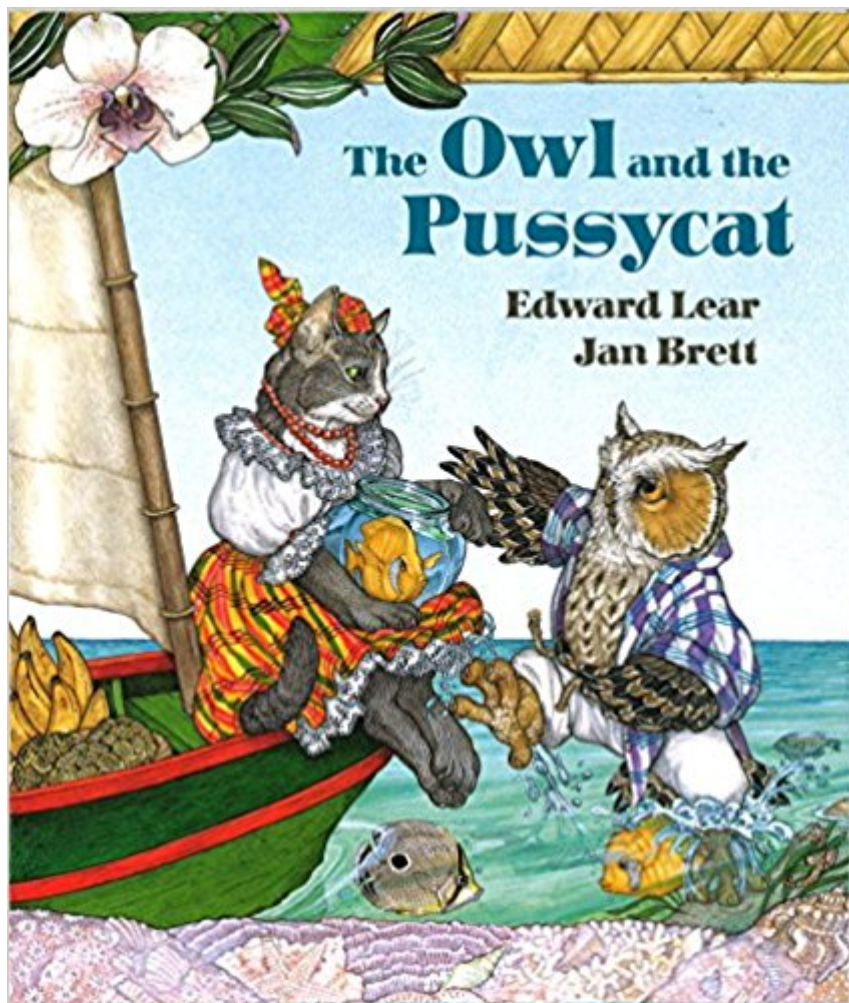


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# The Owl And The Pussycat



## Synopsis

Owl sets out to woo Pussycat in a boat laden with fruit from their Caribbean island and with a guitar at his side, ready for serenading. As they sail off across the sea, another story unfolds in the water beneath the boat. One by one, exotic sea creatures swim into the picture and a small yellow fish seems to be looking for someone. Jan Brett brings the magic of the Caribbean to her exquisitely detailed illustrations of Edward Lear's charming poem. From the Board edition.

## Book Information

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Lexile Measure: 380 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: G.P. Putnam's Sons Books for Young Readers; 1st edition (March 14, 1991)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0399219250

ISBN-13: 978-0399219252

Product Dimensions: 8.9 x 0.4 x 10.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 196 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #119,725 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #49 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Humorous](#) #231 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Ancient, Classical & Medieval](#) #352 in [Books > Literature & Fiction > Poetry > Regional & Cultural > European](#)

## Customer Reviews

Edward Lear's nonsense poem about two unlikely sweethearts--an elegant owl and a beautiful cat--has found a perfect match in artist Jan Brett. She traveled to the Caribbean (the land where the Bong-tree grows, perhaps?) to research her illustrations as well as the settings, costume details, plants, and fish native to the area. Readers can follow an illustrated subplot of two yellow fish who also fall in love under the pea-green boat. A charming treatment of a classic children's poem. (Ages 3 to 7)

Following her recent paeans to winter ( [The Mitten](#) ; [The Wild Christmas Reindeer](#) ), Brett irradiates her interpretation of the classic Lear nonsense verse with hues of tropical intensity. As the Owl and the Pussycat, both attired in madras plaids, set out from a Caribbean locale on their romantic

voyage, Brett launches a series of lush seascapes, the colors for which might well have been inspired by exotic jungle birds. The artist's celebrated borders are almost fully integrated into the illustrations--there are no vertical borders, and each spread is divided into horizontal zones. The thin uppermost layer evokes Caribbean basketry or similar elements that impart an architectural weight, as if the story were being viewed from a window; the bottom zone reveals the action below sea-level, where a golden fish, emulating the Owl, wordlessly seeks its true love. Brett's customary attention to detail results in an extravagantly gorgeous book. Ages 4-8. Copyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Gorgeously illustrated by Anne Mortimer, this version brings to life the sweetest, loveliest Owl and Pussycat imaginable. The details of fur and feathers make these elegantly rendered animals look so soft you can almost touch them. I hesitated to buy the book after reading a review complaining the poem was incomplete. I don't know what they mean--it had the whole poem I'm familiar with, ending, "And hand and hand, on the edge of the sand, They danced by the light of the moon, The moon, They danced by the light of the moon." I bought this for my 4-year old niece but because it is SO beautiful I am buying another copy to keep for myself. Maybe two. Its magical.

Great classic rhyming story paired with a gifted illustrator and in board book format.....what more could you want for a little kids bedtime story.

The perfect gift for first time parents. We added a short story about how both of us learned this rhyme as toddlers

Childhood favorite. Well constructed.

Came in good time and as described.

With apologies to Jan Brett fans, I have never found her stories to be particularly compelling, but her illustrations are delightful. So, this is a perfect pairing of Edward Lear's classic poem and Jan Brett's beautiful illustrations. Brett uses the text as an excuse to draw exquisite examples of tropical flowers, seashells, and sea life. Edward Lear's poem stands the test of time and is as whimsical, lyrical, and silly as ever. I have read this book to hundreds of first graders over the past two decades and it never fails to delight.

I'm not a mother yet, but I started a wish list for all the books I want for our kids one day. Then I realized, 'Hey, I can start buying these whenever I want,' and I really wanted this one in particular because I had it as a little girl and the illustrations were always mesmerizing to me. The happy, vibrant colors and the way you can see everything under the sea really blew my little mind. After receiving the book last week, just as I expected, Jan Brett's beautiful imagery was no less amazing than I remembered. My brother came to visit the other day and I showed this to him and he had the same nostalgic reaction. My point is, if you want a book with illustrations that will really fascinate your kids and stick with them, I can tell you from first-hand experience that they will love this one. Also, it's one of my favorite poems, being that I love cats and owls, and it reminds my husband and I of ourselves :)

I loved this book as a child and now my son is enjoying it. Simple to read for beginners, especially given the short rhymes.

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