



Alberic the Wise

Norton Juster , Leonard Baskin (Illustrator)

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In the days of the Renaissance, Alberic leads the reader among the folds of a rich tapestry in his search for wisdom.

Alberic the Wise Details

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Author : Norton Juster , Leonard Baskin (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review Alberic the Wise for online ebook

Jessica says

I enjoyed the story from which the book take its title, but otherwise could have skipped this book. Thankfully, it's short enough that I don't feel I wasted my time too badly.

Chris says

A lovely set of three thoughtful stories.

Marco Bucci says

Juster is one of my favourite writers. His prose feels like it's casually hopped onto the page, and his stories are at once fun and deeply allegorical. Highly recommended author!

Kayla says

Definitely not a picture book for young kids because of the length and complexity of the text, but it has a great message about seeking lifelong learning and watercolor illustrations that suit the mood of the text perfectly.

Joe says

Great book for end of the year review of what you've learned and where you've been...will consider reading it at the end of the school year with my students.

Veronica says

My son exclaimed that this book was "the best ever, wow!" He promptly stated his brother should read it. I wonder if he thought his brother would understand him better or something else entirely.

It spoke to me too. It grabbed me in the first paragraph stating all the things that Alberic could do and then stating, "...these were only the things he had to know to live or couldn't help by knowing by living and are, as you may have discovered, rarely accounted as knowledge."

Shell says

Good stories! You can't really call it a children's book, as the themes would probably be over their heads without a little explanation. I enjoyed it!

Eric Hinkle says

Marvelous not-so-short stories from the author of *The Phantom Tollbooth*. Recommended for any fan of that book or any other good book.

The wordplay isn't quite as delicious as PT, but it's still dazzling at parts and always a pleasure to read. The characters and stories are fab. I'm so happy to read another classic from Juster!

Favorite bits:

"'I have at last discovered one thing,' he stated simply. 'It is much better to look for what I may never find than to find what I do not really want.'"

"Once again he felt the freedom and the joy of not knowing where each new step would take him, and as he walked along his stride was longer and stronger than was right somehow for a man his age."

From "She Cries No More":

He had decided at his last birthday [his 12th] that there was no way to be absolutely sure of anything. There were always two sides to every question and for every yes a no (not counting all the maybes). What one person liked another despised. What someone thought was surely right another was bound to find as surely wrong. And then besides all that, everything was always changing anyway. As soon as you'd become accustomed to summer, it became winter, afternoons invariably turned to evenings, the sixth grade to the seventh and friendships to only memories.

From "Two Kings":

It was a land of bountiful orchards, fat farms, busy workshops and happy people, and in order to make certain that everything remained so, the seasons themselves seemed to be in competition to see which could be most splendid and helpful. The summers were warm and bright and busy. The autumns, amber and ample. The winters, crisp and sharp and full of steamy laughter, and the spring, shy and gay, smelling of recent rain.

Blogbaas Van 'tVliegend Eiland says

9,5/10

Jenny says

I thought the language and style of writing was wonderful - very different than the simplistic currency of most children's books. The meaning behind the story, however, isn't as wise or profound as it seems to suggest. I had the same problem with the Phantom Tollbooth. I expected the meaning behind the story to be more suggestive, more hidden, more complex and layered than it actually was.

Michael Fitzgerald says

Brilliant short stories accompanied by beautiful pen-and-ink drawings. I wasn't as thrilled with the third story as I was with the other two.

Phoebe says

Juster gets points for beautiful language, and his deeply allegorical tales may appeal to older children who enjoyed Natalie Babbitt. The first tale is about Alberic, a simple farmer who has his world shaken after a visit from an old, old man, an experienced traveler. The second tale is about a boy who loves a painting in a museum, and discovers that he can enter the painting and engage with its world. The third tale examines the nature of happiness through two kings, radically different rulers in radically different kingdoms. Interesting and thought-provoking, and somehow soothing!

Sarah W. says

This was an okay book. It had 3 short stories which were fun to read. If you like short books and fantasy, I would read this.

Brennan Wieland says

This story tells of Alberic and his search for wisdom. At first he is a simple man, and he only known enough to keep him alive. One day an old man comes to him and tells him of all that the world has to offer. Alberic ventures into the world and takes many jobs, but he fails in every attempt at becoming skilled in each profession. He then discovers that he has learned much through his misfortunes and goes to tell the world about it.

This story was an example for me, and while Alberic failed many times, he persevered and became a better man because of it. I am in the process of learning to accept my mistakes and while I might not be the best at something, to continue with it because I know that I will come out with an experience that will help me develop. We are all continually learning as we grow in this world, and we don't want to hinder our

experience just because we may be afraid to try something new.

Abi (The Knights Who Say Book) says

I needed something short to read today so it was nice to return to Norton Juster's writing. I really need to reread The Phantom Tollbooth soon!
