



Ready, Set, Read--And Laugh!: A Funny Treasury for Beginning Readers

By Joanna Cole, Stephanie Calmenson

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There's nothing like humor to get children reading as well as laughing. What better way could there be to introduce them to the joys of reading than a superb treasury of humorous works by beloved children's book authors and illustrators?

Created especially for beginning readers, *Ready...Set...Read—and Laugh!* is a rich compilation of comic stories, hilarious poems, outlandish jokes, and clever word games. It includes renowned works that feature some of the best-loved and funniest characters in children's literature. In keeping with the needs of its audience, this book features simple vocabulary, easy-to-read large type, and bright colorful illustrations.

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Editorial Review

Amazon.com Review

Joanna Cole and Stephanie Calmenson, creators of the well-loved anthology *Ready... Set... Read!*, are back again to lure unsuspecting children into the world of words. They have gathered together stories, poems, and jokes, lavished with artwork by all-time favorite illustrators including James Marshall, Dr. Seuss, and Maurice Sendak. The stories, poems, and jokes in this learn-to-read anthology are guaranteed to tickle any young reader's funny bone. Who needs TV when such a mélange of side-splitting humor is available? The format is easy to read, with simple vocabulary, large type, and wonderfully fun and colorful illustrations. Children are introduced to the stories by authors and illustrators with whom they will soon become fast and lifelong friends. The *Ready... Set... Read!* books serve as a delicious appetizer to the full repast of children's literature. (Ages 5 and older) --*Emilie Coulter*

From School Library Journal

Kindergarten-Grade 2-This second collaboration by Cole and Calmenson is even better than *Ready Set Read* (Doubleday, 1990), as the selections are more in tune with young readers' sense of humor. Children will be amused and entertained by the 5 stories (including Nancy Shaw's *Sheep in a Shop* and an excerpt from James Marshall's *Fox on the Job*); 14 poems (by Karla Kuskin, Eve Merriam, Lee Bennett Hopkins, and others); and 7 assorted riddles, songs, and games. The illustrations are bright and cheerful; some are reproduced from their original sources, and some were done especially for this volume by Melissa Sweet and Chris Demarest. Adding to the volume's appeal to fledgling readers is the fact that it looks more like a chapter book than a typical beginning reader. Another bonus is the variety of literary forms included, which just might lead youngsters to other collections of poetry, rebuses, or riddles. A highly appealing anthology.

Sue Norris, Rye Free Reading Room, NY

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From Booklist

Gr. 1^-3. Another lighthearted anthology by the compilers of the popular *Ready . . . Set . . . Read!* (1990), this illustrated collection of stories, poems, jokes, and games will turn new readers on to the fun of books. There are five picture-book stories (including Shaw's *Sheep in a Shop* and Parish's *Come Back, Amelia Bedelia*), several silly rhymes (including poems by Livingston, Lobel, and Prelutsky), and a hilarious collection of riddles, knock-knock jokes, and rebus stories. The illustrations by a number of artists (including Marshall, Seuss, and Sendak) are all in comic styles that suit the entries and the whole collection. Kids will delight in the wordplay and the nonsense, and they'll want to read more. *Hazel Rochman*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

William Ullrich:

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Terri Root:

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Pandora Rice:

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Elizabeth Walborn:

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