



# Penny and Her Song

*Kevin Henkes*

[Download now](#)

[Read Online](#) ➔

# Penny and Her Song

*Kevin Henkes*

## **Penny and Her Song** Kevin Henkes

Penny loves her song. It's a good song, a really wonderful song. Will it ever be the right time to sing it?

## **Penny and Her Song Details**

Date : Published August 21st 2012 by Greenwillow Books (first published February 28th 2012)

ISBN : 9780062081971

Author : Kevin Henkes

Format : Paperback 32 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Family, Music

 [Download Penny and Her Song ...pdf](#)

 [Read Online Penny and Her Song ...pdf](#)

**Download and Read Free Online Penny and Her Song Kevin Henkes**

---

# From Reader Review Penny and Her Song for online ebook

## Isaac (isaacthebookkeeper) says

I am not particularly familiar with Kevin Henkes's creative works, but I read (and enjoyed) *The Year of Billy Miller*. I liked *Penny and Her Song* as well, and children will undoubtedly enjoy it! As a child, I know I liked stories about small animals, especially ones about mice!!

---

## Jacoba says

*Penny and Her Song* by Kevin Henkes (2012)

Genre: Juvenile Fiction

Format: Book

Plot summary: Penny wants to share the song she wrote but must practice patience for the right time to share it with her parents and siblings.

Considerations or precautions for readers advisory (strong language, sex, death, religious overtones, violence, etc.)" No special considerations

Review citation (if available)

Section source used to find the material: Children's Core Collection, Too-Good-to-Miss-Books: First Grade (MCPL Booklist)

Recommended age: Pre-K-2.

---

## BELIEVESINMIRACLES says

I am a big fan of children's literature, they say the hallmark of a good children's book if it can hold the interest of an adult and entertain them. Sadly this did not. Bring on Kate DiCamillo and Roald Dahl.

---

## Katie Fitzgerald says

This review also appears on my blog, Read-at-Home Mom.

Though I think a lot of people and bookstores have called this book a picture book, it's really an easy reader divided into short chapters. Penny is a mouse like Lilly, and Chrysanthemum, and Owen, but she doesn't have a big life-changing problem. Rather, she comes home from school wanting to share her special song, and discovers she must wait because the babies are asleep. It's difficult to wait, but well worth it, because when she does finally share her song, everyone in the family loves it - including those little babies.

The story reminded me immediately of *Noisy Nora*, but without the condescending older sister, and with a much less dramatic resolution. Penny is never brushed aside and ignored like Nora; rather, she waits patiently, and is ultimately rewarded with lots of positive attention from her parents for her creativity. The book is less a sibling rivalry story, and more of a celebration of joy, togetherness, and sharing simple moments with one's family.

---

## Becky says

I don't love, love, love every book Kevin Henkes writes. Some of his books aren't quite up to what I expect from him. But Penny and Her Song, for me, is one of his best! (Perhaps just needing some time before becoming as beloved as his classic picture books, Chrysanthemum and Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse and Owen.)

It begins

Penny came home from school with a song.

"Listen, Mama," said Penny. "It's my very own song."

Penny started to sing,

"One is nice--"

"Your song is beautiful, said Mama, "but you will wake up the babies."

From the very start, I just LOVED, LOVED, LOVED Penny. I did. I loved her energy, her perseverance. She has a SONG TO SING...and she wants to SING until she's heard. She will find an audience, she will, she will. She just has to!

I also loved the family dynamics of this one. While the Mom and Dad aren't exactly thrilled with the exuberant singing--the timing of it--they are very good, very sweet in their own way, in their own time. There's a time to sing, and a time to be quiet...after all.

This one is told in two very short chapters. I'd definitely recommend this one!!!

---

## Angie says

Shorter than the other Penny books. Books with songs in them that don't offer the music and make me come up with my own are not my favorite. Still, a cute story with lessons on patience.

---

## Edward Sullivan says

Good early reader with an exuberant Penny.

---

## Tasha says

Joining the beloved Chrysanthemum, Lilly, Owen and Wemberly is a new mouse character from the incredible Kevin Henkes. This mouse is named Penny and she has a song to sing. Unfortunately when she gets home, the babies are sleeping and she's not allowed to share her song with her mother or father. Later, she tries to share the song during dinner, but her parents ask her to wait until they are done eating to sing. Finally, after dinner, Penny shares her song. Her parents sing it too, they dress up in costumes, and the babies

have a surprise reaction too!

Read the rest of my review on my blog, [Waking Brain Cells](#).

---

### **Adrienne Pettinelli says**

It's no surprise that Henkes' first foray into beginning readers would be brilliant. He does such a lovely job of capturing family dynamics, and I kind of want to move in with this particular family of mice.

---

### **Colby Sharp says**

After my first reading I gave this book 3 stars. I have now read this book to my daughter close to 100 times and I now appreciate its brilliance.

Never underestimate the power of Kevin Henkes.

---

### **Erin says**

Perfect for my 8 year old working through dyslexia challenges.

---

### **babyhippoface says**

Penny wants someone to listen to her song, but her parents keep telling her she'll "wake the babies". She is hurt and put-off just like any child would be, but her loving parents give her all the attention she needs as soon as those babies are awake. They even join in the fun, with happy results.

I was disappointed in this one, but for reasons that are admittedly unfair. I have to keep reminding myself that this is not a typical Kevin Henkes picture boook. *Julius, the Baby of the World*, *Chrysanthemum*, *Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse*, *Chester's Way*--I love them. They have terrific illustrations, tremendous vocabulary, and even better humor. But much of the vocabulary and some of the humor is over the heads of kids, which makes the books just as much fun for adults as for the kids, who just like the story and ignore the jokes they don't understand.

*Penny* is different. She's a beginning reader. This format demands the vocabulary and humor be toned way, *waaaaay* down. So the things I love most about Lilly and Chester and Victor and Wilson and Chrysanthemum must be left out. Darn it.

Despite my personal preferences, Kevin Henkes' choice to write for blossoming readers should be applauded. It seems there are fewer of these books published than any other type for kids. There's no way your average 1st and 2nd graders could sit down with Lilly and grasp the vocabulary, but they can understand Penny, and they'll benefit from knowing her. She is a little cutie who looks just like Sheila Rae's little sister Louise, if you ask me, (which no one did), and she is spirited (though not so spirited as Lilly, who stands far and above

all others in the "spirited" category). I hope Henkes continues to write books for beginning readers--just as long as he'll throw us grown-ups a few Lilly- and Chrysanthemum-types in there occasionally, too.

---

### **Emily Woodard says**

I give this book 100 stars.

I liked Penny and Her Song. I liked it when she sung her song. I didn't like it when her parents told her not to wake the babies. I would tell my friends to read Penny and Her Song.

---

### **Catherine says**

This is another quality book for introducing the earliest essence of a chapter book. The concept of a young child seeking to show (or show off) a skill and having it not be the right time or setting is one that young children understand so well. A happy ending, of course, is the payoff. I agree with reviewers that say it is a better book than it appears at first reading. Henkes has hit some very good notes for his target audience while writing a quiet story. It will have a place in my First grade classroom library.

---

### **Richie Partington says**

Richie's Picks: PENNY AND HER SONG by Kevin Henkes, Greenwillow, February 2012, 32p., ISBN: 978-0-06-208195-7

"I heard he sang a good song, I heard he had a style  
And so I came to see him and listen for a while"  
-- Fox/Gimbel, "Killing Me Softly"

"Living in today's complex world of the future is a little like having bees live in your head. But there they are."  
-- The Firesign Theater, "We're All Bozos on this Bus"

How often do you find yourself with a song in your head? How often do you let one of these songs escape through your vocal cords and your mouth?

I don't know about you, but after all these decades of being exposed to a never-ending flood of music, in a manner never before experienced by humankind prior to our boomer generation, there always seems to be a song at the tip of my tongue, a virtual mental jukebox that is running pretty much all of my waking hours.

It makes me so happy to have all of this music buzzing around my head. Being a words person, I've always had a love for internalizing the lyrics that catch my ear. As I was telling a friend the other day, some in my community must think me somewhat deranged. I try to walk at least a few miles every day, and as I'm walking, I'm almost always singing. In fact, I've become accustomed to working on learning the words to songs while on my daily treks. I'll use the iPhone to google the lyrics to something for which I have the tune in my head, and then work on memorizing them as I'm heading around and beyond town. Or else, I'll just be

bopping along, not really thinking about it, but streaming a bunch of old favorites, one after another, after another, from brain recesses to oral cavity.

“The sounds just drift across my room  
I wish this feeling I could share”  
-- Justin Hayward, “The Actor”

The good feeling that music makes inside of me is something I began experiencing at a very young age, a combination of growing up with fifties and sixties radio from NYC, and participating in sing-alongs in nursery school and kindergarten. It was such a great experience that I made sure my kids could sing a hundred or more songs, including dozens of Beatles songs, long before they could read the lyrics.

This is all to say that I am a big fan of Kevin Henkes’s latest mouse book, in which a girl mouse named Penny arrives home from school with a song in her head.

“‘Listen, Mama,’ said Penny. ‘It’s my very own song.’”

Unfortunately for the budding lyricist, Penny’s baby siblings are asleep at that moment and so Penny has to postpone performing her song until after baby naptime and after dinner. But then, Penny is given the opportunity to perform her song, to teach it to her parents and siblings and, then, to play dress up with her parents in preparation for a group performance in costume.

“Let there be songs to fill the air”  
-- Hunter/Garcia, “Ripple”

PENNY AND HER SONG is, on its face, a simple little story. But if music is a major part of what makes you a happy person, what makes you feel alive – which is what it does for me every day – then you’ll appreciate and want to share this tale about the joy of singing, of filling the air with songs.

Richie Partington, MLIS

Richie's Picks <http://richiespicks.com>

BudNotBuddy@aol.com

Moderator [http://groups.yahoo.com/group/middle\\_...](http://groups.yahoo.com/group/middle_...) <http://slisweb.sjsu.edu/people/facult...>

---