
Reviewer: Reynolds, Kate  
Reading Level: Preschool, Primary  
Rating: Outstanding  
Genre: Poetry; Picture books;  
Subject: Stories in Rhyme; Books--Reviews;

Kuskin's lilting rhyme quickly draws the reader in to an imaginative romp, asking "If you could be...?" She asks readers what they would be if they were any of a number of descriptors, such as, loud, green, small, bright, or square. The book begs to be shared with a child. An adult reading could pause periodically to allow the child to come up with more ideas of what to be and perhaps even act them out.

The words are sure to spark a child's imagination, and Iwai's bold, detailed acrylic paintings only add to the package. Iwai paints the protagonist as a little boy with glasses, but this book is sure to appeal to girls as well. This book is a must have for a home or classroom library for young children. The story was previously published in 1960 under the title *Square as a House.*