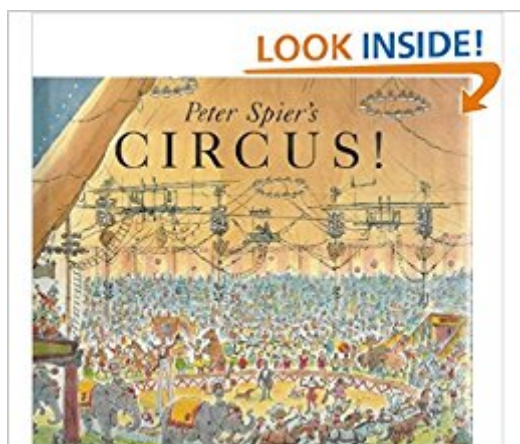


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# Peter Spier's Circus



## Synopsis

Trained elephants, horses, dogs, and seals, as well as jugglers, acrobats, lion tamers, tumblers, and others, perform their daring feats when the circus comes to town.

## Book Information

Age Range: 3 and up

Hardcover: 1 pages

Publisher: Doubleday Books for Young Readers; 1st edition (September 1, 1992)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0385419694

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Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 10.5 x 10.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 26 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,102,893 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #100 in [Books > Arts & Photography > Performing Arts > Theater > Circus](#) #87002 in [Books > Humor & Entertainment](#) #159248 in [Books > Children's Books](#)

## Customer Reviews

Through his trademark, meticulous attention to detail, Caldecott winner Spier ( *Noah's Ark* ) not only spotlights a sensational circus extravaganza, but also examines its many elaborate components--from the various staff members' arrival in town to preparations for the big show itself to the packing up to move on to the tour's next stop. Spier's prose ranges from his terse opening ("Setting up: a crew of 32 men and women. Riggers, mechanics, carpenters, plumbers, and electricians . . . 14 acres of canvas . . . 100 miles of ropes and wires . . . ") to his easygoing, witty description of a bald animal trainer ("Austrian Mr. Bauer takes a bow with his llamas. They have more hair than he does!"). More consistent are his colorfully cluttered portrayals of the circus goings-on--behind the scenes as well as under the big top. This deservedly lauded author puts on a spectacle that is the next best thing to having front-row seats on the center ring. Ages 5-9. Copyright 1992 Reed Business Information, Inc.

PreSchool-Grade 1-- In the spirit of Peter Spier's *Rain* (1982) and Peter Spier's *Christmas* (1983, both Doubleday), this premier illustrator offers a glorious new treat. As the *Circus McNulty* rolls into town, readers see an empty field transformed into a miniature village, with a one-room school

housed in a trailer truck; a vet who checks all the animals before the performance; and an international troupe of trainers, clowns, and acrobats. After the players have been introduced, it's showtime: trick riders; trained seals, bears and lions; plate spinners; and the human cannonball. Even the intermission has its joys. "But all good things must come to an end . . ." As the cars slowly bump their way out, the cleanup crew is hard at work; and six hours later the field is left once again to the rabbits. The focus here is on the pictures, of course, with the breezy text serving more as captions than story. Spier's familiar blues and greens are used to great effect in the moonlit double spreads of the elephants parading to and from the train, and bright splashes of red and yellow in smaller, cartoon pictures that break up the pages. He has a sharp eye for the kind of detail young readers like. Better suited for individual reading than for storytimes, this will be a great addition to the always-sparse selection of circus books, and children will undoubtedly want to pore over it. Buy lots--you'll need them! --Caroline Parr, Central Rappahannock Regional Library, Fredericksburg, VA  
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We took our grandchildren to the circus. I purchased this book as a follow up from the outing. It is perfect to reinforce what we saw at the circus and a nice reminder of the memories we made there. The illustrations were very appealing and I was impressed with the content. I bought six different books and this is by far the best! Very informative! GOOD PURCHASE!

I love the detail in Peter Spier's books. I was surprised to see that this one had words. because my original book by him, Rain, was a wordless picture book. You always discover something new when you take the time to look at the pictures.

All of these purchases met my needs as an art teacher and a grandmother. Most were for my art classes for children 6-12. The most recent horse stories for my granddaughter. She had read Birthday Pony at school and desired her own copy. When I had to find the copy through a bookseller, I saw the same author's book RUNAWAY RADISH, and knew she would enjoy them. Thanks for connecting me with 2 different sellers.

Beautiful book

All in good order.

Peter Spier is at his best in this book. He takes us on a journey of the circus setting that most of us will never see in these newer generations. I really enjoy the style of his few words and sequential drawings that takes us from the beginning to an end.

Great book! Beautiful illustrations!

Another great Peter Spier picture book. Some words, but the focus is the pictures and looking at all the details. Kids love it.

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