

**This document is the text and braille description in this book.**

This has been requested by those reading with braille learners in order that they can understand or assist braille reading.

**GIRAFFES CAN'T DANCE Giles Andreae Guy Parker-Rees. (this shows the text in the book)**

*Picture: three monkeys dancing. (this shows the text of the illustration description)*

**Gerald was a tall giraffe Whose neck was long and slim,**

*Picture: Gerald eats leaves from a branch of a tree with the colours of a sunset in the background.*

**But his knees were awfully bandy And his legs were rather thin.**

*Picture: his legs are spread wide to keep his balance.*

**He was very good at standing still And munching shoots off trees**

*Picture: Gerald strips leaves from a branch with his mouth, and a little butterfly sits on a leaf above him.*

**But when he tried to run around He buckled at the knees.**

*Picture: he falls onto his knees of his front legs and his back legs fly up behind him.*

**Now every year in Africa They hold the Jungle Dance**

*Picture: tigers, monkeys and hyena dancing under a "Jungle Dance" sign.*

**Where every single animal Turns up to skip and prance.**

*Picture: a bunch of lizards skipping and prancing.*

**And this year when the day arrived Poor Gerald felt so sad,**

*Picture: Gerald looking at the dancing animals with a sad look on his face.*

*Because when it came to dancing He was really very bad*

*Picture: Gerald falling over in a cloud of dust.*

**The warthogs started waltzing**

*Picture: two warthogs doing the waltz together.*

**And the rhinos rock 'n' rolled**

*This shows two dancing Rhinos holding each other and doing a high kick together with one leg.*

**The lions danced a tango Which was elegant and bold.**

*Picture: a lion and a lioness doing the tango with a rose in the lionesses mouth.*

**The chimps all did a cha-cha With a very latin feel,**

*Picture: monkeys dancing latin in pairs.*

**And eight baboons then teamed up For a splendid Scottish reel.**

*Picture: baboons dancing the Scottish reel in pairs*

**Gerald swallowed bravely As he walked towards the floor,**

*Picture: Gerald on the dance floor looking nervously and laughing animals at the camp fire.*

**But the lions saw him coming And they soon began to roar.**

*The lion and lioness are laying on the floor and a hedgehog pointing and laughing at Gerald*

**“Hey, look at clumsy Gerald,”The animals all laughed,**

*Picture: an elephant, a gazelle, a zebra and monkeys pointing and laughing at Gerald.*

**“Giraffes can’t dance, you silly fool, Oh Gerald, don’t be daft!”**

*Picture: two monkeys in a tree with flowers hung around it pointing and laughing at Gerald.*

**Gerald simply froze up, He was rooted to the spot.**

*Picture: Gerald’s frozen, worried look on his face.*

**“They’re right,” he thought, “I’m useless, Oh, I feel like such a clot.”**

*Picture: Gerald’s very upset and worried look.*

**So he crept off from the dancefloor And he started walking home,**

*Picture: Gerald walking away from the dance with his head drooped downward and looking very sad.*

**He'd never felt so sad before So sad and so alone.**

*Picture: Gerald looking really upset and left out.*

**Then he found a little clearing And he looked up at the sky,**

*Picture: Gerald looking up at the moon through a clearing in the tree tops.*

**"The moon can be so beautiful," He whispered with a sigh.**

*Picture: the bright moon at night time surrounded by glistening stars*

**"Excuse me!" coughed a cricket Who'd seen Gerald earlier on,**

*Picture: a green cricket on a purple leaf looking at Gerald and talking to him.*

**"But sometimes when you're different You just need a different song."**

*Picture: the cricket holding a bag which has the end of a violin sticking out.*

**"Listen to the swaying grass And listen to the trees,**

*Picture: the wind rustling trees and branches.*

**To me the sweetest music Is those branches in the breeze.**

*This picture show the cricket's face talking to Gerald.*

**"So imagine that that lovely moon Is playing just for you,**

*Picture: the cricket on a leaf talking. There is a large white full moon and stars in the background.*

**Everything makes music If you really want it to.”**

*Picture: the cricket talking in Gerald's ear while Gerald with his eyes closed listens to his surroundings.*

**With that, the cricket smiled And picked up his violin.**

*Picture: the cricket playing his violin while sitting on a leaf.*

**Then Gerald felt his body Do the most amazing thing.**

*Picture: Gerald starting to move and sway to the music of the violin.*

**His hooves had started shuffling Making circles on the ground,**

*This picture is a close up of Gerald's hooves moving in circles on the ground.*

**His neck was gently swaying And his tail was swishing round.**

*Picture: Gerald neck and tail swaying with his movement.*

**He threw his arms out sideways And he swung them everywhere,**

*Picture: Gerald spinning on one leg.*

**Then he did a backwards somersault And leapt up in the air.**

*Picture: Gerald upside down performing a backward somersault with the night sky behind him.*

**Gerald felt so wonderful His mouth was open wide,**

*Picture: Gerald amazed and happy with a huge smile.*

**“I am dancing! Yes, I’m dancing! I AM DANCING!” Gerald cried.**

*Picture: Gerald prancing across the jungle floor.*

**Then one by one each animal Who’d been there at the dance**

*Picture: animals showing up to join Gerald and his dance.*

**Arrived while Gerald boogied on And watched him quite entranced.**

*Picture: the animals dancing in line together.*

**They shouted, “It’s a miracle! We must be in a dream,**

*Picture: a baboon in a tree shouting with it’s arms spread out wide.*

**Gerald’s the best dancer That we’ve ever ever seen!”**

*Picture: Gerald performing one of his dance moves to the watching animals.*

**“How is it you can dance like that? Please, Gerald, tell us how.”**

*Picture: Gerald bowing to the animals with flowers being thrown on him.*

**But Gerald simply twizzled round And finished with a bow.**

*In this picture he has bowing gracefully as flowers are thrown to him in appreciation.*

**Then he raised his head and looked up At the moon and stars above.**

*Picture: Gerald pointing his head up to the bright moon with elephant and tiger looking on.*

**“We all can dance,” he said, “When we find music that we love.”**

*Picture: Gerald with a proud and happy grin on his face.*

**THE END**

**Giraffes Can't Dance First published 1999 by Orchard Books Author  
Giles Andreae Text © Purple Enterprises 1999**

**Illustrations © Guy Parker-Rees Giant Print & Braille edition**

**Published in 2014 by Access2Books [www.access2books.org](http://www.access2books.org)**

**ISBN 987-1909225-37-4[**

**Giraffe Can't Dance Giant Print & Braille Edition For the personal  
use of an Authorised Person under the CLA Licence and Copyright  
(Visual Impairment) Act 2002. This book may not be reproduced in  
any form without permission. All rights reserved. Printed in the UK.**