

Alice in Wonderland

I remember loving the book as a child. But returning to it as an adult I think I enjoyed it even more. It's amazing to think how Alice and the weird and wonderful residents of Wonderland have stayed in the imagination of generations of readers.

In adapting the book I tried to stay as faithful as possible to the text and to the dreamlike logic of the original. Instead of poems I gave the characters songs. Using the poems where I could but also writing new lyrics to allow all of the characters to sing.

I was surprised to find in some cases, like the Pepper Song, that I was singing the tune that I had made up in my head when I first read the Duchess's song as a child.

Reluctantly some characters and sequences just wouldn't fit in to the time we had for the play. Or required more actors than we could assemble. But I hope that Lewis Carroll's work is treated gently and I would encourage everyone to read the book where the full range of inventive, comical and charming characters is always waiting.

Sam Pinnell