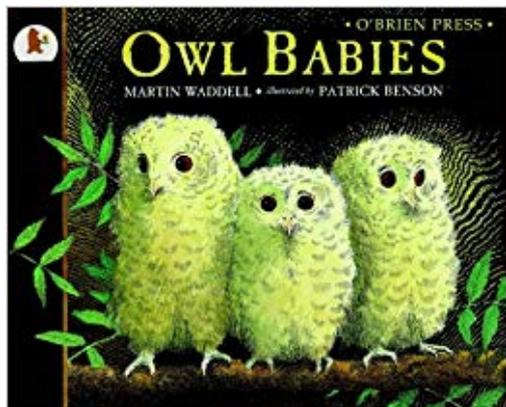


## Owl Babies by Patrick Benson, Martin Waddell



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## Reviews of the Owl Babies by Patrick Benson, Martin Waddell

godlike

I encountered the paperback version in my local bookstore during my lunch hour. My son was not even 1 years old yet, but he cried terribly every morning when I left for work and waited desperately for me when the sun sets and I'm not home yet. It was a time when I was working until 10p.m. to get a project done by a specific due date and he'd refuse to go to bed until Mommy got home. When I read the book, it appealed so much considering what was going on at the time, that even though I thought my baby was a little too young, I bought it anyway.

The paperback is beautiful and large, each individual page truly like artwork that you could frame on the wall! It was a hit with my son from the first day. However, my husband only read it to him when Mommy is not around once. He started crying at "And she came!" because HIS Mommy hadn't come. Before this happened, we weren't sure whether he understood the story!

My son loved the book so much, he often took it and insisted on turning the pages himself. By the time my baby boy turned one, the paperback was looking quite worn. He'd torn the pages a bit, here and there, and we were sad to see the beautiful artwork marred by tape, but that's what books are for, right? To be loved and used.

When he finally pulled the cover off the book, we decided it was time to buy a new copy. When I saw that amazon.com had a boardbook version, I immediately ordered that one, as that would last longer than the paperback with my physically over-affectionate 1.5 year old. The boardbook serves its purpose for my toddler to flip through, but I think I will be buying another paperback version when he gets a little older, because the boardbook is short by 10 pages, dropping many pieces of beautiful illustrations, although the words and the story is fully intact. It is also smaller in size, so some of the detail is lost to the eye.

Now that my son is 2 years old, he has taken to flapping his arms and bouncing up and down with the baby owls when Owl Mother has arrived. I have no doubts that this book will engage my baby boy for a few years more.

Coiriel

My 4 year old recently started having issues with separation anxiety. We've been at the same daycare for 3 years but suddenly she didn't want to leave myself or her dad. I bought this book and a stuffed owl for her to keep with her. She loved this book and was able to understand that no matter what mommy owl comes back to the nest.

Longitude Temporary

I bought this beautifully illustrated board book for my owl-loving son when he was 22-months old. I expected him to love it and was surprised and saddened when it terrified him: "No, no!" was his reaction to the 3 little owls waking in their tree home to find their mommy gone. He could not last three more pages until the mommy returned and all was well. After trying to read it to him 3-4 times and getting the same reeaction each time, I put the book on a shelf and left it.

6 weeks later my (then nearly 24-month old son) pulled the book off the shelf and asked me to read it to him. I read the first page, and then he immediately flipped to the end when the mommy comes home, still unable to wait wade through the pages in between. This went on for 4-5 more readings until one day he let me read the whole book to him. My son just turned two and now he LOVES it and had us read to him repeatedly every day. "Mommy came back!" he exclaims each time. I'm so glad we stuck with this book; it's a sweet story, beautifully illustrated, and helps my son with separations. When I need to leave him he now says "owl mommy came back!" Yes, I tell him, Mommys always come back. He has applied this book to his own life and it gives him comfort.

Wonderful book! If your child is initially scared by it don't be disheartened, stick with it and keep it in a place where your child can bring it to you when they are ready to absorb it.

### Ferne

A special book in a number of ways. My 2 1/2 yr old granddaughter loves it and it held a special attraction for her during a period when she was dealing with a new sibling. I found that interesting because it isn't about having a new sibling, but it does deal with the fears of mama disappearing, which is clearly related. The story involves three baby owls who wake to find mama gone and they try to reassure themselves that she is going to return soon. The youngest is not convinced and keeps repeating: "I want my mama." It is the essential cry of the young child. It deals well with a common fear of young children, it has wonderful repetition, rich language and yet is not heavy on text. It also has wonderful illustrations that really introduce the concept of perspective.

### Flamehammer

The pop-up scenes in this book are darling, but for me the real pull of this particular volume is that it's a chance to get the UK English version of the book in the US. My kids do enjoy the pop-up scenes as well, but be aware when buying that only four of the twelve two-page spreads in this book feature pop-ups. The book is one of my favorite children's stories, and is wonderful for kids who deal with separation anxiety.

### Musical Aura Island

This book is a classic. I read it to my grandchildren and they loved it. I also volunteer at a preschool once a week, and read to the children. They also love it. The story really speaks to the fear children sometimes have when they first start preschool. It shows a loving mother owl returning, with food, for her nervous baby owls. It also shows the interaction between the baby owls. The illustrations are adorable. I highly recommend it.

### Kipabi

I have read this book to years of students and to my own kids. They have all LOVED this book! Sweet story of 3 baby owls missing their momma (even more fun read with tailored voices!). Many generations have enjoyed this book and many more will continue to love it! No doubt about it! Bought this after struggling with my 3 year old's separation anxiety at preschool. Arrived 2 days after ordering (big thumbs up) packed with care. The story? She loves it. Asks to have it read over & over- fast favorite Still struggling with the separation anxiety (week 3 of preschool) Great book though

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