

The Wisdom of Dr. Seuss (Theodor Geisel)

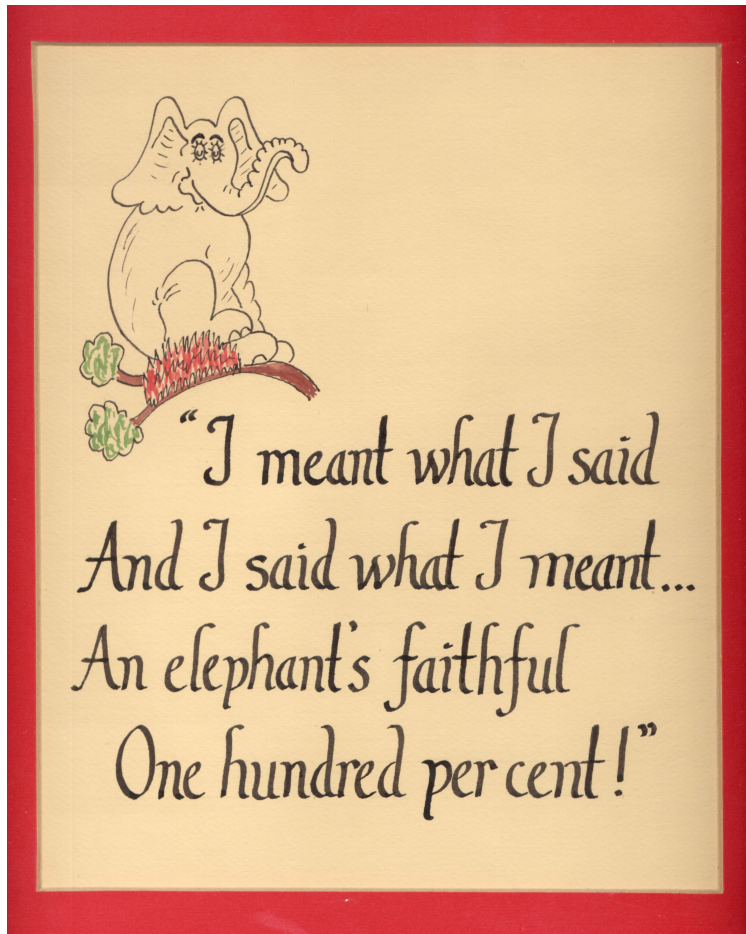
A Biographical Sketch

As we have come to know him, Dr. Seuss was born in 1904 and died in 1991. He gifted us with 42 world famous books written for children of all ages. He befuddled our minds, touched our hearts and challenged our conventional wisdom. He was a life long student of human nature, both as it was and as it could be.

Horton The Elephant

Of the many characters to choose from, I would choose Horton the Elephant as the embodiment of the quintessential servant-leader. He lived his life as a clear example and yet touched others lightly. I encourage you to read the two Horton books, Horton Hatches the Egg and Horton Hears a Who, published by Random House. Let's us then hear from Horton.

His Mantra of Life



He Gives Birth New Life

But at that very instant, the egg burst apart!
And out of the pieces of red and white shell,
From the egg that he'd sat on so long and so well,
Horton the Elephant saw something whizz!

IT HAD EARS

AND A TAIL

AND A TRUNK JUST LIKE HIS

And the people came shouting, "What's all this about...?"
They looked! And they stared with their eyes popping out!
Then they cheered and they cheered and they cheered more
and more.

They'd never seen anything like it before!

"My goodness! My gracious!" they shouted. "My word!

It's something brand new.

It's an elephant bird!!"

His Concern for the Little Ones

Why, I think that there must
Be someone on top of that small speck of dust!
Some sort of creature of very small size,
Too small to be seen by an elephant's eyes...
Some poor little person who's shaking with fear
That he'll blow in the pool! He has no way to steer!
I'll just have to save him. Because, after all
A person's a person no matter how small.

And the Last Shall be First if We But Listen

Their voices were heard! They rang out clear and clean.

And the elephant smiled. "Do you see what I mean?..."

They've proved they ARE persons, no matter how small.

An their whole world was saved by the Smallest of All!"