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Aesop's Fables
Rehashed

By ELIZABETH BERGER NICHOLS



LOS ANGELES,
CALIFORNIA

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By ELIZABETH BERGER NICHOLS

**KELLAWAY-IDE COMPANY
PRINTERS
LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA**

AESOP'S FABLES REHASHED

Dedicated to Jay R. Grier

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I dedicate this to Jay Grier,
Of whom women say: "He's a dear!"
Just why they say this I don't know,
Unless their troubles cause "big row"
And to his Court they have to fly,
To get justice before they die;
Or happen to lose all their teeth.
I'm glad for me he holds a brief
That gives me justice while I'm young,
I do not like my heart so wrung
With troubles 'till it busts in two.
I give this fine lawyer to you
Dear Public, when you read this book,
Although his photo you'll not find.
This lawyer needs none to my mind,
To prove he has a heart so big
It would swallow old Blackstone's wig
And all the Courts in England too;
It's awful big I just tell you!

INTRODUCTION TO
AESOP'S FABLES

We love all animals, the bird, the beast
We love the skunk, of all the least.
We love the frog, for his green back,
Some peacock bills we sadly lack.
We love to go to Vanity Fair,
We love to see the animals there.
We love to see them shimmy, walk,
We love to hear them argue, talk.
We love to see the reptiles crawl,
We feel right sorry for them all.
That story of Adam and Eve,
We just trumped up to make believe—
Some of us hate the lowly snake.
If in bonfires legends we rake
It's just to purify the air,
Make room for truth, to explain there—
We eat the apple, eat the snake,
To preserve our lives, keep up-to-date.
The beasts may have much better speech
Than some of us. We do beseech—
That if you must dig up Tut-Tuts,
Leave us in peace who must eat nuts.
We'd like to emphasize, declare—
Some of us act like apes, we swear,
We lie like dogs to gain our ends;
When treaties don't the means amend.
Yes, Fred Oppen, right you are to say
The little apes have had their day.

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