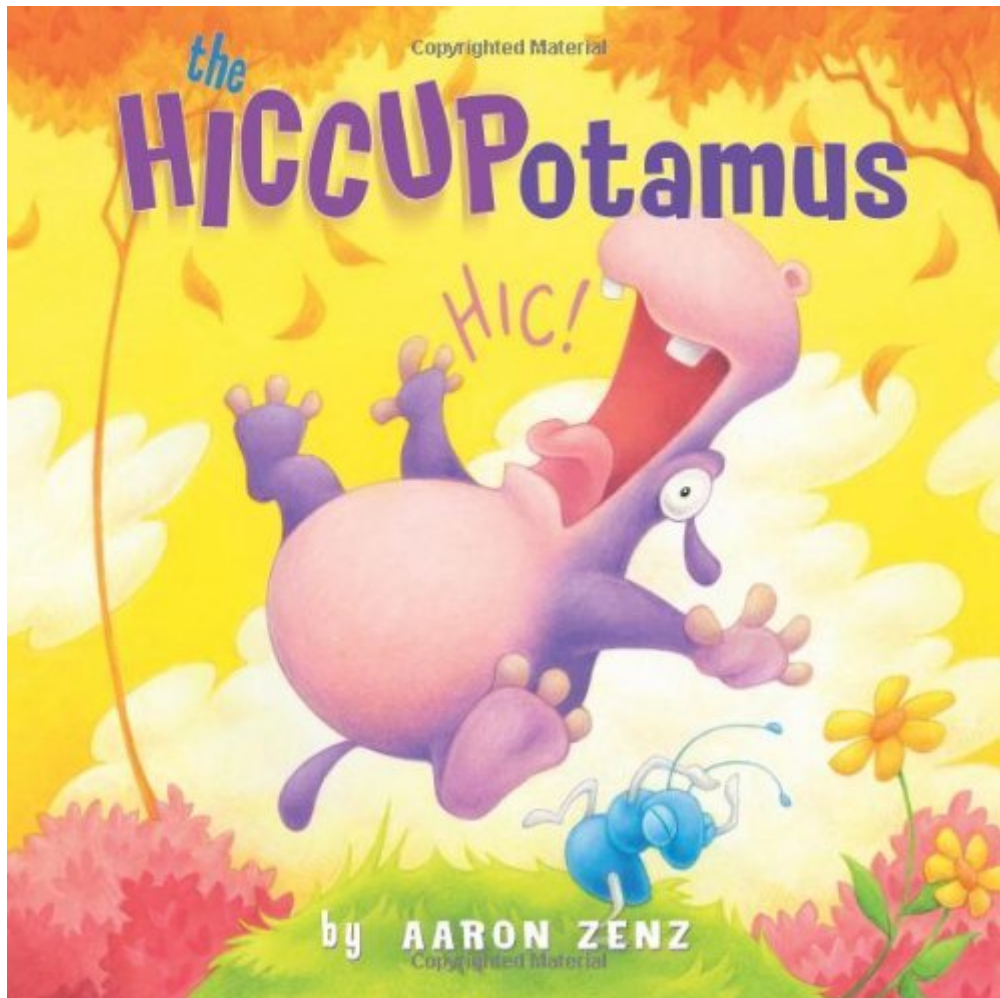


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# The Hiccupotamus



## Synopsis

There was a hippopotamus who hiccupped quite-a-lotamus. And every time he got'emus . . . he'd fall upon his bottomus! Calamity ensues when an elephant, a centipede, and a rhinoceros try finding a cure for hippo's colossal case of hiccups. Zenz's creativity shines through with his use of colored pencil in this off-the-wall read-aloud. HIC! HIC! HIC!

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

There is only one sure-fire way to get rid of the hiccups. You take a glass of water, you put a terry cloth towel over the top, and then you drink the water through the towel as slowly as possible. So it was with some sadness that I saw that "Hiccupotamus" (say THAT five times fast) did not contain that particular cure. Oh, it contained plenty more, often in twisted array of combinations. The product of a small time press (Dogs In Hats Children's Publishing, anyone?), this is one of those rather enjoyable picture books that defy the notion that a publishing house must be grand and grotesque to produce anything good. Colorful, deeply amusing (both visually and in the text), and more fun than it truly deserves to be, "Hiccupotamus" won me over in spite of myself. I don't usually go for picture books of this stripe, but it's hard to resist the sheer charm that makes up this pretty little

book. In rhyming verse we learn of the dire fate of an adorable purple hippopotamus. He got the hiccups, "quite-a-lotamus". At first he doesn't do much about the fact. Unfortunately, that means startling other creatures around and about him. An angry elephant starts chasing him once he disturbs her cake and cupcake dining. She's joined soon thereafter by a "centipede pouring new cementipede" and even by a rhinoceros. "... And that was the last strawcerous". Hiccup cures are employed, but they're doubled up for maximum effectiveness. This means, "They acquired an aquarium / And flashed him something scaryum". In the end, the hiccups are gone but seemingly have transferred to the elephant, centipede, and rhino instead. The last image we have in the book is of a revenge-minded hippo with a book entitled, "FIX HICS" clutched tightly in his hot little hands.

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