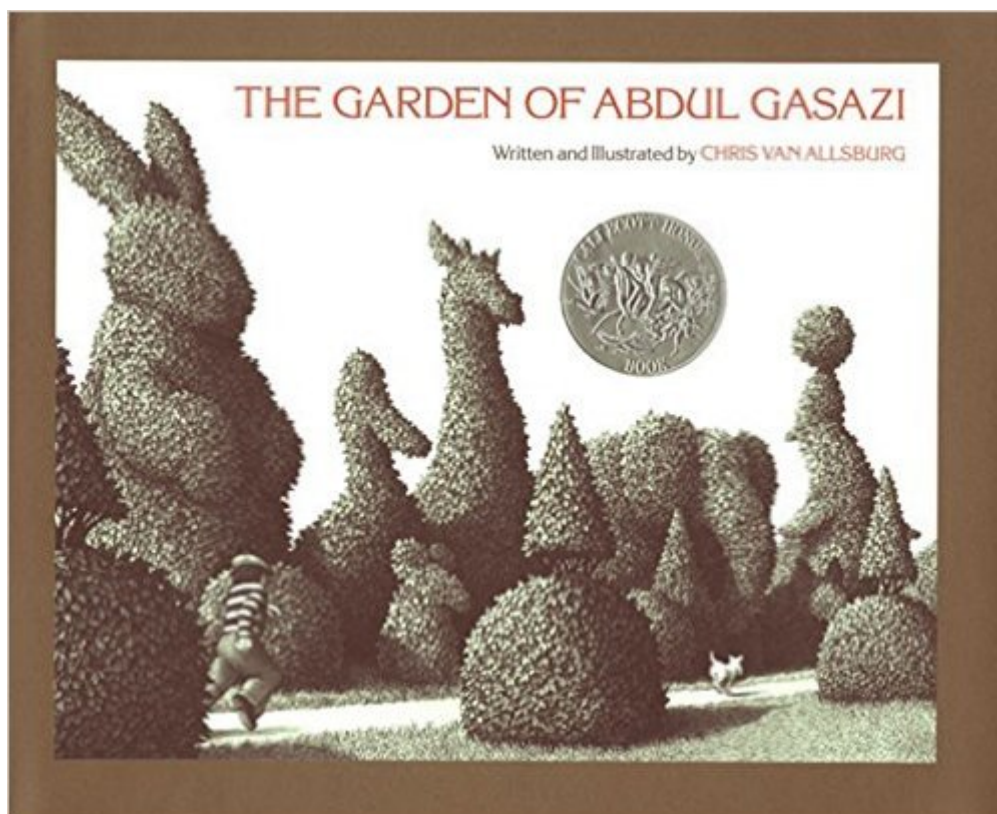


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# The Garden Of Abdul Gasazi



## Synopsis

Sometimes that very thin line between illusion and reality is not as clearly defined as we would like it to be. It certainly wasn't the day that Alan Mitz stumbled into the garden of Abdul Gasazi. For in this bizarre and eerie place -- where strange topiary trees loomed -- the evil visage of Gasazi casts its shadow. And even after Alan escaped, the spell of Gasazi still seemed to penetrate into his everyday world. In this extraordinary, unusual, and unique picture book, Chris Van Allsburg explores both the real and surreal worlds with incredible deftness. In doing so, he has created exquisite and beautiful images that will continue to haunt readers long after they have left the enchanted garden of Abdul Gasazi.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 580L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; Library Binding edition (October 10, 1979)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 039527804X

ISBN-13: 978-0395278048

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 12.2 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.3 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (48 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #28,342 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #33 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Ducks & Other Waterfowl](#) #228 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Dogs](#) #483 in [Books > Children's Books > Classics](#)

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

This children's book is about a dog named Fritz who runs off from the boy who is watching over him. The dog enters the garden of a retired magician who hates dogs. Yet, the boy has to get the dog back. Alan is shocked to discover that the dog may have been turned into a duck. The book was a 1980 Caldecott Honor book (i.e., a runner-up to the Medal winner) for best illustrations in a book for children. A book greatly enjoyed by children of all ages.

This book is burned into my memory as one of my few early childhood memories. It's been 20 years

since I last saw this book, but I could describe many of the vivid illustrations for you. Mystical and magical. Abdul Gasazi's garden exists in every town. All it needs is a child's imagination to bring it to life.

The Garden of Abdul Gasazi By Chris Van Allsburg reviewed by a kid Have you ever seen a dog turn into a duck? In The Garden of Abdul Gasazi by Chris Van Allsburg, Alan and Fritz go into the garden of Abdul Gasazi. Alan lost Fritz in the garden owned by Mr. Gasazi, so he turned him into a duck. I like this book because it has a mysterious Ending. My favorite part is the end because it's unknown what happened to Fritz. This book reminds me of when I went to the Botanic Gardens because it was a field trip like maybe Fritz thought it was a field trip to him. I recommend this book to people who like magic because a man turns a dog into a duck.

I have had this book for years and still enjoy reading it. I can not even edge the divinity of this magnificent work. To say the least, Gasazi is Allsburg's magnum opus. A wonderful read for all generations, especially children. I mean, the artwork is far better than regular children's literary works. Then, a very rare story-line: A boy must venture far into the garden of a wealthy magician to retrieve his neighbor's canine. Far better than The Polar Express, in my opinion. Now, don't get me wrong, the story-line is no Harry Potter, but still a good read.

Chris Van Allsburg wrote and illustrated many of my favorite picture books as a child, so when I had my own baby I ordered a few of my favorites. His illustrations are hypnotic and mysterious and that's what drew them to me as a kid who loved mysteries and "scary" stories. This story tells a great tale of a magician who turns a boy's dog into a bird (or does he?). This book still seems like a timeless classic so I would highly recommend it for any young child's (or whimsical adult's) library.

Absolutely charming story. The illustrations are magical in and of themselves. This story is ostensibly about a boy who is charged with taking care of a neighbor's dog. However, the story takes some clever turns and winds up showing us that perhaps, just perhaps, magic does indeed exist. Wonderful to spark the imagination of young children. Written simply but with direct and impactful language. A recommendation for anyone's library; child or adult.

Brilliant full-bodied pencil drawings (no sketches here) combine with a magical story with an O. Henry twist on the last page to make another stunning triumph for the best in the business. Here is

the true heir of N.C. Wyeth as supreme illustrator of children's books. You don't have to be a kid to fall under Van Allsburg's spell.

Very intriguing plot with excellent pencil drawings! A young boy is minding a dog for the day. Did a magician really turn the dog into a duck? Read this engaging book to find out. This is another fine product from VanAllsburg. Very entertaining and children love it. Don't miss another good one from Van Allsburg: The Sweetest Fig.

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