicacy of scrimshaw carvings and the robustness of illuminated manuscripts. (Houghton, \$20 128p ages 8-up ISBN 0-618-07186-5; Sept.) Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

"The republication of this beautiful book is laudatory." —•The Riverbank Review (fall 2000)

There are few picture books with Robin Hood in them that are not Disney, so this one is very welcome at our house. Some material is beyond childhood, really for adults, but we value fairy tales and the like and are okay with the images. The illustrations are just brilliant, real treasures. This book is clearly well-researched and assembled with care.

Beautiful illustrations with actual music and lyrics. Great for everyone, musician or not, in the form of story or poetry.

If you seek gloss and a fast story, look elsewhere. Song of Robin Hood is an authentic retooling of historic song and tale lovingly illustrated in dramatic black and white. It requires thought and attention - two skills of benefit to children. Consider the effort put into this edition: Virginia Lee Burton invested three years drawing and Anne Malcolmson rediscovered fifteen original ballads that were then carefully notated by Grace Castagnetta. Complete with glossary, prepare to be a-swoon. The author took time to detail the book's purpose in the preface. Read it. Once you understand the book's aim, you can judge it accordingly. Originally published in 1947, Burton's illustrations stun -thwack!- like an arrow meeting its target. From the Caldecott website, "The Caldecott Medal "shall be awarded to the artist of the most distinguished American Picture Book for Children published in the United States during the preceding year...." In my opinion this book could win the Caldecott in the current year. My one criticism, the smaller illustrations are too small, but to compensate the book would need enlargement. This is forgivable. As I read through the pages I imagine how wonderful it would be for youth to perform a section complete with song. Thank you Houghton Mifflin Co. for this treasure.

I thought this was one of the best finds! My son does not like to read & he is 8. So I got this book since he loves Robin Hood men in tights & used the music to sing the verses of the Robin Hood tales. He loves it so well, he wants me to just read him the verses! I love all of Virginia Burton's work, but I find this one especially wonderful due to the theme of Robin Hood & the work that went into

keeping the translation close to the original bard's songs.

It is rare that I ever abandon a book. In fact I can only think of about 3 times I have done it, this book included. This book won the Caldecott honor in 1948, and I'm not sure why. The illustrations are not fantastic and for goodness sake...the Caldecott books are supposed to be for small children!! This is a book composed of songs about Robin Hood. Some people thought it was great, not me. We got about 4 pages in and my daughter said, "mom, do we have to read this one?" I was actually relieved. I don't know if I could have gotten through it. It is 123 pages long and is filled with actual songs about Robin Hood. Furthermore, most of the book is written using Old English vocabulary and grammar, i.e. whence, thrice, naught, bane, etc. I have read books that are based on music to my daughter, but we aren't talking about a book version of 'The Wheels on the Bus.' For some reason this book received the Caldecott Honor in 1948. I realize we are talking about a book that is 52 years old, but eh....it still was terrible. ~Jenn

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