



# Abol Tabol: The Nonsense World of Sukumar Ray

*Sukumar Ray , Sampurna Chattarji (Translator)*

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**Abol Tabol: The Nonsense World of Sukumar Ray** Sukumar Ray , Sampurna Chattarji (Translator)

This selection offers you the best of his world - pun-riddled, fun-fiddled poetry from Abol Tabol and Khai Khai, stories of schoolboy pranks (Pagla Dashu) and madcap explorers (Heshoram Hushiyarer Diary), and the unforgettable harum-scarum classic Haw-Jaw-Baw-Raw-Law, presented here for the first time in its entirety. All the stories and poems are accompanied by Sukumar Rays inimitable illustrations.

## Abol Tabol: The Nonsense World of Sukumar Ray Details

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## From Reader Review Abol Tabol: The Nonsense World of Sukumar Ray for online ebook

### Atharva says

Did you know that Sukumar Ray wrote with the pen being held by his fingers? Or that he wrote on a paper! I mean, can you believe it? He wrote on blank sheets of paper with pen! That's not all, when he wrote, his fingers moved along with the pen. When he reached the end of his sheet of paper, he would stop there, and then begin writing on another sheet of paper. That's magical. How can anybody do that? But Ray did it, because he was a genius. This guy had a son whose name was Satyajit Ray, and he used to make films. Yeah, films, you know, with actors and cameras and stuff. But we are talking about Satyajit Ray's father here, who used to write with pen and paper, and I heard from somewhere, even, that at night, he would make the use of lamp so that he would have enough light to write. How is that even possible? Have you heard anybody do that? If you haven't, you should really read this guy, Sukumar Ray, because he used to write with pen over the paper and a night lamp by his side when it turned dark. That's cool stuff, if you ask me.

If the above written stuff sounds nonsense, then let it sound nonsense because it's intended to sound nonsense because it is, in fact, nonsense. This book is funny. Really funny. People search for stolen mustaches here, and reverse their age after 40 years, they have nails on their buns, grown kidney-beans on Neem trees et al. You know where I am going. More than any other stalwarts in nonsense literature, I was reminded more of, strangely, Daniil Kharms, because he used to write poetry in invented language, like Ray here, although Kharms didn't really write nonsense.

This isn't a book which should be critically evaluated, and even though it touches upon issues like corruption and the functioning of society in general, 'Abol Tabol' should just be enjoyed. Some books, they just make your heart light, make you smile wide. That's 'Abol Tabol' for you.

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### Baishali Datta says

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### Trupti Haldankar says

Small stories with lots of fun and nonsense conversations!

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**Ashraful Mahin says**

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**Israt Zaman Disha says**

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**Punit says**

Simply fantastic. A delightful read; not for the serious hearted.  
A special shout out for the translator - great work that isn't lost in translation.

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**Rajat says**

Brilliant! Creates a kind of fantasy which is incomparable in it's richness of emotions and sheer rythm. I can only say there will not be another Sukumar Ray.

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**Debjani says**

Loved it. immediately tranported me to fond childhood memories of having them read to me by Ma and Didu. The translator has done a wonderful albeit difficult act of keeping it true to its roots yet ensuring that it has a universal flavour which transcends boundaries. Yeats had once said the problem with translations is that the poetry is lost. Well, in this case it was not.

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**Jagati Bagchi says**



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### Rahin Ahasan says

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### Riddhiman says

These nonsense verse? no longer seems nonsense at all. The poem 'Khichudi' for instance, highlights the duality of human nature. The opposing tendencies in the fusion of ill matched animals seems to be a metaphor of drastically opposing tendencies in human beings, the combination of which give them a distinct characteristic. Sukumar Ray was a genius.

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### Asma Akhi says

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### Shar min says

This is a book for all time and for all generations. I read its original version, in Bengali. This book is clearly irreplaceable. In my childhood I laughed reading the description of the the comical characters and their ludicrous habits. In my adulthood I laugh discovering the the witty humor the poet wanted to portray. I get real good laugh, thoughtful moments going through the wise satire revolving around the day to day characters (the common men, the bureaucrats, the businessman and many others !!!!) . The book always brings new insight to me and to my surprise it is never old.

