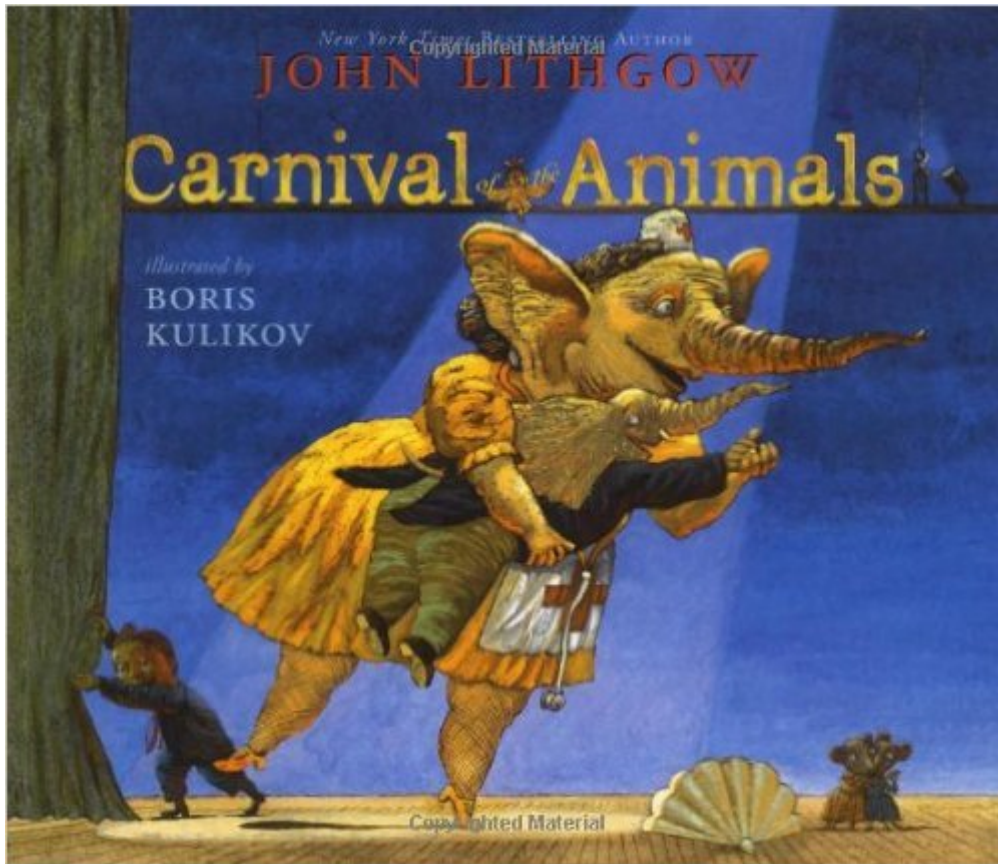


The book was found

# Carnival Of The Animals



## Synopsis

But oh! what a fabulous night he had had, When his world was turned into a zoo! After wandering off from a school field trip, a young boy falls asleep in the Natural History Museum. There he sees his classmates, teachers, and family transformed into a menagerie of animals, from wild hyenas to stately peacocks. John Lithgow's exhilarating word play, inspired by Camille Saint-Saëns's 1886 composition, provides a narrative arc to the piece for the first time. Lithgow created the text for the New York City Ballet, where the Carnival of the Animals ballet, with his narration, debuted in 2003. Boris Kulikov's witty artistic interpretation of the story adds to the fun.

## Book Information

Paperback: 40 pages

Publisher: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers; Reprint edition (September 18, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0689873433

ISBN-13: 978-0689873430

Product Dimensions: 11 x 0.2 x 9.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 6.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (18 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #1,000,542 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #305 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Humorous](#) #2273 in [Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Performing Arts](#) #2775 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Sleep](#)

Age Range: 5 - 10 years

Grade Level: [Preschool](#) - [3](#)

## Customer Reviews

When looking for presents for our three-year old neighbour, I found this book and was immediately enthralled. The illustrations are gorgeous and the rhymes excellent. Some of the words are a bit too advanced for a three-year old, but when I read it to her the first time, she asked what they meant, so we got to talk about them, which is really good. I believe the book will age well, in that the story, illustrations, and vocabulary are complex enough so in a couple of years it won't be a "baby book", but it also had plenty to keep a three-year old entertained. In fact, she was enthralled. I purchased the book before I realised it was written by THAT John Lithgow, and am really impressed at how multi-talented he is. I will definitely buy more of his books for presents and, as my own young baby

gets a little older, really enjoy reading them with her. Well done!

I was a bit skeptical of this book when it was given to my 5-year old at Christmas, but I have to say it won me over. My son really loves it too, and we don't always have the same taste for books, so it's nice that we both enjoy this together. The rhymes are ingenious and the music is lovely. The vocabulary is advanced, but that's part of what makes this book so charming.

I've always loved this music, especially to help children appreciate classical music. But what a great idea to combine it with clever rhyme and whimsical art! My 6 year-old daughter received it for Christmas and enjoys listening to the CD and following along with the book at bedtime.

I am an elementary music teacher and this book is excellent for a number of reasons. However my only problem, and it is a problem in elementary school when children in grade 1 or 2 want to read the book, is one word. It is another name for donkey and starts with jack. It appears three times and I have taped over the word and put the word donkey, which works well except for one sentence that is suppose to rhyme. The pictures, prose, and included CD are all great and work well in the classroom as well as the home.

I used this with my kindergarten music class, and they were absolutely enthralled. Even kids who normally weren't on their best behavior were attentive and involved. We laughed hysterically together at the pictures, they were always finding something on the page to talk about. In addition, John Lithgow is a terrific storyteller who really makes the story come alive. During the musical passages woven through the story, I would stop and prompt the children to identify the instruments in the background and have them discuss ways each shows the character - eg. the how the elephant is shown with a slow, heavy tempo with low pitch; or how the wooden bars of the xylophone resonate to sound like the bones of the fossils. I highly recommend this book and cd.

John Lithgow's entertaining "translation" of music into literature is fantastic. This was purchased as a gift for two little great granddaughter who both enjoy the story and the music. How wonderful to be able to expose them to really good music outside of iPod standards! It will be hard to find something this entertaining to give them for Christmas.

I use this in my music class! The kids love the story and the beautiful illustrations. But I was

surprised when I bought it, the author uses the term "ass" for a donkey, so it might not be appropriate at all schools.

Another book in the collection of John Lithgow's childrens' books.Lovely and witty prose.

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