

# Listen, Buddy

By Helen Lester



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A hilarious romp about a bunny who just can't seem to listen. He is constantly confusing instructions. For example, when his parents ask for a slice of bread, he saws off a piece of his bed. But everything changes when he takes a wrong turn and meets up with Scruffy Varmint.



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# Listen, Buddy By Helen Lester Bibliography

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#### **Editorial Review**

#### From Publishers Weekly

His ears are enormous, but listening is not the forte of a bunny named Buddy. And his misinterpretations of his parents's requests make for the sort of silly confusion that youngsters love: when his father asks for a pen, Buddy drags in a disgruntled hen; instead of the slice of bread his mother wants, Buddy turns up with the sawed-off headboard from a bed. Taking his first solo "long hop," Buddy forgets whether he is supposed to take a left or a right when the road forks. He selects the wrong route, of course, and ends up at the cave of the Scruffy Varmint, where he unleashes merry mayhem in trying to help that cranky creature cook soup. After the varmint decides that he'd rather eat stew made from "the Bunnyrabbit who never listens," Buddy hears him loud and clear. If lacking the all-out pizazz of Lester and Munsinger's Tacky the Penguin, this sprightly paced tale amiably nudges kids whose direction-following skills need some honing. Munsinger's watercolors-and Buddy's comical expressions in particular-are characteristically entertaining. Ages 4-8. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.

# From School Library Journal

PreSchool-K?There is a lovely, subtle message here for young children. Buddy is a rabbit whose father has a big nose?he is a great sniffer; whose mother has beautiful teeth?she is a great chomper. Buddy has beautiful, big lop-ears, but he mishears everything his parents say to him, including their directions for his first long hop?solo. Instead of the path to the left and the pond, he takes the path to the right straight to the cave of Scruffy Varmint. In a chuckle-inducing episode, Scruffy directs Buddy to gather ingredients to make soup and the young rabbit's faulty hearing serves him well, although he barely escapes becoming the main ingredient himself. Safely home, Buddy's listening skills are greatly improved. Expressive drawings convey the perplexity of parents weary of reminding a child to listen and extend the text with humorous asides. Sure to bring laughs at story time.?Virginia Opocensky, formerly at Lincoln City Libraries, NE Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.

### From **Booklist**

Ages 3^-8. Buddy is a daydreaming rabbit who never listens. When his mother asks for a basket of squash, he comes with a basket of wash. When his father asks for a pen, Buddy brings him a hen. One day Buddy meets the Scruffy Varmint monster, who nearly makes him into rabbit soup, but Buddy tricks and blunders his way out of trouble and wakes up to the world around him. Kids will enjoy the slapstick and the word jokes. Munsinger's joyful watercolors extend the farce of the disaster scenarios: in one wonderful scene we see that Buddy has sawed off a piece of bed when he's asked for a slice of bread. Use this with French's retelling of the old English folktale *Lazy Jack*, about a sleepy kid bewildered by adult instructions. *Hazel Rochman* 

# **Users Review**

### From reader reviews:

## Ana Steadman:

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