



Albert's Impossible Toothache

By Barbara Williams



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Parents and children alike will see themselves in this endearing tale of a small turtle's struggle to be believed and understood - lovingly reintroduced for a new generation of readers.

When little Albert Turtle complains that he has a toothache, his father assures him that that's impossible and points to his own toothless mouth. But Albert won't get out of bed, and Mother Turtle begins to worry. Will Albert's toothache ever go away? Even more important, will anyone ever believe him? First published thirty years ago, Barbara Williams's familiar tale of miscommunication - and a wise grandmother who gets it right - is wonderfully animated by Doug Cushman's colorful, humorously detailed illustrations.



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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

PreSchool-Grade 3-Albert announces that he has a toothache, but no one believes him. Each time the toothless young turtle complains of it, his family members admonish him to tell the truth. Finally, Grandmother takes him seriously; she asks, "Where do you have a toothache?" and the truth is revealed. It is great to have a wonderful story come back into print with bright, colorful art. Although Kay Choro's illustrations in *Albert's Toothache* (Dutton, 1974; o.p.) were charming, these larger, bolder watercolors make the book easier for group sharing. Whether the old version is still on library shelves or this is the first time that youngsters enjoy Albert's sense of humor, this title is a worthwhile addition to any picture-book collection.

Nancy A. Gifford, *Schenectady County Public Library, NY*

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From [Booklist](#)

K-Gr. 2. Children who sometimes struggle to make themselves understood by adults will sympathize with poor Albert the turtle, who is stuck in bed with a toothache-- despite not having any teeth. Albert's parents accuse him of lying, but wise Grandmother Turtle believes him immediately. Her only question, "Where do you have a toothache?" It turns out Albert's ache is really in his toe! With a little care from Grandmother, he's soon all better. Cushman's ink, watercolor, and colored pencil illustrations are just right for this new vesion of William's 1974 book, portraying a comically familiar family group at home: toys litter the floor of Albert's room, Father sports a tie around the neck of his turtle shell, and Albert's siblings make faces when they are served cricket wings for dinner. A refreshing, gentle lesson--for the grownups this time. *Diane Foote*

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About the Author

Barbara Williams is the renowned author of numerous books for children, including ALBERT'S IMPOSSIBLE TOOTHACHE, which was originally published in 1974. She says, "I wrote this story and dedicated it to my daughter, Kim, a preteen hypochondriac, because I hadn't believed her when she reported that she fell off the monkey bars at school on two consecutive days and broke both wrists." Barbara Williams lives with her husband, a retired professor.

Doug Cushman is the illustrator of several children's books, including the best-selling WHAT DADS CAN'T DO, by Doug Wood. He has also written and illustrated some of his own. He says, "One of my early and major influences was the comic strip Pogo, set in the Okefenokee Swamp. When I read ALBERT'S IMPOSSIBLE TOOTHACHE, it just seemed a swamp setting would be perfect."

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Georgia Hernandez:

Have you spare time for a day? What do you do when you have much more or little spare time? That's why, you can choose the suitable activity with regard to spend your time. Any person spent their own spare time to

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Eva Dawson:

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