

# 1. 1935 PETER PAUPER VERSION

## THE SCROOBIOUS PIP

The Scroobious Pip went out one day  
When the grass was green, and the sky was grey.  
Then all the beasts in the world came round  
When the Scroobious Pip sate down on the ground.  
The Cat and the Dog and the Kangaroo,  
The Sheep and the Cow and the Guinea Pig too—  
The Wolf he howled, the Horse he neighed  
The little Pig squeaked and the Donkey brayed  
And when the Lion began to roar,  
There never was heard such a noise before.  
And every beast he stood on the tip  
Of his toes to look at the Scroobious Pip.

At last they said to the Fox—"By far,  
You're the wisest beast! You know you are!  
Go close to the Scroobious Pip and say,  
Tell us all about yourself, we pray!—  
For as yet we can't make out in the least  
If you're Fish or Insect or Bird or Beast."

The Scroobious Pip looked vaguely round  
And sang these words with a rumbling sound—  
Chippetty Flip; Flippetty Chip;—  
My only name is the Scroobious Pip.



The Scroobious Pip from the top of a tree

Saw the distant Jellybolee,—  
And all the birds in the world came there,  
Flying in crowds all through the air.  
The Vulture and Eagle—the Cock and the Hen,  
The Ostrich, the Turkey, the Snipe and the Wren,  
The Parrot chattered, the Blackbird sung  
And the Owl looked wise but held his tongue,  
And when the Peacock began to scream  
The hullabaloo was quite extreme.  
And every bird he fluttered the tip  
Of his wing as he stared at the Scroobious Pip.

At last they said to the Owl—“By far,  
You’re the wisest Bird—you know you are.  
Fly close to the Scroobious Pip and say  
Explain all about yourself we pray,  
For as yet we have neither seen nor heard  
If you’re Fish or Insect, Beast or Bird!”

The Scroobious Pip looked gaily round  
And sang these words with a chirpy sound:  
Snippety Whip; Whippetty Snip;—  
My only name is the Scroobious Pip.



The Scroobious Pip rushed into the sea  
By the beautiful shore of the Jellybolee—  
All the fish in the world swam round  
With a splashical squashical spluttering sound.  
The Sprat, the Herring, the Turbot too,  
The Shark, the Sole, and the Mackerel blue.  
The . . . . sputtered, the Porpoise puffed,  
. . . . Flounder . . . .  
And when the Whale began to spout  
. . . . .  
And every Fish he shook the tip  
Of his tail as he gazed at the Scroobious Pip.

At last they said to the Whale—"By far  
You're the biggest Fish; you know you are!  
Swim close to the Scroobious Pip and say,  
Tell us all about yourself we pray,  
For to know you yourself is our only wish—  
Are you Beast or Insect, Bird or Fish.

The Scroobious Pip looked softly round  
And sung these words with a liquid sound  
Fliffetty Plip; Pliffetty Flip;—  
My only name is the Scroobious Pip.



The Scroobious Pip sate under a tree  
By the silent shores of the Jellybole  
All the Insects in all the world  
About the Scroobious Pip they twirled  
Beetles and . . . . with purple eyes  
Spiders and buzztilential flies—  
Grasshoppers, Butterflies, Spiders too,  
Wasps and Bees and . . . . blue  
And when the gnats began to hum  
. . . . bounced like a dismal drum  
And every insect curled the tip  
Of his snout, and looked at the Scroobious Pip.

At last they said to the Ant—"By far  
You're the wisest insect; you know you are!  
Creep close to the Scroobious Pip and say<sup>1</sup>  
For we can't find out, and we can't tell why,  
If you're Beast or Fish, or a Bird or a Fly.

The Scroobious Pip turned quickly round  
And sang these words with a whistly sound

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<sup>1</sup> The expected succeeding line ("Tell us all about yourself, we pray") is not present in my copy-text.

Wizzeby Wip; Wizzeby Wip—  
My only name is the Scroobious Pip.



Then all the Beasts that walk on the ground  
Danced in a circle round and round  
And all the birds that fly in the air  
Flew round and round in a circle there  
And all the fish in the Jellybolee  
Swam in a circle about the sea;  
And all the insects that creep on gr . . . .  
Buzzed in a circle . . . . .  
And they roared and sang and whistled and cried  
Till the noise was heard from side to side—  
Chippetty Tip; Chippetty Wip;  
Its only name is the Scroobious Pip.



# 2. 1954 *TEAPOTS* *AND QUAILS* VERSION

## THE SCROOBIOUS PIP

The Scroobious Pip went out one day  
When the grass was green, and the sky was grey.  
Then all the beasts in the world came round  
When the Scroobious Pip sat down on the ground.

The cat and the dog and the kangaroo  
The sheep and the cow and the guineapig too—  
The wolf he howled, the horse he neighed  
The little pig squeaked and the donkey brayed,  
And when the lion began to roar  
There never was heard such a noise before.  
And every beast he stood on the tip  
Of his toes to look at the Scroobious Pip.

At last they said to the Fox—"By far,  
You're the wisest beast! You know you are!  
Go close to the Scroobious Pip and say,  
Tell us all about yourself we pray—  
For as yet we can't make out in the least  
If you're Fish or Insect, or Bird or Beast."  
The Scroobious Pip looked vaguely round  
And sang these words with a rumbling sound—  
Chippetty Flip; Flippetty Chip;—  
My only name is the Scroobious Pip.

## 2.

The Scroobious Pip from the top of a tree  
Saw the distant Jellybolee,—  
And all the birds in the world came there,  
Flying in crowds all through the air.

The Vulture and Eagle, the cock and the hen,  
The Ostrich, the Turkey the Snipe and the Wren;  
The Parrot chattered, the Blackbird sung  
And the owl looked wise but held his tongue,  
And when the Peacock began to scream  
The hullabaloo was quite extreme.  
And every bird he fluttered the tip  
Of his wing as he stared at the Scroobious Pip.

At last they said to the owl—"By far,  
You're the wisest Bird—you know you are!  
Fly close to the Scroobious Pip and say,  
Explain all about yourself we pray—  
For as yet we have neither seen nor heard  
If you're fish or insect, beast or bird!"  
The Scroobious Pip looked gaily round  
And sang these words with a chirpy sound—  
Flippetty chip—Chippetty flip—  
My only name is the Scroobious Pip.

## 3.

The Scroobious Pip went into the sea  
By the beautiful shore of the Jellybolee—  
All the Fish in the world swam round  
With a splashing squashy spluttering sound.

The sprat, the herring, the turbot too  
The shark the sole and the mackerel blue,  
The flounder sputtered, the porpoise puffed  
. . . . .  
And when the Whale began to spout  
. . . . .  
And every fish he shook the tip  
Of his tail as he gazed on the Scroobious Pip.

At last they said to the whale—"By far  
You're the biggest Fish—you know you are!  
Swim close to the Scroobious Pip and say—  
Tell us all about yourself we pray!—  
For to know you yourself is our only wish;  
Are you beast or insect, bird or fish?"  
The Scroobious Pip looked softly round  
And sung these words with a liquid sound—  
    Pliffity flip, Pliffity flip—  
My only name is the Scroobious Pip.

#### 4.

The Scroobious Pip sat under a tree  
By the silent shores of the Jellybole;   
All the Insects in all the world  
About the Scroobious Pip entwined.  
    Beetles and           with purple eyes  
    Gnats and buzztential flies—  
    Grasshoppers, butterflies, spiders too,  
    Wasps and bees and dragon-flies blue,  
    And when the gnats began to hum  
        bounced like a dismal drum,  
    And every insect curled the tip  
    Of his snout, and looked at the Scroobious Pip.

At last they said to the Ant—"By far  
You're the wisest insect, you know you are!  
Creep close to the Scroobious Pip and say—  
Tell us all about yourself we pray,  
For we can't find out, and we can't tell why—  
If you're beast or fish or a bird or a fly."  
The Scroobious Pip turned quickly round  
And sang these words with a whistly sound,  
    Wizzeby wip—wizzeby wip—  
My only name is the Scroobious Pip.

#### 5.

Then all the Beasts that walk on the ground

Danced in a circle round and round,  
And all the Birds that fly in the air  
Flew round and round in a circle there,  
And all the fish in the Jellybolee  
Swum in a circle about the sea,  
And all the insects that creep or go  
Buzzed in a circle to and fro.  
And they roared and sang and whistled and cried  
Till the noise was heard from side to side—  
    Chippetty tip! Chippetty tip!  
Its only name is the Scroobious Pip.



# 3. 1968 OGDEN NASH VERSION

## THE SCROOBIOUS PIP

1.

The Scroobious Pip went out one day  
When the grass was green and the sky was gray.  
Then all the beasts in the world came round  
When the Scroobious Pip sat down on the ground.  
    The cat and the dog and the kangaroo,  
    The sheep and the cow and the guinea pig too,  
    The wolf he howled, the horse he neighed,  
    The little pig squeaked, and the donkey brayed,  
    And when the lion began to roar  
    There never was heard such a noise before.  
    And every beast he stood on the tip  
    Of his toes to look at the Scroobious Pip.

At last they said to the fox, "By far  
You're the wisest beast. You know you are!  
Go close to the Scroobious Pip and say,  
Tell us all about yourself we pray—  
For as yet we can't make out in the least  
If you're fish or insect, or bird or beast."  
The Scroobious Pip looked vaguely round  
And sang these words with a rumbling sound,  
    "Chippetty flip! Flippetty chip!  
My only name is the Scroobious Pip."

2.

The Scroobious Pip from the top of a tree  
Saw the distant Jellybolee—

And all the birds in the world came there,  
Flying in crowds all through the air.

The vulture and eagle, the cock and the hen,  
The ostrich, the turkey the snipe, and the wren,  
The parrot chattered, the blackbird sung,  
And the owl looked wise but held his tongue,  
And when the peacock began to scream  
The hullabaloo was quite extreme.  
And every bird he fluttered the tip  
Of his wing as he stared at the Scroobious Pip.

At last they said to the owl, "By far  
You're the wisest bird. You know you are!  
Fly close to the Scroobious Pip and say,  
Explain all about yourself we pray—  
For as yet we have neither seen nor heard  
If you're fish or insect, beast or bird!"  
The Scroobious Pip looked gaily round  
And sang these words with a chirpy sound,  
"Flippetty chip! Chippetty flip!  
My only name is the Scroobious Pip!"

### 3.

The Scroobious Pip went into the sea  
By the beautiful shore of the Jellyboleee—  
All the Fish in the world swam round  
With a splashing, squashy, spluttering sound.  
The sprat, the herring, the turbot too,  
The shark, the sole, and the mackerel blue,  
The flounder sputtered, the porpoise puffed,  
[The tarpon tacked and the sailfish luffed,]  
And when the whale began to spout  
[They all gave a blubbly, glubbly shout.]  
And every fish he shook the tip  
Of his tail as he gazed on the Scroobious Pip.

At last they said to the whale, "By far  
You're the biggest fish. You know you are!  
Swim close to the Scroobious Pip and say,

Tell us all about yourself we pray—  
For to know you yourself is our only wish;  
Are you beast or insect, bird or fish?"  
The Scroobious Pip looked softly round  
And sung these words with a liquid sound,  
    "Pliffity flip! Pliffity flip!  
My only name is the Scroobious Pip!"

#### 4.

The Scroobious Pip sat under a tree  
By the silent shores of the Jellybolee—  
All the insects in all the world  
About the Scroobious Pip entwined.  
    Beetles and [bookworms] with purple eyes,  
    Gnats and buzztilential flies,  
    Grasshoppers, butterflies, spiders too,  
    Wasps and bees and dragonflies blue,  
    And when the gnats began to hum  
    [The welkin] bounced like a dismal drum.  
    And every insect curled the tip  
    Of his snout and looked at the Scroobious Pip.

At last they said to the ant, "By far  
You're the wisest insect. You know you are!  
Creep close to the Scroobious Pip and say,  
Tell us all about yourself we pray—  
For we can't find out, and we can't tell why—  
If you're beast or fish, or a bird or a fly."  
The Scroobious Pip turned quickly round  
And sang these words with a whistly sound,  
    "Wizzeby wip! Wizzeby wip!  
My only name is the Scroobious Pip!"

#### 5.

Then all the beasts that walk on the ground  
Danced in a circle round and round,  
And all the birds that fly in the air  
Flew round and round in a circle there,

And all the fish in the Jellybolee  
Swum in a circle about the sea,  
And all the insects that creep or go  
Buzzed in a circle to and fro.  
And they roared and sang and whistled and cried  
Till the noise was heard from side to side,  
    "Chippetty tip! Chippetty tip!  
Its only name is the Scroobious Pip!"



# 4. 2002 PENGUIN VERSION

## THE SCROOBIOUS PIP

The Scroobious Pip went out one day  
When the grass was green, and the sky was gray,  
Then all the beasts in the world came round  
When the Scroobious Pip sate down on the ground.  
The Cats and the Dog and the Kangaroo,  
The Sheep and the Cow and the Guinea Pig too—  
The Wolf he howled, the Horse he neighed,  
The little Pig squeaked and the Donkey brayed,  
And when the Lion began to roar  
There never was heard such a noise before,  
And every beast he stood on the tip  
Of his toes to look at the Scroobious Pip.

At last they said to the Fox—'By far  
You're the wisest beast—you know you are!  
Go close to the Scroobious Pip and say,  
"Tell us all about yourself we pray!—  
For as yet we can't make out in the least  
If you're Fish or Insect, or Bird or Beast.'"

The Scroobious Pip looked vaguely round  
And sang these words with a rumbling sound—  
    'Chippetty Flip—Flippetty Chip—  
    My only name is the Scroobious Pip.'

The Scroobious Pip from the top of a tree  
Saw the distant Jellybolee,—

And all the birds in the world came there,  
Flying in crowds all through the air.  
The Vulture and Eagle—the Cock and the Hen,  
The Ostrich, the Turkey the Snipe and Wren,  
The Parrot chattered, the Blackbird sung,  
And the Owl looked wise but held his tongue,  
And when the Peacock began to scream,  
The hullabaloo was quite extreme.  
And every bird he fluttered the tip  
Of his wing as he stared at the Scroobious Pip.

At last they said to the Owl,—'By far  
You're the wisest Bird—you know you are!  
Fly close to the Scroobious Pip and say,  
"Explain all about yourself we pray!—  
For as yet we have neither seen nor heard  
If you're Fish or Insect, Beast or Bird!"'

The Scroobious Pip looked gaily round  
And sang these words with a chirpy sound—  
    'Flippetty chip—Chippetty flip—  
    My only name is the Scroobious Pip.'

The Scroobious Pip went into the sea  
By the beautiful shore of the Jellyboleee—  
All the Fish in the world swam round  
With a splashy squashy spluttery sound,  
The Sprat, the Herring, the Turbot too,  
The Shark, the Sole, and the Mackerel blue,  
The————spluttered, the Porpoise puffed  
——Flounder——  
And when the Whale began to spout—

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And every Fish he shook the tip  
Of his tail as he gazed on the Scroobious Pip.

At last they said to the Whale—'By far  
You're the biggest Fish—you know you are!

Swim close to the Scroobious Pip and say,  
“Tell us all about yourself we pray!—  
For to know from yourself is our only wish—  
Are you Beast or Insect, Bird or Fish?”

The Scroobious Pip looked softly round  
And sang these words with a liquid sound—  
    ‘Plifatty flip—Plifatty flip—  
    My only name is the Scroobious Pip.’

The Scroobious Pip sat under a tree  
By the silent shores of the Jellybolee;  
All the Insects in all the world  
About the Scroobious Pip ~~fluttered~~ and twirled.  
Beetles and —— with purple eyes  
Gnats and buzztilential Flies—  
Grasshoppers, Butterflies, Spiders too,  
Wasps and Bees and Dragonfly blue,  
And when the Gnats began to hum  
—————bounced like a dismal drum—  
And every insect curled the tip  
Of his snout, and looked at the Scroobious Pip.

At last they said the Ant,—‘By far  
You’re the wisest insect—you know you are!  
Creep close to the Scroobious Pip and say,  
“Tell us all about yourself we pray!—  
For we can’t find out, and we can’t tell why—  
If you’re Beast or Fish or a Bird or a Fly.”’

The Scroobious Pip turned quickly round  
And sang these words with a whistly sound—  
    ‘Wizziby wip—wizziby wip—  
    My only name is the Scroobious Pip.’

Then all the Beasts that walk on the ground  
Danced in a circle round and round,  
And all the Birds that fly in the air

Flew round and round in a circle there,  
And all the Fish in the Jellyboleee  
Swam in a circle about the sea,  
And all the Insects that creep or go  
Buzzed in a circle to and fro—  
And they roared and sang and whistled and cried  
Till the noise was heard from side to side—  
    'Chippetty Tip! Chippetty Tip!  
    Its only name is the Scroobious Pip.'



# 5. 2014 MADRID VERSION

## THE SCROOBIOUS PIP

1.

The Scroobious Pip went out one day  
When the grass was green and the sky was gray.  
Then all the beasts in the world came round,  
When the Scroobious Pip sat down on the ground.  
The Cat and the Dog and the Kangaroo,  
The Sheep and the Cow and the Guinea Pig too,—  
The Wolf he howled, the Horse he neighed,  
The little Pig squeaked and the Donkey brayed,  
And when the Lion began to roar  
There never was heard such a noise before,  
And every beast he stood on the tip  
Of his toes to look at the Scroobious Pip.

At last they said to the Fox, *By far*  
*You're the wisest beast—you know you are!*  
*Go close to the Scroobious Pip and say:*  
*"Tell us all about yourself, we pray!*  
*For as yet we can't make out in the least*  
*If you're Fish or Insect, or Bird or Beast!"*

The Scroobious Pip looked vaguely round  
And sang these words with a rumbling sound:

"Chippetty Flip! Flippetty Chip!  
My only name is the Scroobious Pip."

## 2.

The Scroobious Pip from the top of a tree  
Saw the distant Jellybolee,—  
And all the birds in the world came there,  
Flying in crowds all through the air.  
The Vulture and Eagle, the Cock and the Hen,  
The Ostrich, the Turkey, the Snipe and the Wren,—  
The Parrot chattered, the Blackbird sung,  
And the Owl looked wise but held his tongue,  
And when the Peacock began to scream,  
The hullabaloo was quite extreme,  
And every bird he fluttered the tip  
Of his wing as he stared at the Scroobious Pip.

At last they said to the Owl, *By far*  
*You're the wisest Bird—you know you are!*  
*Fly close to the Scroobious Pip and say:*  
*"Explain all about yourself, we pray!—*  
*For as yet we've neither seen nor heard*  
*If you're Fish or Insect, Beast or Bird!"*

The Scroobious Pip looked gaily round  
And sang these words with a chirpy sound:  
"Chippetty Flip! Flippetty Chip!  
My only name is the Scroobious Pip."

## 3.

The Scroobious Pip went into the sea  
By the beautiful shore of the Jellybolee.  
All the Fish in the world swam round  
With a splashy, squashy, spluttery sound.  
The Sprat, the Herring, the Turbot too,  
The Shark, the Sole, the Mackerel blue,—  
[The Flounder sputtered, [the Cuttlefish huffed,](#)  
[The lovable fluffable Pufferfish puffed.](#)]  
And when the Whale began to spout  
[[They gave a redoubling, bubbling shout.](#)]

And every Fish he shook the tip  
Of his tail as he gazed on the Scroobious Pip.

At last they said to the Whale, *By far*  
*You're the biggest Fish—you know you are!*  
*Swim close to the Scroobious Pip and say,*  
*"Tell us all about yourself, we pray!—*  
*For to know from yourself is our only wish—*  
*Are you Beast or Insect, Bird or Fish?"*

The Scroobious Pip looked softly round  
And sang these words with a liquid sound:  
    "Pliffetty Flip! Pliffetty Flip!  
    My only name is the Scroobious Pip."

#### 4.

The Scroobious Pip sat under a tree  
By the silent shores of the Jellybolee.  
All the Insects in all the world  
About the Scroobious Pip entwined.  
[Cicadas and beetles] with purple eyes,  
Gnats and buzztilential Flies,  
Grasshoppers, Butterflies, Spiders too,  
Wasps and Bees and Dragonflies blue,—  
And when the gnats began to hum  
[The firmament] bounced like a dismal drum.  
And every Insect curled the tip  
Of his snout, as he looked at the Scroobious Pip.

At last they said to the Ant, *By far*  
*You're the wisest Insect—you know you are!*  
*Creep close to the Scroobious Pip and say:*  
*"Tell us all about yourself, we pray!—*  
*For we can't find out, and we can't tell why*  
*If you're Beast or Fish, or a Bird or a Fly."*

The Scroobious Pip turned quickly round

And sang these words with a whistly sound:

“Wizzibby Wip! Wizzibby Wip!

My only name is the Scroobious Pip.”

5.

Then all the Beasts that walk on the ground

Danced in a circle, round and round,

And all the Birds that fly in the air

Flew round and round in a circle there,

And all the Fish in the Jellybolee

Swam in a circle about the sea,

And all the Insects that creep or go

Buzzed in a circle to and fro.

And they roared and sang and whistled and cried,

Till the noise was heard from side to side:

“Chippetty Tip! Chippetty Tip!

Its only name is the Scroobious Pip!”

