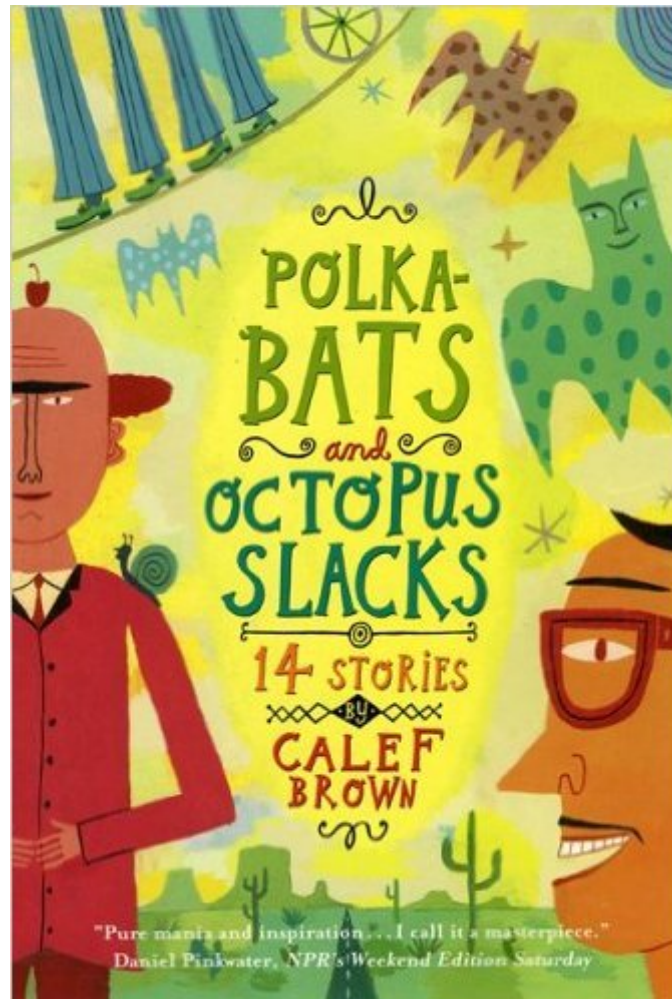


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# Polkabats And Octopus Slacks: 14 Stories



## Synopsis

Georgie Spider catches flies but never eats the little guys. Instead he cooks them up in pies. He doesn't use the legs or eyes or any artificial dyes . . . Not far from a greenish town, the Bathtub Driver is selling cut-rate imported shampoo. Georgie Spider serves up award-winning pies, while overhead on Highwire 66 there's a small problem causing an acrobat traffic jam. Ed's funny smell, Eliza's special jacket - they're all part of the picture in Polkabats and Octopus Slacks, fourteen stories about pesky snails, sleeping fruit, and one funky snowman. In the tradition of Edward Lear, Calef Brown has fashioned fourteen nonsense poems so zany that both young and old will be unable to suppress their laughter. Brown's invented words and sounds and their visual counterparts create both an audible and a visual feast. This is the kind of silliness children relish.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 700 (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers (April 4, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0618111298

ISBN-13: 978-0618111299

Product Dimensions: 7 x 0.1 x 10 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (65 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #78,604 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #44 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Humorous](#) #169 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Short Story Collections](#) #1344 in [Books > Children's Books > Fairy Tales, Folk Tales & Myths](#)

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

I heard Daniel Pinkwater and Scott Simon review this book and read it together on NPR years ago and I simply had to have it. I have subsequently bought all of Mr. Brown's other books. Delightful and entertaining. My 3 year old loves them all.

Anytime I look for a new book for my daughter, I always try to find something that I'll like too--because if she likes it, you know I'll be reading it to her several hundred times! Thankfully,

"Polkabats and Octopus Slacks" is one of those books. I don't know what I like more...the folk-art illustrations or the silly poems. Calef Brown captures the whimsy of Shel Silverstein's "Where the Sidewalk Ends," with poems that are easy to memorize and fun to recite. This book became a bedtime favorite at our house in record time!

I am a third year college student and recently celebrated my 19th birthday. When my good friend handed me my gift and I tore apart the colorful wrapping paper to find an even more colorful children's book, I was surprised to say the least. A children's book called Polkabats and Octopus Slacks is not your typical birthday present for a 19 year old. However, I'd have to say it is the best gift I've received, possibly for any of my birthdays. It has offered endless enjoyment... a silly stress-reliever for myself as well as a great entertainment device for visitors. The vibrantly colored illustrations are unique and each time you look through the book, you find more and more interesting details about each illustration. My favorite poems are Kansas City Octopus, Ed, Funky Snowman, and Polkabats. This will certainly remain on my list of all-time favorite books, and will be passed down to my children and theirs. Silly children's books... one of life's most simple, wonderful pleasures.

This book is f-u-n-k-y. It is great for kids of all ages. My first and second grade students beg me to read it. They call out requests for their favorites. They beg me to read just one more even though they know all of the words. The best thing is that my struggling readers are able to pick up the book and read it. This is the best kids poetry of all time.

I read this book with great delight at a friend's house and ordered 5 the next day. One for my son who at the age of 3 understands that silly is a good thing ... and the rest for baby gifts. Any baby raised on PolkaBats and Octopus Slacks is sure to be well-adjusted and have a great sense of humor. It's a real pleasure to the eyes, ears and soul! "Kick it funky snowguys and gals!"

Whenever I pick up this book to read to my 3-year-old, she makes me read the whole thing (14 stories). It's a good thing they're so much fun. My older child likes them too.

This was a gift for my six year old nephews. They loved the silly rhymes and illustrations. It was a big hit, and I would recommend this book to anyone with children. It's so important to read to your kids and instill a love of reading from early on.

I loved this book. I got it because it was by a sometime collaborator with author Daniel Pinkwater, and it did not disappoint. As stories, they are quite short, but lovely in poetry form. The illustrations are cool looking. I used these as bedtime stories for my daughter and she loved them as much as I did, often asking me to read it again. It's a short book, but well worth it. The characters are original and the situations unique. This is one of the least cliché books I've read. It's a bit eccentric, but all the better for it. I will definitely get more books by Calef Brown. These are keepers that will survive long after my kids grow up. This is the kind of stuff you want to read more than once.

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