



Too Many Toys

By David Shannon

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Spencer has too many toys! His father trips over them, his mother falls over them, and the house is overflowing with junk. Now its time to give some of the mountain of goodies away, but Spencer finds it hard. In the end, he fills a box, but decides the one toy he can't part with is the box!

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Too Many Toys By David Shannon Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #46083 in Books
- Brand: The Blue Sky Press
- Published on: 2008-10-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 11.25" h x 9.00" w x .50" l, .94 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 32 pages



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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Starred Review. PreSchool-Grade 2—In many ways Spencer's situation epitomizes every child's fantasy—he has a toy collection that rivals a major toy store in depth and breadth. Simply cataloging the different types takes many engaging pages overflowing with brightly colored playthings. The problem is that the sheer number of toys has created multiple hazards. Tired of dodging disasters and sidestepping landslides, Spencer's mom decides that enough is enough and begins negotiating the downsizing of inventory. Savvy Spencer turns on the big sad eyes in order to protect his favorites. Mom's troubles do not stop there; the toy debate is weighted in the boy's favor by the constant deluge of gifts from friends and family. After sorting through the entire collection, he and his mother come up with a box of items to give away—only to find that the toy he refuses to part with is the box. A master at capturing the workings of a young mind, Shannon combines realistic dialogue with his boisterous illustrations to create another surefire hit. This book provides a pertinent and appealing read.—*Piper Nyman, Brookmeade Elementary School, Nashville, TN*
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From [Booklist](#)

Spencer has too many toys. They spill from closets, cascade down staircases, and generally occupy him and frustrate his parents in equal measure. Finally Spencer's mom has had enough, and after a litigious negotiation, she helps Spencer pack a box of toys to give away. At the last minute, though, Spencer reconsiders the plan in unexpected ways. Shannon's illustrations are cacophonous explosions; even the title page is so chaotic that the text is crowded into the corner. Shannon's fans will recognize elements of his previous characters—Alice the Fairy's expressive aspect; David's corn teeth—in this current cast, portrayed with ebullient vigor. Also effective are the almost surreal backdrops to some of the disagreements. When Spencer is asked to let go of some of his treasures, for example, he resembles a sad-eyed puppy, standing in a gray wasteland, a barren tree in the background. Shannon's story carries an attitude large enough to entertain a big group, while the illustrations are detailed enough to engage even the most inattentive individual when viewed up close. Preschool-Grade 3. --Thom Barthelmess

Review

* "A master at capturing the workings of a young mind, Shannon combines realistic dialogue with his boisterous illustrations to create another surefire hit. This book provides a pertinent and appealing read." – *School Library Journal* (starred review)

"Shannon's sardonic wit will strike a chord with parents and children alike." – *Kirkus Reviews*

Bank Street College of Education Best Children's Books of the Year, 2009

Cybils Awards, 2008 Finalist

E.B. White Read Aloud Award, 2009 Honor Book

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Chris Bynum:

This Too Many Toys book is not really ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you get by reading this book is usually information inside this reserve incredible fresh, you will get

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