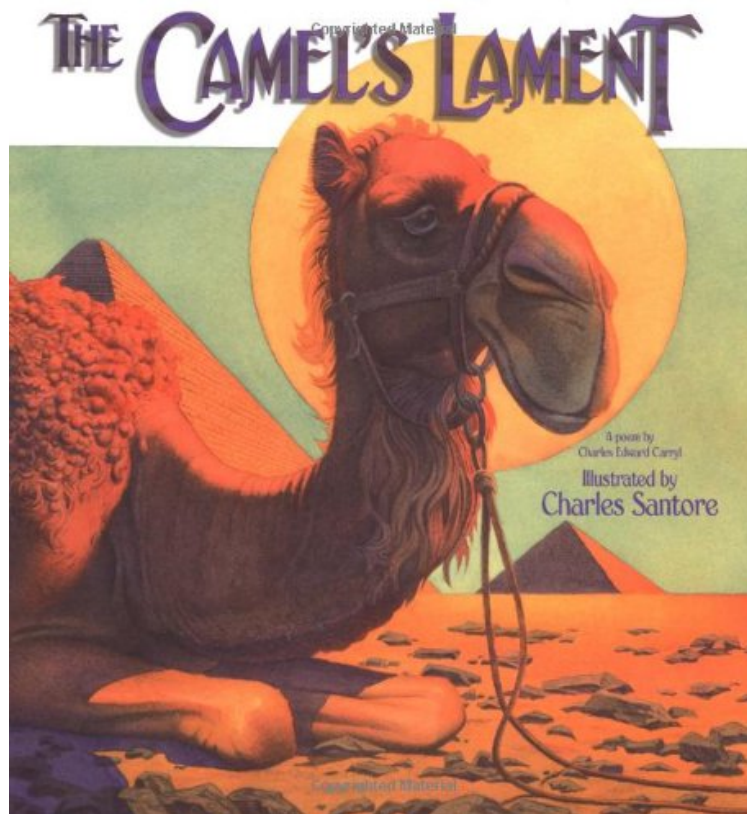


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## The Camel's Lament

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#2256990 in Books 2004-09-28 2004-09-28Original language:EnglishPDF # 1 11.12 x .32 x 10.12l, #File Name: 037581426432 pages | File size: 57.Mb

**From Random House Books for Young Readers : The Camel's Lament** before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Camel's Lament:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. DelightfulBy Tir AnnwylAnother old favorite from my childhood, with delightful illustrations by Charles Santore. This is a used library copy, but in excellent condition. My 3-year-old granddaughter will adore it, but I'm sure she'll have competition from her older sisters and even from me to read about the poor old camel who laments "a camel's all lumpy and humpy and bumpy; any shape does for me!"2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. The Camel's LamentBy Sandra GreenmanGreat kids book. I love Charles Edwards Carral. His poems flow so nicely that it is fun to read. I still remember one of his poems that I memorized in the fifth grade.3 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Lovely lap read, but it's more for 2-5 than 4-8 years oldBy Thida CornesMy almost 3 year old daughter picked this book out of a display and asks us to read it again and again.Award winning artist Charles Santore illustrates a nonsense poem by Charles Edward Carral. The large, detailed and colorful illustrations of animals with expressive droll faces attract and hold my toddler's attention. You can see what I mean by looking at the sample pages.The poem reminds me of Edward Lear and is of the same 19th century vintage. And Charles Carral was hailed as the "American Lewis Carroll". My favourite verse is "People would laugh if you rode a giraffe, or mounted the back of ox; it's nobody's habit to ride on a rabbit or try to bestraddle a fox. But as for a camel, he's ridden by families - any load does for me!"The 4-8 designation may be because the words are

nice and large and pretty simple for a child who's learning to read. However some of the words like "bestraddle" and "repose" are not part of our everyday language anymore, so I'd say it's more for the preschool pre-reading set. Its large size also makes it more suited for adults to handle than children to read on their own.

**THE POOR CAMEL!** While most creatures are prized, pampered, or at least tended to (down to the lowly pig!), the camel is our beast of burden, left to thirst, forage, and sleep in the merciless desert. This beautiful, comical picture book is for anyone who has ever thought the grass is greener! Award winner Charles Santore does it again! Praise for *A Stowaway on Noah's Ark*: Santore's carefully detailed watercolors possess both elegance and power. Publishers Weekly Grand, dazzlingly precise animal portraits . . . gorgeous pictures, which are rendered in breathtaking detail--every animal feather and spot. . . . Booklist

From School Library Journal Kindergarten-Grade 3 In rhythmic refrains, the homely desert denizen compares its lot in life with many other animals it believes are held in higher esteem. "Cats, you're aware, / can repose in a chair, / chickens can roost upon rails; / puppies are able to sleep in a stable, / and oysters / can slumber in pails. / But no one supposes / a poor camel dozes / anyplace does for me!" Carryl's 19th-century poem is enduringly silly, and the animal's self-deprecating lament is viewed with rather sardonic humor in Santore's full-page portraits that are at once elegant and comic. Facing pages featuring two quite different animals--parrots and poodles, kittens and pigs--provide strong images for read-aloud viewing. Their warmer tones contrast with the brown and gold double-page paintings of the ungainly camel in its desert terrain. The artist really has fun with this creature, painting it quite realistically and evoking fine humor in the expressiveness of its distinctive face and "lumpy / and bumpy and humpy" body. In a nighttime view, it rests in a moonlit Egyptian scene, and later it is struggling along carrying an entire nomad family and all of their worldly goods. "A camel comes handy / wherever it's sandy" and wherever a chuckle might do. Margaret Bush, Simmons College, Boston Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. From Booklist \*Starred \* K-Gr. 3. It's hard to believe that this pleasing poem, by a poet who wrote during the same time and in the same vein as Lewis Carroll and Edward Lear, has not found its way into a picture-book version before now. It certainly has all the hallmarks of child-friendly verse: a clever idea, humor, and a sprightly rhyme. The words come right from the grumbling camel's mouth. Where canaries, parrots, and poodles have all sorts of tasty bits to eat, anything will do for the camel. As for resting places: "Cats, you're aware, can repose on a chair; chickens can roost upon rails. / Puppies are able to sleep in a stable and oysters can sleep in a pail." No one cares where or when the camel sleeps. Even the various animals' physiques come in for consideration, with the camel getting the short end of that stick, too. But it's really Santore's fabulous artwork that will catapult this into kids' eager hands. Although not anthropomorphized, the animals are wonderfully individualized in the illustrations, with such intelligent faces that they seem to have a spark of humanity. Richly colored and intensely detailed (one can almost see each curl on the sheep's wool), the close-up art, set against crisp white backgrounds, will be fun to look at by individuals or in groups. Ilene Cooper Copyright American Library Association. All rights reserved. From the Inside Flap **THE POOR CAMEL!** While most creatures are prized, pampered, or at least tended to (down to the lowly pig!), the camel is our beast of burden, left to thirst, forage, and sleep in the merciless desert. This beautiful, comical picture book is for anyone who has ever thought the "grass is greener"! Award winner Charles Santore does it again! Praise for *A Stowaway on Noah's Ark*: "Santore's carefully detailed watercolors possess both elegance and power."--Publishers Weekly "Grand, dazzlingly precise animal portraits . . . gorgeous pictures, which are rendered in breathtaking detail--every animal feather and spot. . . ."--Booklist