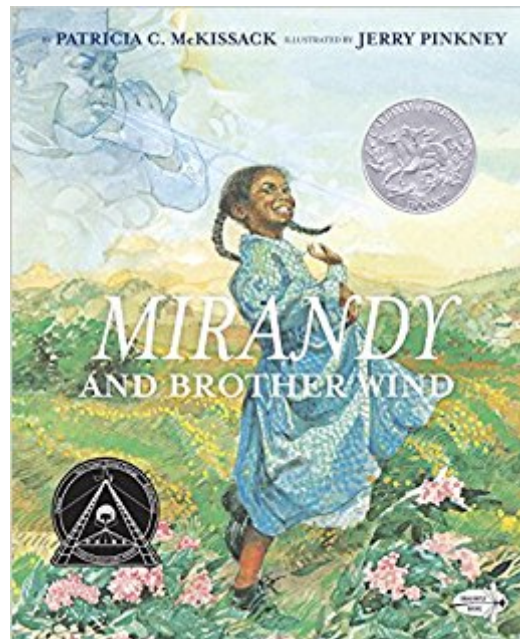




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Mirandy And Brother Wind (Dragonfly Books)



Synopsis

“Each page sparkles with life.” •The New York Times Book Review In this Caldecott Honor and Coretta Scott King Award winning tale, Mirandy is determined to capture the best partner for the junior cakewalk jubilee. And who is the best partner? The wind, of course! Grandmama Beasley says, “Can’t nobody put shackles on Brother Wind, chile. He be special. He be free.” With neighbors up and down Ridgetop suggesting all manner of strategies, and friend Ezel laughing at each foiled one, Mirandy grows ever more determined: she’ll get hold of that Brother Wind yet!

Patricia C. McKissack’s thoroughly engaging tale dances with spirit and rollicking good humor. Complemented by Jerry Pinkney’s rich, eye-catching watercolors of the rural South, here’s one of those rare, rewarding picture books that is sure to be read and enjoyed again and again.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 690L (What’s this?)

Series: Dragonfly Books

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Dragonfly Books; 1st Dragonfly Books Ed edition (January 13, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0679883339

ISBN-13: 978-0679883333

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.1 x 10.9 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 18 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #138,210 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #23 in Books > Children’s Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Multiculturalism #88 in Books > Children’s Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > Country Life #115 in Books > Children’s Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Performing Arts > Dance

Age Range: 3 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

Customer Reviews

As a prefatory note explains, this picture book was inspired by a photo of the author’s grandparents winning a cakewalk—a dance rooted in Afro-American culture—and her grandfather’s boast that, in her

dancing, his wife had captured the wind. In the book, Mirandy determines to catch Brother Wind and have him for her partner in the upcoming junior cakewalk. She tries a number of tactics springing from folk wisdom, and finally succeeds in trapping her prey in the barn. At the contest, Mirandy chooses to dance with her friend Ezelbut, with Brother Wind to do her bidding, the two friends win the cakewalk in style. Told in spirited dialect and rendered in lavish, sweeping watercolors, this provides an intriguing look at a time gone by. As a story, however, it proves somewhat disappointing. After the colorful description of cakewalking in the author's note and the anticipation created through Mirandy's own eagerness, the brief and rather static scenes portraying the dance itself are a letdown. Ages 4-8. Copyright 1988 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

PreSchool-Grade 3 Sultry watercolor washes in a realistic flowing style spread luxuriously and consistently over every two pages in this story set in the rural south. Young Mirandy wants to win her town's cakewalk jubilee, a festive dance contest. (According to the "Author's Note," this dance was "first introduced in America by slaves. . .and is rooted in Afro-American culture.") Everyone says that if she captures the Wind he will do her bidding, but nobody seems to know how to capture him. In the end, Mirandy does believe that she has captured Brother Wind, but she also proves that she is a true friend to clumsy Ezel. McKissack's sincere belief in the joy of living is delightfully translated into this story which concludes, "When Grandmama Beasley had seen Mirandy and Ezel turning and spinning, moving like shadows in the flickering candlelight, she'd thrown back her head, laughed, and said, 'Them chullin' is dancing with the Wind!' " A captivating story, with a winning heroine, told in black dialect. Gratia Banta, Germantown Public Library, Ohio Copyright 1989 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

What can I say about Patricia McKissack--her stories flow like a poem that makes your heart sing. And Jerry Pinkney is one of the 'ol illustration masters. What's not to love? In my early days as an illustrator, I used this book as a bible on how to do everything right.

Beautifully illustrated! Well-written! Balkc protagonist

Wonderful book. I used for a tea and book reading event. We went over the history of dance and how it impacts our culture.

I think that the book is very inspirational that is why I chose five stars. I would like to recommend this book to all my friends and family.

Very imaginative and a fun kids read!

fun story

So Mirandy wants to win the "cakewalk", a dancing contest. She knows that if she captures Mister Wind she can get him to grant a wish, and that's just what she sets out to do - wish him into dancing with her. There's a very satisfying conclusion here, nothing much to say.

I love this story and was excited to get a better copy of the book. It arrived promptly and as was the quality advertised.

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