



Harold's Circus

Crockett Johnson

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From the treasured creator of *Harold and the Purple Crayon*, Crockett Johnson, comes another adventure for Harold and his magical purple crayon.

One night Harold, with his trusty purple crayon, goes for a walk on a tightrope. Down he falls into a circus complete with trapeze, clowns, and lion tamers. A must-have for every imaginative child's bookshelf.

"As fresh and imaginative as ever." (*The Horn Book*)

"Harold is at the top of his form." (*New York Times*)

Harold's Circus Details

Date : Published May 20th 1981 by HarperCollins (first published 1959)

ISBN : 9780064430241

Author : Crockett Johnson

Format : Paperback 64 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Fiction, Art

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From Reader Review Harold's Circus for online ebook

LunaLovegood says

do not ask me why...

Emily says

Who doesn't love the adventures of Harold and his purple crayon? I love the simplicity of the drawings and the fact that young readers can easily re-tell the story by reading the pictures or make up their own stories.
Read June 20, 1012

Abigail says

The imaginative adventures with the magical purple crayon continue in this fifth picture-book chronicling Harold's creative play, as the young toddler, drawing himself a high-wire, walks out into blank space. Tumbling from his precarious perch, he quickly draws a soft curve upon which to land, finding himself cradled in the trunk of an elephant. Things progress from there, and soon Harold is creating and performing in his own circus, acting the clown, shooting out of a canon, and keeping his teeming audience happy.

First published in 1959, Harold's Circus is very much in the style of its predecessors, with simple text and spare artwork. Like Crockett Johnson's other books, it offers a brilliant depiction of a young child's imaginative life, in which the child himself creates his own adventures, by drawing them into existence. The circus element here is a little dated - I don't care for circuses with performing animals, myself - although that's to be expected, I suppose, in a children's book published in the late 1950s. Leaving that issue aside, this is just a charming addition to the series! Recommended to all fans of Harold, and of his purple crayon.

Timothy Boyd says

This was one of my favorite series of books as a young beginning reader. My imagination was a lot like Harold's I just didn't have the crayon to make things happen. If you have kids or grand-kids these are a great set of book to introduce them to the world of reading. Highly recommended.

Suzie says

Not as good as the original but still creative.

Rachel Gonzaloz De Reta says

Mi bebe disfruto mucho de este libro su parte favorita fue cuando vio al público feliz.
My baby really enjoyed this book, her favorite part was when she saw the happy audience.

Jordan Horrell says

With his purple crayon, Harold went to the circus. He performed on a tightrope, and then after falling, he was "caught" by an elephant. Harold also drew different individuals that one would see at a circus, including a clown and a fat lady. After shooting after a cannon and swinging on the flying ring, Harold "encountered" a lion. After taming said lion, Harold drew the audience, to which he gave a bow.

I would say that one theme of this book is bravery. The things that Harold "performed" at the circus were very dangerous, such as walking on the tightrope, being shot out a cannon, and taming a lion. But he still did it for the audiences.

I enjoyed Harold and the Purple Crayon as a kid. Harold always created imaginative worlds with his crayon, and they were always fun to look at. The artwork, with only very few colors, was beautiful to look at.

I would recommend this for kids between preschool and 2nd grade for the simple plot lines, the fun artwork, and the suspense that occurs in the story.

Sonya Feher says

Okay, what kind of children's book uses the words "splendid exhibition"? Johnson's willingness to speak *up* to children makes the Harold stories more engaging than many for kids. Additionally, the simplicity of the illustrations manages to imply a much more detailed and colorful picture than one actually sees. A fun read.

Elizabeth S says

More wonderful Harold. What do you do if you fall off the tight-rope? Well, if you have a purple crayon, a curve might suddenly appear to catch you. :)

G says

Charming. I loved it as much as I did Harold and the Purple Crayon, which I first encountered when I was around 30.

Erik says

This feels exactly like a real child playing circus.

midnightfaerie says

My twins really loved this one. We went to the circus last summer and the kids remember it just enough to love this book. This time Harold experiences the show first hand. From riding elephants to being a clown, from riding on the backs of horses to being shot out of a cannon, you have it all in this exciting circus story that Harold finds himself drawn in. It's enjoyed by all my children, no matter the age, including me, as I love to read them to the kids. I'd put them somewhere between a level 1 and level 2 reading level, which is perfect for my 5 yr old who is starting to read on his own, and loves these so much, can read them by himself easily. These are a great addition to any Harold and the Purple Crayon collection!

Liz says

Not as good as the first. Some very dated ideas in here, but cute as a kid's book, and especially taken as a piece of Americana of the 1960s.

Ahmad Sharabiani says

Harold's Circus (Harold #5), Crockett Johnson pseudonym for David Johnson Leisk

Harold, a lad of unusual talents, is at his finest in command of a large, laughter-filled circus. It all starts with a straight line, but from a line to a tightrope is an easy step which leads naturally to lions, elephants, a fat lady, a tall man, clowns and a lemonade man.

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Jon(athan) Nakapalau says

Just read this book for the first time...still one of the most inventive concepts in children's books that I have ever come across.

