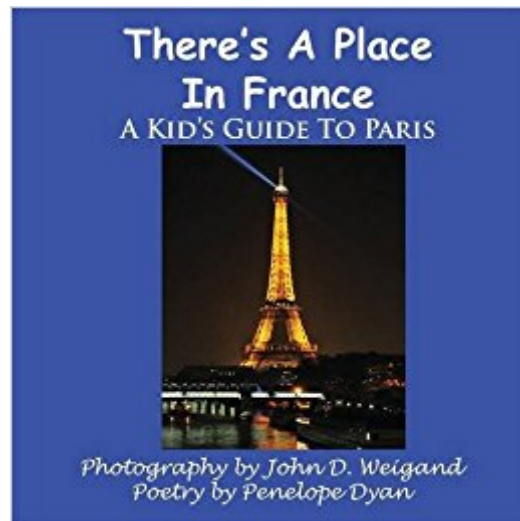


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# There's A Place In France, A Kid's Guide To Paris



## Synopsis

Paris is a fun place for kids if you know where to look. And our photographer and writer certainly do know where to look for things kids will really like to see. After all, it is all in the presentation! So whether you want to travel vicariously through Paris or prepare for a trip, this is the book for you. Enjoy the photographs of John D. Weigand and the poetry of Penelope Dyan and see Paris through their eyes and camera lens. John D. Weigand is an experienced television engineer and an accomplished photographer who has teamed his skills with Penelope Dyan to create several wonderful books, all of which you and your child are certain to enjoy, books meant for kids that look great on your coffee table. Penelope Dyan is a former K-12 teacher, published in 'The Kindergartner, as well as in 'Instructor Magazine and in 'Humpty Dumpty children's magazine. Dyan is the author of 'Surfer Girl. 'Surfer Girl was the winner of best teen book at both the 2008 New York Book Festival and the 2008 Hollywood Book Festival and is recognized by Girls Voices In Literature Database, Miami University, Florida. Dyan and Weigand are also the co-creators of 'The Comeback Kids Book Series and the 'Animal Rescue Series, also published by Bellissima Publishing, LLC. Two of Dyan's books (poetry-stories for children in verse) are on display and are a part of the Saison Poetry Library in London, UK, chosen by the UK Arts Council. Two of her other books are listed on the top ten AU Pukeke reading list. And her book "There's an Alligator In My Closet" is number five on the National Kindercare recommended reading list. There is a music video on YouTube on the Bellissimavideo channel devoted to Paris, and an entire web show for kids that includes an entire travelogue of this city at [www.stop4fun.org](http://www.stop4fun.org) that add to the overall learning experience.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

There's A Place In France [readthatagain.com/by\\_topic/paris\\_01.html](http://readthatagain.com/by_topic/paris_01.html)

We have been to Paris several times and the intent of this book is to touch kids--to show them art in a different perspective, but not in a overwhelming manner. Bellissima is also producing a kid's show and there is a video on YouTube to add to the learning experience. As a former teacher of early learners, I can guarantee this approach of making learning fun works. There is a method to the rhyme and the photographs to allow the kids to guess what is coming next, and to learn to read as familiar early level words are used (from the Dolch reading word list) because as with anything, you learn more by interaction and experience with a thing. This is why teachers recommend this book. Have the early readers follow along with the words, and encourage them to shout out the words they think they know. Older children can write in the margins of the book, and on the blank pages at the end of the book and add photographs and postcards--maybe even make their very own book(s) out of these things from the places they visit or want to visit. You can even get pictures and information off of the internet to use. The possibilities are endless when you are having fun with the learning process. Begin with the simple and then grow.

I bought this book for my son in preparation for our trip to Paris. First of all, it looks like someone made it in their home office. The fonts are very amateurish and the layout looks like something you could do on your home computer. Second, the book has several typos, and changes tenses at random. There are two places where words are repeated - "the the" and "is is". My son was so busy looking for typos he didn't listen to the text, which was actually a good thing because the text is terrible too. The text is supposed to rhyme and it is just awful. Here's a sample,"In Paris you can see the Cathedral Notre Dame,When you get off the boat from the River Seine.That's where Victor Hugo's Hunchback rang the bell,A story that you know so well."This book was a big disappointment.

I was trying to pin down the inspiration - from a stylistic standpoint - for the poetry in this book... and then it hit me: the author is the spiritual successor to William McGonagall, the (in)famous 19th Century British poet. The Wikipedia entry for McGonagall states that he was "deaf to poetic metaphor and unable to scan correctly" ([...]) and it's hard not to feel the same way about the verse in this book, particularly with respect to the second observation regarding scansion. For example, here are a few lines from McGonagall's poem about 'Bonnie Dundee in 1878': -'And for stately buildings there's none can excel The beautiful Albert Institute or the Queen's Hotel, For it is most

handsome to be seen, Where accommodation can be had for Duke, Lord or Queen..."and now, here are a few lines from 'There's a Place in France': -'There is the Arc de Triomphe on Avenue des Champs Elysées If you walk past the shops and go that way There are lots of pastries and things that are sweet And sandwiches and french bread that you can eat' That the writing is intended for kids is no excuse. And I'm afraid that I have to disagree with the previous reviewer: It's impossible to compare the poetry in this book to that of Dr. Seuss; I still enjoy reading his highly inventive and original work (with verse that really, really scans!) to my 4 1/2 year old son; reading this book was excruciating. Sorry. The photos are fine, but needless to say, users, and shoppers in general, are spoiled for choice when it comes to books with terrific photos of Paris.

These kid sized geographically fun fact books by Dyan are absolutely great! Every new addition in this series is absolutely captivating to my kids. The little history facts tucked into the simple poetry keep the reading light yet educational. Several pages even sparked conversations! I don't always see what my children see in their reading materials, but Dyan has seemingly found the magic formula for capturing their attention. There is a Seuss-like quality to the rhyming. And, the photography is not all about perfection... there is a distinctly unique and interesting perspective of each photographed subject matter (and an Eiffel addition to some!) which opens little minds, too. All around, this book is tremendously enjoyable! There's A Place In France, A Kid's Guide To Paris

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