

# BOOKRAPT™

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## ***The Scarecrows' Wedding* – Julia Donaldson MBE, illustrated by Axel Scheffler**

**Publisher: Scholastic New Zealand**

Written by the author of *The Gruffalo* – what higher recommendation can be given? The list of classic picture books by this pairing of author and illustrator is impressive indeed.

As a read-aloud, this hard-covered book should become as much a perennial re-read as their earlier ones. The full colour illustrations are humorous, each one adding to the countryside setting of the story, with cows, tractors and hay bales.

With assured rhyme and rhythm, Julia Donaldson tells of the excitement of two lovely and loving scarecrows who set about planning their wedding:

*Let's have a wedding, the best wedding yet,  
A wedding that no one will ever forget.*

*Betty agreed, so they hugged and they kissed.  
Then Betty said, Harry, dear, let's make a list.*

*Just as you say, answered Harry O'Hay,  
So they wrote down the  
Things they would Need on the Day.*

Unfortunately while Harry is away seeking the last item on their list, Reginald Rake (I'm dashing! I'm daring! I'm cool as can be!) attempts to win the hand of Betty O'Barley.

Things seem to be going wrong for the pair – will true love win through? Can Harry be a hero and save their special day?

**Reviewed by Chris Wright**

**Author's website:**

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