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If You Have the Time, 8-Year-Old Poet Has Rhyme

[By David Steinberg](#)

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"Hey...Hey...Think Out Loud!" by Jared Tinlin, illustrated by Simon Goodway

Kid Adventure Pack Publishing, \$9.25, unpaginated

Age is apparently no bar to authorship. Just ask Jared Tinlin, age 8, of Albuquerque. Jared, the older son of Sandra and Bill Tinlin, has recently written — and published — a simple rhyming book.

The rhymes are on facing pages to the accompanying illustrations, and both words and images are based on a young boy's questions.

For example, the unnamed boy asks "Hey, hey cloud/Why are you so fluffy?/Are you cotton candy?/"No," said the cloud, "I'm just puffy!"

Jared is a second-grader at Zuni Elementary. His mother said his first- and second-grade teachers have been encouraging Jared and the other pupils to keep journals and that Jared's book grew out of her son's journal writing.

"He showed me what he wrote and I said, 'I think this could be a book,' " Sandra Tinlin said.

She said Jared came up with his own ideas for the book. She also thinks Jared's writing derives from his interest in music, in playing instruments and in composing songs.

"When Jared was about 6 and in kindergarten, he ended up liking Johnny Cash. He'd watch a movie and would see the way musicians played on 'I Walked the Line' and a documentary on Johnny Cash," she said.

She also thinks that in part her son's writing derives from his composing his own songs.

Additionally, Bill Tinlin thinks Jared's writing is an inspiration for other kids "to find their own skills, their own talents."

Music is in Jared's blood. His maternal grandfather is famous Albuquerque musician Al Hurricane.

Jared Tinlin reads, signs "Hey...Hey...Think Out Loud!" at 11:30 a.m. Saturday, May 8, at Page One, 11018 Montgomery NE, and 11 a.m. May 15 at Alamosa Books, 8810 Holly NE.