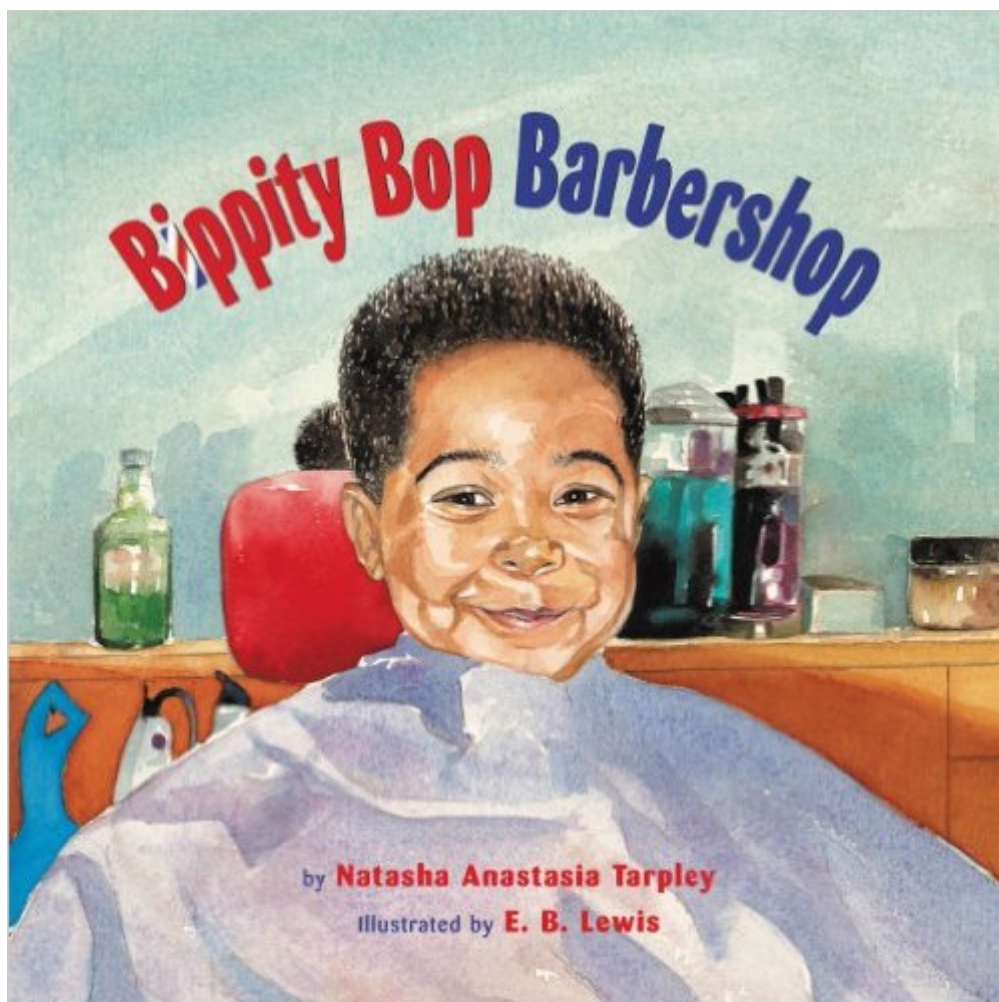


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# Bippity Bop Barbershop



## Synopsis

In this companion book to the bestselling *I Love My Hair*, a young boy, Miles, makes his first trip to the barbershop with his father. Like most little boys, he is afraid of the sharp scissors, the buzzing razor, and the prospect of picking a new hairstyle. But with the support of his dad, the barber, and the other men in the barbershop, Miles bravely sits through his first haircut. Written in a reassuring tone with a jazzy beat and illustrated with graceful, realistic watercolors, this book captures an important rite of passage for boys and celebrates African-American identity.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 550 (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers; Reprint edition (January 1, 2009)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0316033820

ISBN-13: 978-0316033824

Product Dimensions: 10 x 0.1 x 10 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (29 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #18,346 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #54 in [Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Multicultural Stories > African-American](#) #110 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > New Experiences](#) #128 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Parents](#)

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

I saw this book at a pre-school I used to work at and decided I needed to have it in the classroom as well. My boyfriend who is half black and half white looked at this book and said he would have loved this book as a kid to show him his hair was cool and not different like he was told by peers. So its a good book to have in the classroom for the kids who may need the extra boost of confidence.

My brother-in-law is a professional barber and he, like the fictional character in the book, has a three-year-old son. When I saw this one on the shelf, I was automatically drawn to its pages.

Because I was familiar with the author and illustrator, having purchased several years ago their "I

"Love My Hair" for my then-three-year-old niece, I knew that this book had to be one of great quality. I was not disappointed. Like its predecessor, the illustrations are lifelike and the simple story of the preparation and visit to the local barbershop for a boy's FIRST haircut is engaging and realistic. This is a book that I'm sure that my nephew, and all little boys, can pass down to their progeny and future generations to come.

Ms. Tarpley has written a beautiful ode to a father and son tradition - going to the barbershop. She captures the nuance of this treasured neighborhood gathering spot for men. My late father was a barber and I believe my fondness for barbershops stems from that. Thank you for a beautiful book. Mr. Lewis, thanks for the awesome illustrations!

I purchased this for my friend's son because she was struggling to find books with black characters. I bought this book and five others along with James Baldwin's, Fire Next Time and sent them all in a package with a letter for her son to open when he turns 13. Each year, I'll be purchasing a plethora of books with characters that look like him that also teach him his heritage and this book was included in the first package I sent him, which was a huge hit! I'm so excited to find more books like this to send to my friend's precious son! So grateful to have found this!

Natasha Anastasia Tarpley introduces us to Miles as he gets ready for his first hair-cut. As most small children are, he's a bit nervous while at the same time excited as he takes this journey into the world of the "Big Boys." The scene of the barbershop shows that of encouragement and support for little Miles and depicts the relationship between father and son and the way men interact with one another. With the use of watercolors, E. B. Lewis illustrates the characters in a way that brings them to life and complements the story perfectly. They are warm, colorful, and do an excellent job of conveying Tarpley's characters along with the different scenes portrayed in barbershops in the African American community. This story speaks volumes and I highly recommend it. Reviewed by Tee C. Royal  
The RAWSISTAZ Reviewers

Bippity Bop Barbershop is lovely book about a boy's first visit to the barbershop with his dad. The story promotes father/son bonding and the illustrations are great. My son liked the book very much.

The author shares the story of a father and son's visit to the barber shop. The illustrations, for my son, were the highlight of the book --- E.B. Lewis captures the closeness between the boy and his

father and vividly depicts the barber shop activities. As my 4 year old son flipped through the book, he compared his barber shop with the one depicted in the story --- "there's a TV but they don't play games." • Reading the book gave him an opportunity to share his experience with me.

One Saturday morning, little Miles wakes up so excited - today his Daddy is going to take him to get his first haircut at the barbershop! Father and son make the trip to Mr. Seymour's barbershop, who has been Daddy's barber since Daddy was a little boy like Miles. The barbershop is a special place, a refuge for men, who play checkers or watch a basketball game on television as they wait. Miles sees all kinds of men, getting their hair cut in all different ways, but when his turn comes it's very hard to be brave. Fortunately his daddy and the other men of the barbershop are there to show him the way, and to help him through this very special and uniquely African-American rite of passage. In her Author's Note that opens the book, Natasha Tarpley explains some of the singular magic of the barbershop and the rituals surrounding hair. It's a place where she has witnessed a unique sharing between father and son and among other men. Bippity Bop brings that magic alive through the eyes of a child striving to be a big kid and to be just like Daddy. This book is a celebration not only of the bond between fathers and sons, but also of the extraordinary community that is possible between men. The excellent paintings by E.B. Lewis that illustrate the book add a depth to the characters and a charm to the story that will capture anyone's heart.

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