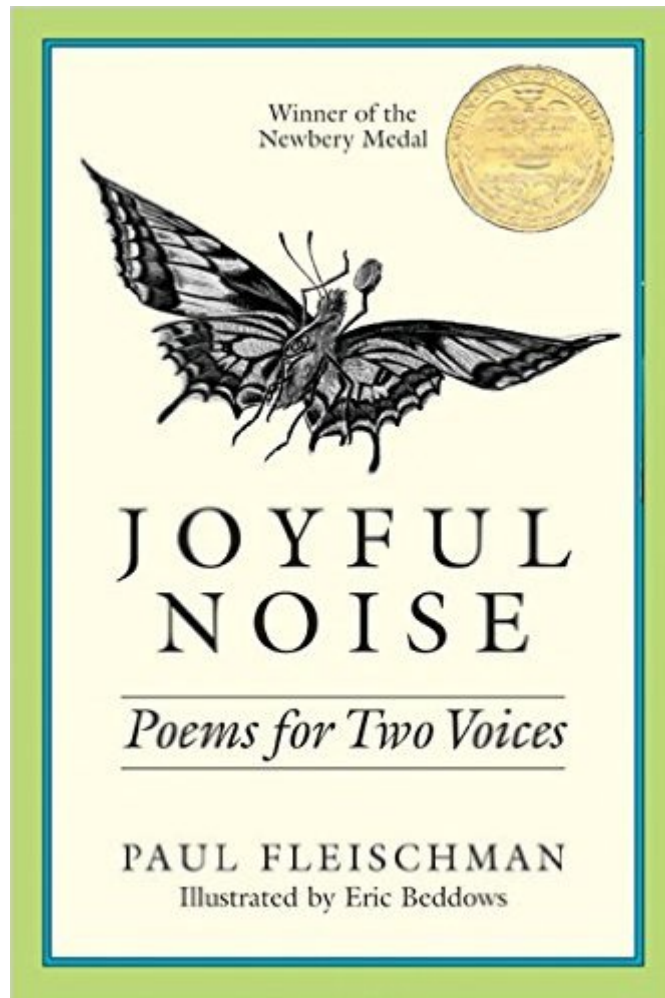


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# Joyful Noise: Poems For Two Voices



## Synopsis

Written to be read aloud by two voices—sometimes alternating, sometimes simultaneous—here is a collection of irresistible poems that celebrate the insect world, from the short life of the mayfly to the love song of the book louse. Funny, sad, loud, and quiet, each of these poems resounds with a booming, boisterous, joyful noise. In this remarkable volume of poetry for two voices, Paul Fleischman verbally re-creates the "Booming/boisterous/joyful noise" of insects. The poems resound with the pulse of the cicada and the drone of the honeybee. Eric Beddows's vibrant drawings send each insect soaring, spinning, or creeping off the page in its own unique way. Paul Fleischman has created not only a clear and fascinating guide to the insect world—from chrysalid butterflies to whirligig beetles—but an exultant celebration of life. Supports Common Core State Standards

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: NP (What's this?)

Paperback: 44 pages

Publisher: HarperCollins; First Edition edition (January 4, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0064460932

ISBN-13: 978-0064460934

Product Dimensions: 0.2 x 6 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars— See all reviews— (74 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #77,032 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #71 in Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Anthologies #119 in Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Science Studies > Nature > Environment #184 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Bugs & Spiders

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

## Customer Reviews

A human.....A bug. Quite different, we two.....Quite different, we two, but now here we are.....with a book to review. "Joyful Noise".....as it's called, is a beautiful book.....Whether human or insect, it's sure worth a look. Two voices, aloud, join in poems like these:.....a story of booklice, and one about bees. So get with a friend and find out the joys that come out of making.....A JOYFUL NOISE!

Here are fourteen poems about, of all things, bugs. Some may wonder at the subject matter; some may be disgusted. By the time you're done reading them, however, I'm sure you'll no longer feel that way. Speaking of fireflies, book lice, and honeybees, Fleischman shows the unique perspective of each. At times his poems are hilarious, with the worker ant complaining in time to the languid satisfaction of the queen; some are poignant enough to touch your heart and make you think twice about that caterpillar you shuddered at the other day. What makes these poems truly wonderful, however, is the fact that they are "for two voices". For full effect, they \*must\* be read aloud by two people, sometimes in chorus, sometimes speaking alone, and other times echoing each other. In such a manner, the already-delightful poetry becomes alive.

These poems about the lives of different insects are meant to be read by two voices, thereby mimicking the sounds or characteristics of those bugs. The book works rather well, especially the whirligig beetle poem. Appearing in bookstores nation wide in 1992, I remember being given this book at the age of 10 from my mother. At that particular age I was not interested in participating in a picture book, clearly designed for younger students. Had I received it at a younger age I think I would have liked it more. I would recommend presenting this book to a group of students, having them perform it together. That would be the best use of this singular text.

Mesmorizing & magical. These poems are fun to read with kids ... for both kid and adult ... because the interplay of sounds is magical. And for the adults, there is deeper meaning to savor and be mesmorized by for long after the last page is turned. I read these with my kids over a decade ago, Just re-found the book and read them again with them a decade later and they smiled ear to ear at the memory of reading it together so long ago, and loved doing it again, but this time at a deeper level.

A real celebration of the insects. Fourteen neat poems - you can read just one side and enjoy the poems too if you don't have a partner onhand but listening to them read by two people is neat! Really great drawings throughout - obviously done by a nature lover. The poems are funny and at times like haiku too.

It's not everyday that a book about bugs delights me, but put bugs describing their lives, poetry, and vivid pen and ink drawings into a collection and there's definitely a winner! Joyful Noise: Poems for

Two Voices by Paul Fleischman sounds like a gospel hymnal my grandmother would have carried to church each Sunday, but after glancing at the cover, you will find that those sounds come from nature's creation, called insects. This poetry collection boasts 14 of the most adorable poems, all spoken in the voices of the bugs they represent, all to be read aloud with someone- sometimes one at a time, sometimes simultaneously- all in the merry tradition of Frere Jacques, an elementary school classic. Joyful Noise celebrates nature's insect world from the water strider who "whenever we're asked/ we walk upon water" to the book louse "who dwell who dwell/ in these dusty bookshelves." My favorite of all the poems in this book, however, was 'Chrysalis Diary.' Paul Fleischman has created a wonderfully unique book that could be used in a variety of ways. As a workshop creator, I see writing and art possibilities, using the poems as spring boards for creativity for almost any age group. The teacher in me sees Mr. Fleischman's book as an opportunity to make learning fun by having youth research the insects they are most drawn to, creating the perfect presentation/study project, and working across multiple subjects to maximize learning potential. And as a poetry lover, well, as a poetry lover I see the lives of wonderful insects jump off the page through renga-like poems, with sing songy verse and lively drawings, brought to life by two voices, reciting aloud, in perfect harmony. Whether you are looking for poems moving enough to touch your heart, or funny enough to make you giggle your sadness away, Joyful Noise: Poems for Two Voices is amazing and should be the one poetry book no home is without!

I rate this the book Joyful Noise by Paul Fleischman 4 stars. I rated this book 4 stars because it was fun to read. However, I did think the book was a little slow to read. The book is written for two people to read together if they want to. This was neat the way he did this. I especially liked the way he used insects as the characters. This made it very interesting. The insects made it exciting because they had different personalities. I had several poems that I really like in the book. One of the poems was book louse. I like this poem because they would blame each other for everything. Another poem that I liked was the Ant Poem. This was fun to read because the worker complained and the Queen was bragging. My favorite poem was Water Strider. This was a cool poem because they could walk on water. In the poem another insect tries to walk on water, but you will have to read the book to find out what happens. Some books I recommend are The Chronicles of Narnia. Another book I would recommend is RASCAL. Some more books I would recommend are the Spiderwick Series. I would also recommend the Lord of the Rings by JK Tolken, and that concludes my book response.

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