

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!