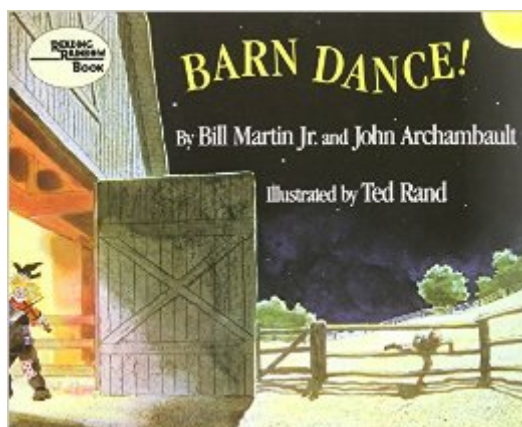


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# Barn Dance! (Reading Rainbow)



## Synopsis

In an old farmhouse, bathed in the light of a full moon, a young boy creeps to his bedroom window and looks outside. Was that a voice he just heard, or the hooting of an owl? There it is again: Come a little closer...Come a little closer...Listen to the night...There's music in the air...Beckoned by the voice, the boy sneaks downstairs, out the door, and walks toward the barn. As he gets closer he hears the sweet sound of a country fiddler and the rhythmic thumping of dancing feet. But who could possibly be having a barn dance in the middle of the night?

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: NP (What's this?)

Series: Reading Rainbow

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Square Fish; Reprint edition (September 15, 1988)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0805007997

ISBN-13: 978-0805007992

Product Dimensions: 9.6 x 0.2 x 7.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (44 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #62,102 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #42 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > Country Life](#) #69 in [Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Performing Arts > Dance](#) #147 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Stories In Verse](#)

Age Range: 3 - 5 years

Grade Level: Preschool - Kindergarten

## Customer Reviews

Scarecrows aren't really scary unless you're a crow -- or a preschooler. My son was terrified of scarecrows until we found this book. Now, it's torn and tattered, and a favorite of both my boys and their older sister. It's the story of what goes on in the barn when (almost) everyone in the farmhouse is sleeping. All except the skinny kid with questions in his head, Much too full of wonderment to spend the night in bed, He was up about and list'nin'. . . . when the night owl said, Come a little closer. . . Come a little closer. . . Listen to the night. . . There's magic in the air. . . The skinny kid can hear the sound of fiddle strings, and he looks out his window to see the scarecrow leading all

the animals into the barn for a hoe-down. Intrigued, the skinny kid sneaks into the barn and hides. Pretty soon, though, the scarecrow spots him and invites him to join in. Out came the skinny kid, a-tickin' an' a-tookin' An' a hummin' an' a-yeein' an' a rockin' an' a sockin'. An' he danced his little toe through a hole in his stockin'! By this point in the story, my kids are itchin' to get up and dance, too. But, as the night owl points out, the magic can only last so long. The skinny kid sneaks back into his bed in the farmhouse to watch the sunrise. It might have been a dream, except for that hole in his sock. In addition to the wonderful verse that sets toes a-tappin', my kids love the illustrations. My three-year-old always points out the skinny kid's progress as he sneaks out of the house, past the hound dog, into the barn, and back. All the kids giggle at the whirling pigs, who get so dizzy that they all fall down.

My 7 year old daughter loves this book so much she wants me to purchase it. We originally got it from the library, My 5 year old son loves to hear my voice when the Crow says "Begin! Grab yourself a partner an jump right in"! This is a well written book that I would highly recommend.

I've come to realize that Ted Rand is an absolutely wonderful illustrator. Coupled with the most rhythmic and lyrical text you'll ever see, this book has become my son's new favorite. Pictures are full and colorful and the text brings out the ham in any reader-aloud. It's fun, fun, fun! Yee-Ha!!

Barn Dance is a delightful book to read aloud. The rhythm of the words moves like the music at the Barn Dance itself. The illustrations are magical in the way they capture the feeling of being the only one awake on a moonlit evening. You can almost feel the breeze blowing through the curtains--the breeze that beckons a young boy to the merriment in the barn.

My new favorite Fall book!!! I teach preschool and I just adored this book!! I love the flow of words and the rhythm of the book. It was adorable. The toe wigglin' out of his sock. Added fun for anyone who knows anything about square dancing too. But even without that knowledge, the illustrations and musical words will take you into the barn for the dance. Loved it!!

As an avid square dancer this delightful book captures the joy and thrill of an evening of dancing. I have shared it with my two granddaughters, ages 7 and 4. Although they question why we might dance with the cows and chickens, as shown in the wonderful illustrations, they have a better understanding of what we do at a square dance. My husband is a caller and finds the scarecrow a

charming imitation of the same role. A must read for dancers of all ages!

"Full moon shinin', shinin' big and bright, Pushin' back shadows, holdin' back the night. Not a thing stirrin', quiet as could be, Just the whisper of the leaves on the Cottowood tree.....when the night owl said, Come a little closer... Come a little closer... Listen to the night... There's magic in the air... A little skinny boy lies in his bed. The night owl is calling. Up he springs to look out the window and spies in the moonlight the scarecrow and all of the animals, both of the farm and the woods beginning to gather at the family barn. There is most certainly magic a music in the air! The animals gather as the little skinny boy leaves his bed to join them. The barn dance has started! What an enchanting book this one is. The entire work is written in rhyme, a rhyme which is extremely catchy, soothing and rather mystical in a country sort of way all in the same. The animals, led by the fiddle playing scarecrow who is also the "caller" leads the various critters (and the little boy) through a wonderful night of country entertainment. The illustrations by Ted Rand are as beautiful as the masterful text, one enhancing the other as the reader is drawn in closer and closer to the whimsical story. This is a wonderful group read. The kids get into the rhyme as does the reader. It is also a wonderful one on one read at bedtime. I cannot remember when I have had such pleasure in reading a children's book to groups of children. This one is at the top of my list I use when reading to the little one. It is peaceful while at the same time has the ability to leave the kids asking for more. This was written in 1986 and is getting more and more difficult to find. I would highly recommend you get a copy of this one fore your collection while the getting is still good. This is one of those books that will be read over and over again until you wear the thing out. Don Blankenship The Ozarks

"Full moon shinging. Shining big and bright. Pushing back the shadows; pushing back the night." This is a great book for beginning readers to memorize and read. I have used this book for years in my classroom.

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