

ALICE IN WONDERLAND: CHAPTER SUMMARY

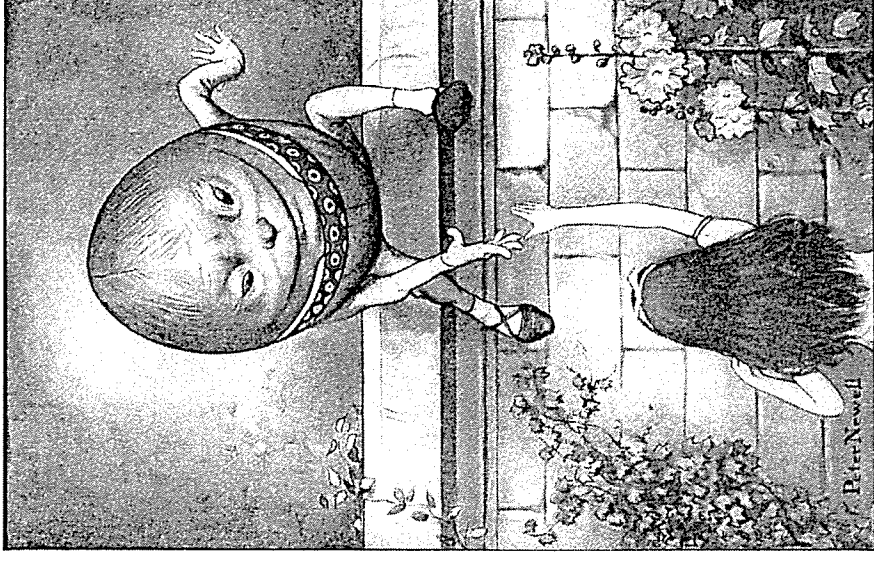
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- Humpty Dumpty is sitting on a wall. He doesn't notice Alice until she comments that he resembles an egg. Humpty Dumpty is offended by this.
- Humpty Dumpty says that Alice's name is stupid because it has no meaning
- Alice expresses her concern that Humpty Dumpty might fall off the wall. Humpty Dumpty isn't worried because the King promised to send his horses and men to put him back together again. Alice recites this last part of the poem and Humpty Dumpty thinks that she's been eavesdropping but she explains that she knows it from a story.

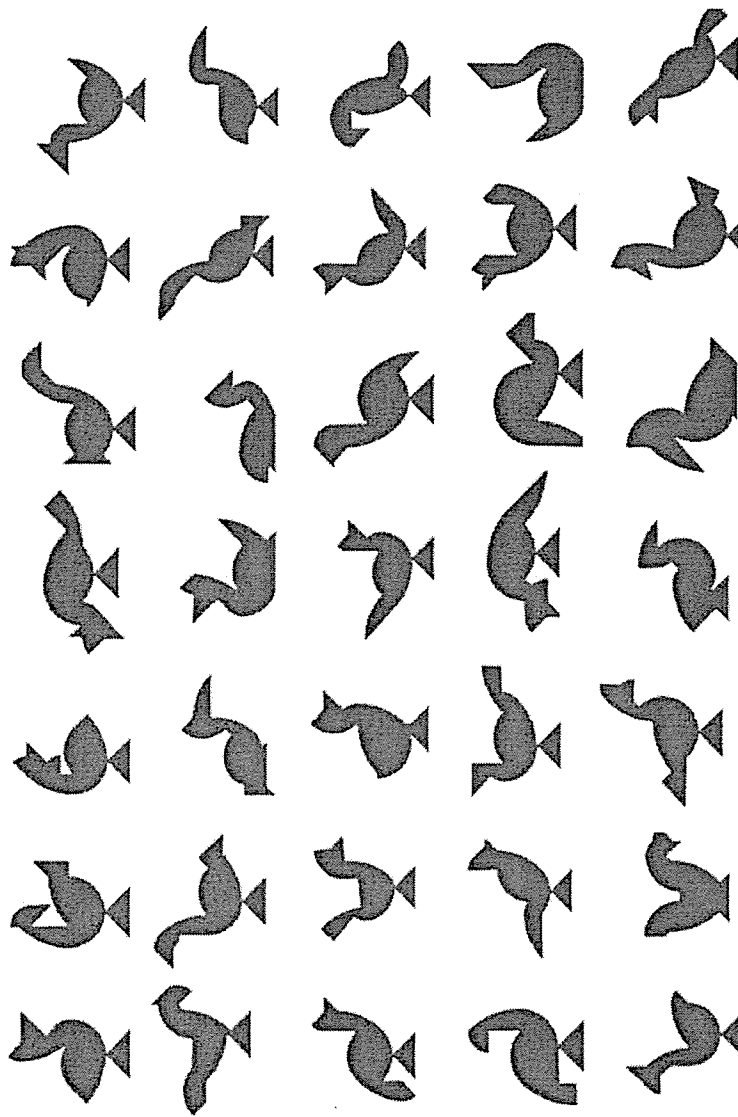
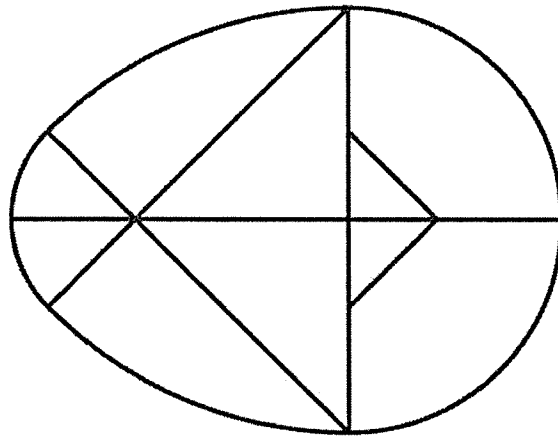
Chapter Summary

- Alice compliments Humpty Dumpty's belt which is actually a cravat (necktie), again he is offended by her comment. Humpty Dumpty explains that he got this as a present for his un-birthday from the White King and Queen.
- Alice asks Humpty Dumpty to define unfamiliar words from the jaberwocky poem and so he does.
- He then recites one of his poems which abruptly ends with him saying goodbye to Alice.
- As Alice walks away she hears a large crash in the woods.

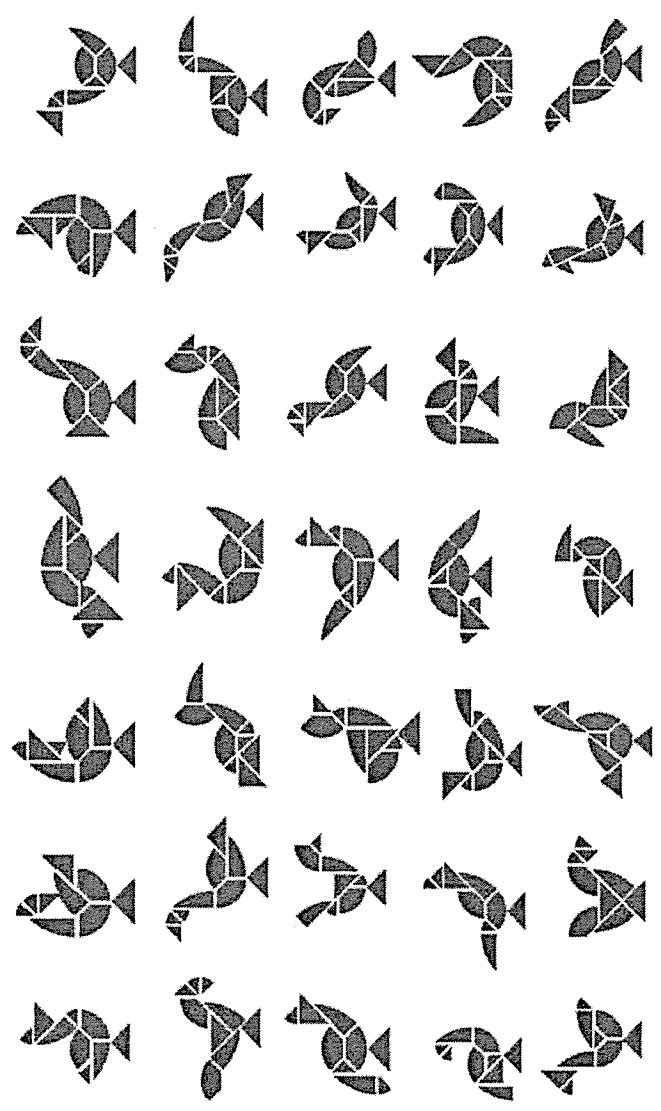


Can Humpty be put together again?

How many birds can you create from Humpty Dumpty?

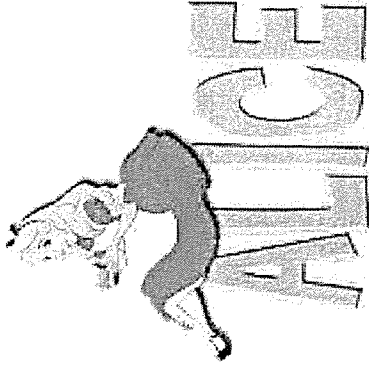


SOLUTIONS



Extra Challenge: Put Humpty Dumpty together again!

What's in a name?



“My *name* is Alice, but –”

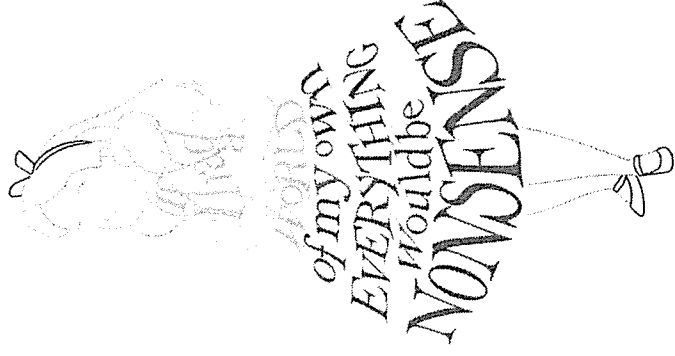
“It’s a stupid name enough!” Humpty Dumpty interrupted impatiently. “What does it mean?”

“*Must* a name mean something?” Alice asked doubtfully.

“Of course it must,” Humpty Dumpty said with a short laugh:

“*my* name means the shape I am--and a good handsome shape it is, too. With a name like yours, you might be any shape, almost.”

“Alice” is of German origin, it means “of a noble kind”.



Oddities



- Names
 - Normally, nouns have general, universal meanings and proper nouns apply specifically to individual things. In the Looking Glass World, proper nouns take on universal meanings, which is why Humpty Dumpty says that Alice's name must mean something.
- Un-birthday presents
 - Humpty Dumpty talks about an un-birthday present he received, and Alice says she likes birthday presents best.
 - Humpty Dumpty replies by telling Alice that she doesn't know what she's talking about, because there are 364 days for un-birthday presents, but only one for birthday presents.
- Humpty Dumpty's translation of Jabberwocky
 - Known as a nonsense poem, but Humpty Dumpty translates the words as if they are logical and make sense
 - Ex. slithy = lithe + slimy

Humpty Dumpty in Popular Culture

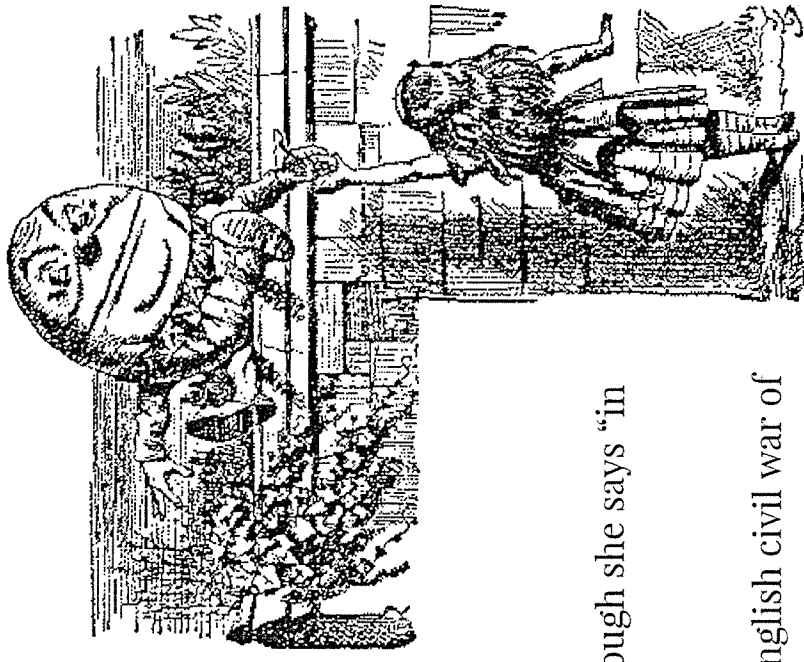
Humpty Dumpty sat on a wall

Humpty Dumpty had a great fall

All the king's horses and all the king's men

Couldn't put Humpty together again

- Something Alice would have known and even recited, even though she says “in his place again”
- First known publication from Samuel Arnold in 1797
- Theory that Humpty Dumpty was a cannon used during the English civil war of 1642-51 and was stationed on top of a tower that collapsed
- Some theories that it began as a children's game
- Was not drawn as an anthropomorphic egg until 1843



More Humpty Dumpty in Popular Culture

- In the 1700s, Humpty Dumpty was a term used to describe a short, clumsy person. It was also a nickname for someone who was drunk.
- There is speculation that the story of Humpty Dumpty wasn't meant to be a nursery rhyme at all, but a riddle.
 - Question: What, if rolled off a wall, cannot be mended by any number of people?
 - Answer: An egg
- Over time it became more of a story than a riddle.

More Nursery Rhyme Riddles

This thing all things devours

Birds, beasts, trees, flowers

Gnaws iron, bites steel

Grinds hard stones to meal

Slays king, ruins town,

And beats high mountain down

There was a girl in our town,

Silk an' satin was her gown,

Silk an' satin, gold an' velvet,

Guess her name, three times I've telled it.

In marble walls as white as milk,

Lined with a skin as soft as silk,

Within a fountain crystal clear,

A golden apple doth appear.

No doors there are to this
stronghold,

Yet thieves break in and steal the
gold.

Thirty white horses on a red hill,

First they champ,

Then they stamp,

Then they stand still.

A box without hinges, key or lid

Yet golden treasure inside is hid.

Lives in winter,

Dies in summer,

And grows with its root upwards.

More Nursery Rhyme Riddles

This thing all things devours
Birds, beasts, trees, flowers
Gnaws iron, bites steel
Grinds hard stones to meal
Slays king, ruins town,
And beats high mountain down

Answer: TIME

A box without hinges, key or lid
Yet golden treasure inside is hid.

Answer: EGG

There was a girl in our town,
Silk an' satin was her gown,
Silk an' satin, gold an' velvet,
Guess her name, three times I've telled it.

Answer: AN

Thirty white horses on a red hill,
First they champ,
Then they stamp,
Then they stand still.

Answer: TEETH

In marble walls as white as milk,
Lined with a skin as soft as silk,
Within a fountain crystal clear,
A golden apple doth appear.
No doors there are to this
stronghold,
Yet thieves break in and steal the
gold.

Answer: EGG

Lives in winter,
Dies in summer,
And grows with its root upwards.

Answer: ICICLE