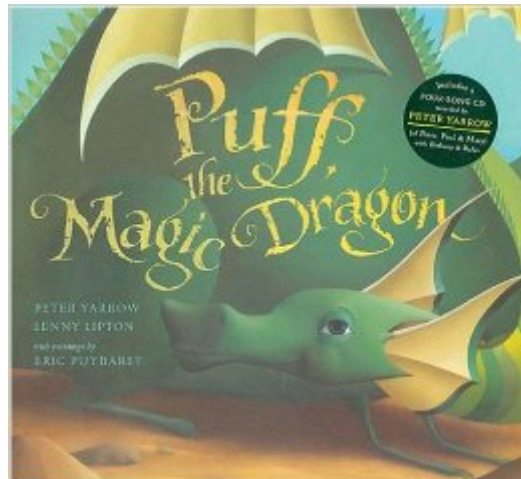


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# Puff, The Magic Dragon



## Synopsis

Puff, the Magic Dragon is simply one of the most beloved songs of all time—a classic that has become as much a part of the childhood experience as Mother Goose and fairy tales. Yet singer/songwriter Peter Yarrow and co-composer Lenny Lipton have never allowed a picture book adaptation of this magical tale—until now. With Yarrow's and Lipton's blessing, Puff, Jackie Paper, and the land of Honalee finally live on the page. The exquisite package includes a cloth case with a tipped-in illustration and an embossed jacket with foil touches, as well as an exclusive CD featuring not only Puff, but several other songs performed by Yarrow, his daughter Bethany, and cellist Rufus Cappadocia. This is a publishing event sure to attract broad attention and please Puff's many fans. In richly-hued paintings of the deepest sea blues and greens, Puff and his friend Jackie Paper frolic in the land of Honalee—traveling in a fantastic boat with billowed sails, climbing red castle stairs onto a balcony to meet with noble kings and princes, and watching pirate ships lower their flags for the roaring dragon. Artist Eric Puybaret has brought an entire magical world into being with enthralling landscapes, color, and characters. And everyone will love the way the art cleverly turns the song's end, which at first seemed so sad, into a surprising and joyful moment. Best of all—this is only the first of many more collaborations with Peter Yarrow to come!

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 1040L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 24 pages

Publisher: Sterling; First Edition edition (August 1, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1402747829

ISBN-13: 978-1402747823

Product Dimensions: 12 x 0.5 x 11 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars — See all reviews (340 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #19,789 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Music > Songbooks #86 in Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths > Dragons #255 in Books > Humor & Entertainment > Sheet Music & Scores

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

## Customer Reviews

My son just received this book for his birthday and I have to admit I was a little more excited than him about the tale. He had never heard about Puff but once he started flipping through the pages so beautifully illustrated, he was excited to read it. I decided for his first reading we'd follow along with the song. When I was a child it was a favorite in my house, but it has been a while since I visited Honalee and I was anxious to do so. The music is wonderful and Peter and his daughter Bethany make a fabulous singing duet. I sang along with the song and turned the pages while watching my son's face light up with the words and the pictures. It was fun to see him enjoy something so much that I did when I was his age. This book is already a favorite in our house. The only draw back for me was forgetting how the song ended. That part always made me cry when I was little and unfortunately I found out it still does. However, because the book continues where the song leaves off, giving Puff a happier ending, my son didn't shed the tears that I did. On the CD is another fun song and then the instrumental version of Puff the Magic Dragon. This is a classic tale given new life with wonderful paintings. I think it would make a wonderful gift for any child.

It is stunning! Beautifully engineered. Loved the previous version without the pop-up and now this just makes it more fanciful and exciting. The pop-up really works well for these illustrations and it is more durable than most pop-ups I've seen. This is not a story based on the song, it is part of the actual lyrics. This book is about the visual impact and giving color and character to the song. The pop-ups are NOT interactive and this would be the only thing I could imagine would improve it. It comes with a CD. There are 4 tracks. 1) "Puff, the Magic Dragon" with vocals. It is a very nice duet with simple instrumentation. 2) "Froggy Went a Court'n". 3) "The Blue Tail Fly". 4) "Puff, the Magic Dragon" Instrumental- very pretty. Also comes with a Puff app. I don't have a Smart Phone, so I have no comment.

The hard cover book is a generous size with big beautiful illustrations. There is a CD included so you and your child may sing along with the story. This is sure to become your child's favorite and create lasting memories for you both.

My 33 month old granddaughter absolutely loves this book. We read it over and over and the CD never stops playing in our car. She has almost learned all the lyrics and sings along each time. The illustrations are beautiful and I especially like the fact that it offers a happy ending for Puff with his new friend. Altogether a great purchase!

Review by Sherry North, Author, *Because You Are My Baby* The classic song about a boy who grows out of his love for a dragon pal lends itself beautifully to a children's book. The illustrations are simple yet intriguing without being overly cartoonish, as Puff and Jackie Paper act out the verses of the song. And the illustrator adds a lovely twist - a new friend for Puff - to help soften the song's bittersweet ending. I only have two cautions about this book. One is that even with the new ending, the part where Jackie stops visiting Puff is still very sad. Sensitive children might feel heartbroken for a bit. And my other complaint is that the book uses the exact lyrics of the song, except for one place: "Dragons live forever, but not so little boys and girls." Adding girls here completely ruins the rhythm and was unnecessary. Girls won't feel left out, because the illustrations show a girl befriending Puff at the end.

This book is incredible, the music wonderful, and the story of friendship, and the bittersweet aspects of growing up is timeless. Buy for yourself, buy for your kids, grandkids, nieces & nephews, buy for your parents, grandparents and friends. This multi-generational tale will be an evergreen in your family library.

We love this book. It is well made with good binding and sturdy jacket. The illustrations are delightful and my toddler loves the map on the inside cover and tries to map out the adventures illustrated in the book. We don't mind that it is just the lyrics to a popular song as this leaves the rest to my toddler's imagination. I gave it 4 stars because the CD is terrible and I agree with other comments about the revision to the lyrics. I didn't grow up with the story or the original song so I didn't think the remake and the gender-politically-correct lyric change would bother me, but I agree with the other reviewers: the CD is terrible and so is the mumbling singing. Even the instrumental version of the song was disappointing. My only recommendation is to listen to the original Peter, Paul & Mary song, specially if reading to a small toddler who is learning to enunciate words. Do remember that it is a sad song. And although the illustrator gives the song a happy twist at the end (which I personally don't mind since it was thoughtfully done), the lyrics are still sad. My young toddler sometimes tells me to only sing the happy part of the song. But he still LOVES the book. Again, the book itself is simply beautiful.

This is a very well done book and a treasure for adult-supervised viewing. My grandchildren are not capable of using this book carefully enough, but with our supervision they look at it again and again.

Pop-up books are inherently "damageable" so assistance for those under about 8-10 years of age is recommended.

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