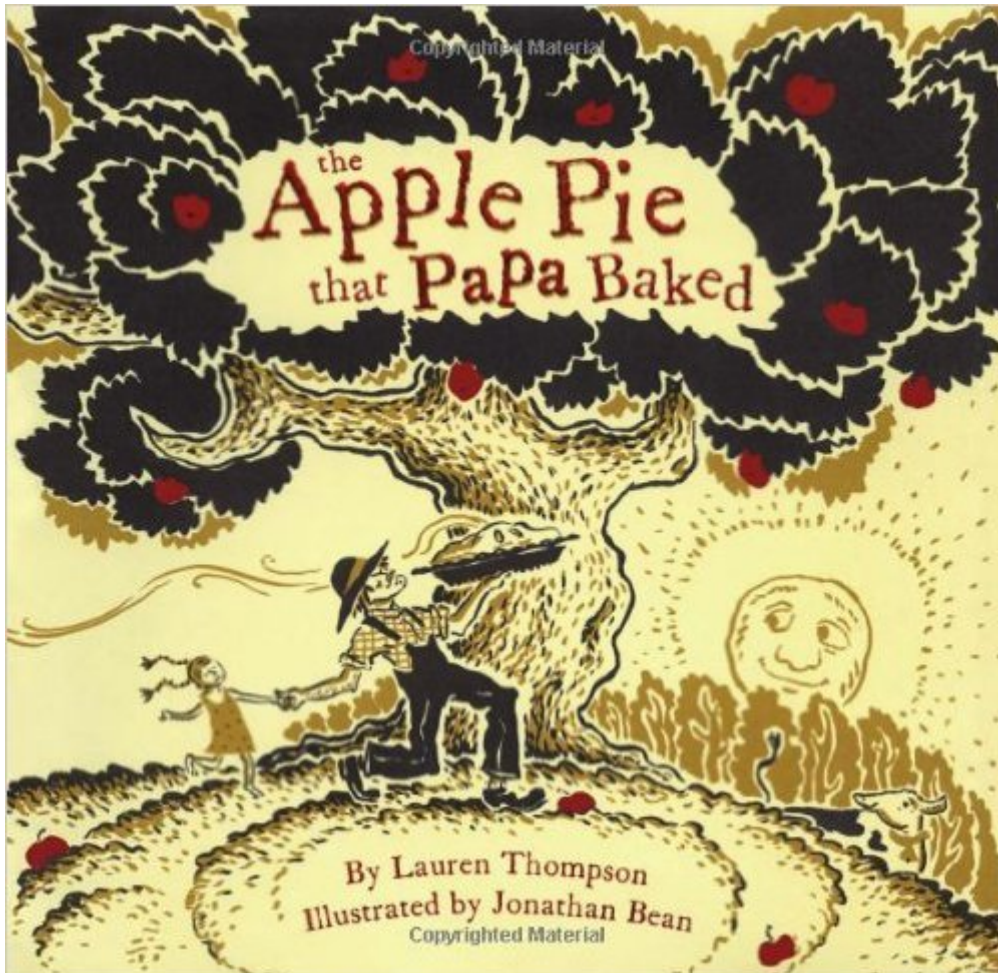


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# The Apple Pie That Papa Baked



## Synopsis

These are the apples, juicy and red, that went in the pie, warm and sweet, that Papa baked... for guess who!

## Book Information

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers; English Language edition (July 24, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1416912401

ISBN-13: 978-1416912408

Product Dimensions: 10 x 0.4 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.4 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (14 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #18,178 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #64 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Farm Animals](#) #122 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Parents](#) #1189 in [Books > Children's Books > Humor](#)

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

There's a difference between self-centered nostalgia and respectful inspiration, but the line between the two is difficult to walk. Every season there's a handful of books that try to reference the authors and illustrators of the past with mixed results. If it goes wrong then the book ends up feeling like a pale knock-off of the classics we already know and love. If the book goes well then you know that the author/illustrator knew how to separate their inspiration from their own creativity. There's a reason I didn't review Lauren Thompson and Jonathan Bean's "The Apple Pie that Papa Baked" right off the bat. I think I may have been a little afraid to pick up the story. It looked so pretty that I was afraid that picking it up and reading it would lead to sorrow, tears, and rending of garments (not necessarily in that order). You can imagine my surprise and delight then when I finally worked up the nerve to skim the pages, only to find the book readable and a true stunner from beginning to end. Inspiration meets true original quality in this inspired cumulative tale. The kind of book simply designed to be treasured. Told in a cumulative format, a small girl discusses the various steps taken by her father to produce a pie. The first line is "This is the pie, warm and sweet, that Papa baked." The second line, "These are the apples, juicy and red, that went in the pie, warm and sweet, that

Papa baked." And so on. As the story encompasses the tree that grew the apples, the roots that fed the tree, the rain that watered the roots, etc. we watch father and daughter pick the apples, make the pie, and attract the attention of most of the denizens on the farm.

The Apple Pie That Papa Baked is a cumulative tale. Each segment of the story progressively builds on itself, and repetition is used in a lyrical way. For the most well-known example of this type of storytelling, see *The House That Jack Built*. I knew author Lauren Thompson (*Little Quack*), but did not know illustrator Jonathan Bean (*Emmy and the Incredible Shrinking Rat*, *Mokie and Bik*). I do now. Bean's ink overlays are at once nostalgic and fresh, with inspiration from the likes of Wanda Gag and Robert McCloskey. So what's the problem? Well, mainly, I dislike the line, "that Papa baked". While only three words, those three words are the most important words in the entire book; indeed, as the refrain, they repeat ten times. Is this simply a matter of syllabic preference? I don't think so.

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The Four & Twenty Blackbirds Pie Book: Uncommon Recipes from the Celebrated Brooklyn Pie Shop  
Pie: 300 Tried-and-True Recipes for Delicious Homemade Pie  
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