



## The Paperboy

By Dav Pilkey

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### The Paperboy By Dav Pilkey

A boy and his dog savour the silence of the early morning as they deliver papers.

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### **The Paperboy By Dav Pilkey Bibliography**

- Sales Rank: #381836 in Books
- Brand: Scholastic
- Published on: 1999-09-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 10.25" h x 8.75" w x .25" l, .30 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 32 pages

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### Editorial Review

#### From Publishers Weekly

Pilkey (When Cats Dream; the Dragon books) is at his best in this highly atmospheric work. Here his trademark color palette glows quietly under the cover of darkness; violet skies and emerald-shadowed fields predominate until the explosion of a fiery dawn. Early one cold morning a boy and his dog rise to deliver newspapers. In almost reverential silence they eat breakfast, prepare the newspapers, then step out into the chill, leaving sleeping parents and sister inside. Pilkey perfectly captures the thrill of being out early, seeing the world so new and having it all to oneself. Something magical is at work on this most ordinary of paper routes, tangible in the controlled hush of the narrative and in the still, moon-lit landscapes. And, at last, as his family awakens to golden sunlight, the paperboy returns to his bed, prepared to enter another familiar Pilkey world: dreamland. Ages 4-10.

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#### From School Library Journal

PreS-2—A lovely, meditative book about a child who rises before the sun, loads up his delivery bag, and sets off on his appointed rounds with his dog by his side. The spare text sets the scene and offers just the right amount of detail. "All the world is asleep except for the paperboy and his dog. And this is the time when they are the happiest." The luminous acrylic and India ink artwork is evocative in its lighting and soft-focus rounded shapes. There is an overall sense of peace and calm and the contentment in a job well done, and the boy and his pup crawl back into his bed, which is still warm. Pilkey (yes, that Pilkey), the creator of the zany "Captain Underpants" and "Ricky Ricotta" books (both Scholastic), has written and illustrated more than 50 books for children. The Paperboy was a Caldecott Honor winner in 1997 and definitely established his painterly chops. Be sure to look for his illustrations in Richard Blanco's poem/picture book *One Today* (Little, Brown, 2015).—Luann Toth, School Library Journal

#### From Booklist

Ages 3^6. In the quiet hour before dawn, a boy and his dog get out of their warm bed, eat their breakfasts, and deliver the newspapers. Riding his bike along the delivery route, the boy thinks about "Big Things. And small things. And sometimes he is thinking about nothing at all." Meanwhile, his dog travels the same route in his own way: "He knows which trees are for sniffing. He knows which birdbaths are for drinking, which squirrels are for chasing, and which cats are for growling at." Happy together before the rest of the world awakes, they finish the job and head back home to bed, where they dream of flying across the night sky. The story tells the details of a paperboy's morning in a matter-of-fact way, and young children will find those details fascinating: the wordless pages that show how the papers arrive at the boy's house; the paperboy snapping the green rubber bands around the rolled newspapers; and the empty red bag flapping behind the boy as he pedals home. The dual story of boy and dog adds dimension throughout and leads to a satisfying conclusion, but just as important is the sense of time passing within the story and the artwork. Using simplified shapes and muted colors shot with light, the acrylic paintings include beautifully composed landscapes and interiors, ending with a Chagall-like dream scene on the last page. An evocative mood piece, this captures the elusive feeling of being outside before dawn. *Carolyn Phelan*

### Users Review

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**Bobbi Wilkinson:**

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