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Dinosaur Thunder by Marion Dane Bauer

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A storm is coming toward Brannon’s house, and Brannon’s brother, Chad, does a dance while Brannon goes to hide from the thunder. All of Brannon’s family members try to help him not be scared of the thunder, but no one is successful until Chad talks about “dinosaur thunder”. Then, because Brannon loves dinosaurs, he can stop being scared of the thunder and can dance with Chad in the living room instead.

The appeal of this book is mostly in the illustrations. Chodos-Irvine uses many materials, such as textured wallpaper, vinyl fabric, and plastic lace to create bright, lively, engaging pictures that demand attention. The images portrayed are probably similar to scenes created in many young minds while trying to understand the phenomenon of thunder. The storyline and the illustrations combine to create a mostly successful attempt at taking the terror out of thunderstorms for little ones who are more likely to understand bowling angels and clomping dinosaurs than split atoms and weather systems.