



## colin west

Q: What did you want to be when you were a child?

A: A cowboy actor.

Q: What is your favourite word?

A: Nonsense!

Q: What makes you cringe?

A: Celebrities who write children's books!

Q: When did you last have a really good laugh?

A: Last week with Ian Hislop on "Have I Got News For You".

Q: What is your most treasured possession?

A: A poetry book which my mother won as a school prize in the 1930's.

Q: What do you do as a hobby?

A: Listen to music. I love everything from Chopin to "I've got a Lovely Bunch of Coconuts".

Q: What's your favourite food?

A: Strawberries and ice cream.

Q: What profession other than yours would you like to attempt?

A: I'd love to be a songwriter, but have little musical talent.

Q: If you could meet one person, dead or alive, who would it be?

A: Edward Lear. By all accounts a nice chap!

Q: What quality do you most admire in a person?

A: Humility

Q: What is the most interesting place you have ever visited?

A: I've just come back from Hay-on-Wye which was fun. A secondhand bookshop on every corner!

Q: What has life taught you?

A: Live and let live.

Q: How long have you been a writer?

A: My first book contained poems I wrote when I was 21 which was in 1972, so I suppose

that's when I started writing professionally.

**Q: Where do you do your writing?**

**A: It starts off, as in must, in my head. I could be anywhere.**

**Q: What are the best and worst things about being an author?**

**A: Spike Milligan said he liked writing because it's a job you can do lying down, and I agree!**

**Q: Which of your own characters do you most identify with?**

**A: Mouse in "Moose and Mouse". He's happy to stay indoors all day writing silly poems!**

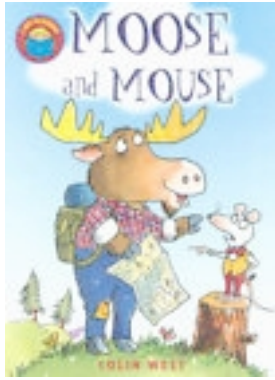
**Q: What was your favourite book as a child?**

**A: I had an Odhams encyclopaedia which I loved for all its illustrations. I still have it, but it's falling apart over half a century later.**

**Q: What book do you wish you had written?**

**A: Walter de la Mare's lesser known book "Stuff and Nonsense". He used all his skill, charm and wit to write wonderful nonsense verse in it.**

# My Books



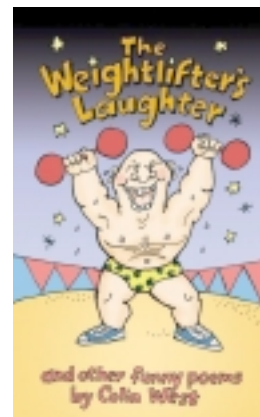
**Moose and Mouse**



**The Best of West**



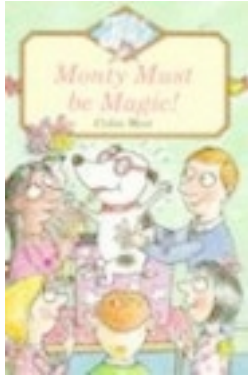
**A Step in the Wrong Direction**



**The Weightlifter's Laughter**



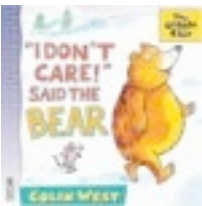
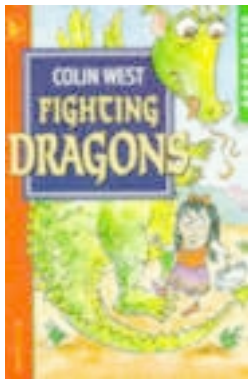
**The Height of Absurdity**



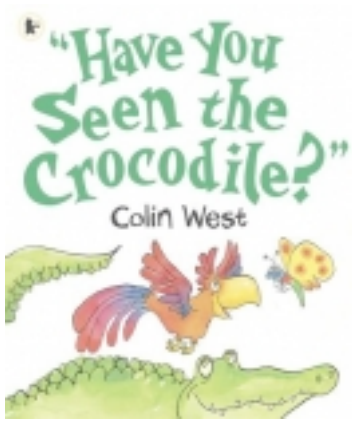
**Monty Must be Magic!**



**A Crocodile's Teeth**



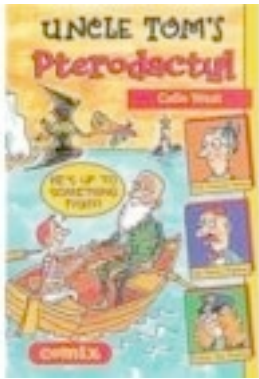
**"I Don't Care!" Said the Bear**



**Have You Seen the Crocodile?**



**It's Funny When You Look at It**



Uncle Tom's Pterodactyl



Uncle-and-Auntie Pat



Not to be Taken Seriously



Long Tales, Short Tales and Tall



One Day in the Jungle



Toby and his Old Tin Tub



**Percy the Pink**

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