A POEM

MARTIN GARDNER

This is an excerpt from Gardner’s 1969 book *Never Make Fun Of A Turtle, My Son* (Simon and Schuster, illustrated by John Alcorn).

**Barbershop**

When you visit the barber
   And sit in his chair,
Don’t squirm
Like a worm
   While he’s cutting your hair.

Don’t shiver
And quiver
   And bounce up and down.
Don’t shuffle
And snuffle
   And act like a clown.

Each wiggle
Will jiggle
   The blades of the shears.
Clip-clip,
Clip-clip.
Those scissors can slip
And snip
Off a tip
   Of one of your tender pink ears!