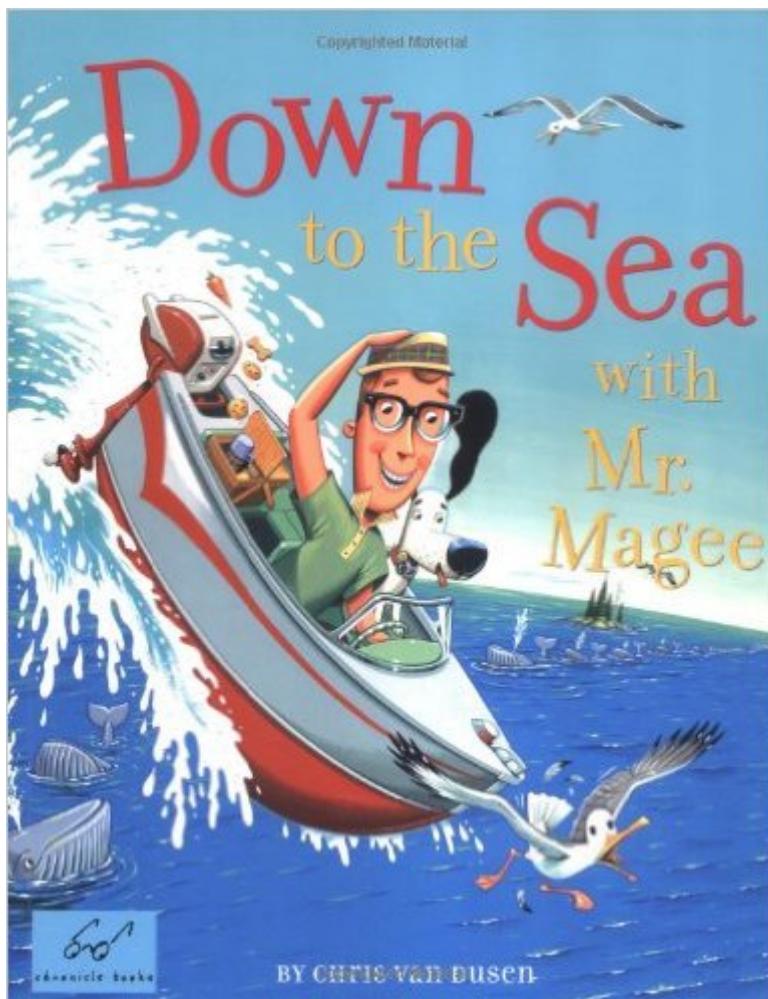


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Down To The Sea With Mr. Magee



Synopsis

With enough lunch for three, Mr. Magee and his dog Dee head out to the sea. But what begins as a fun day in the sun turns a bit bumpy when one playful whale decides to say hello. Soon the crew that once was floating finds themselves flying! How will they get down? Who will come to their rescue? And when will they ever get to eat lunch? *Down to the Sea with Mr. Magee* is a great read-aloud, sure to provide fits of giggles.

Book Information

Paperback: 36 pages

Publisher: Chronicle Books; Reprint edition (March 23, 2006)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0811852253

ISBN-13: 978-0811852258

Product Dimensions: 7.2 x 0.2 x 9.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 5.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (143 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #26,650 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #80 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Animals > Marine Life #1554 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Humor

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 7

Customer Reviews

You'll be amazed at just how vivid and bright van Dusen's pictures look in this unexpected treat. The colors seem to jump off the page. Add that to some super-detailed work (especially his splashes of water), multiple perspectives, and purposeful lack of shading, and you have a kind of magical realism that recalls the best of Pixar animation. Yet van Dusen paradoxically evokes a decidedly 50's retro setting and style in his neon-bright gouache illustrations. This is a fun all-rhyming story that quickly engages the reader. Mr. Magee and his dog Dee decide to go to the sea. Soon, "they suddenly spied off the bow to the eastA big pod of whales (there were fifty at least!)" When a "little whale" (it's huge) playfully blows them 50 feet up in the air with a blast of water, the boat lands on the top of a huge tree. Their surprising rescue takes the book to its happy conclusion. Van Dusen's uniquely bold colors and old-fashioned sensibilities combine wonderfully, and the rhyming story flows smoothly with its entralling pictures and subtle wit. A great book for elementary school age kids (and anyone else, really) to look at and read aloud; I recommend it very highly!

Down to the Sea with Mr. Magee is brilliantly fun. The story brought me back to my days of chanting Dr. Seuss lines, and the expressions--from Magee's surprised face to the squawking seagulls--made me laugh out loud. The retro yellows and rich sea blues make me want to climb into the illustrations, but the real genius of the book is the variety of perspectives. On one page, you're taken under water for a whale's eye view; on another you're high up on top of a spruce tree, looking down on the islands..."Then the whale blew a blast as hard as he could(Much harder in fact, than a little whale should)And that final blast blew the boat up in the skyFirst thirty, then forty, then fifty feet high."I love this beautiful book of adventure, and I'm buying it for every kid I know. Heck, for adults too...and I'll be eagerly watching for Chris Van Dusen's next work of art.

Both of Chris Van Dusen's Mr Magee books are incredible, engrossing, beautifully illustrated (and wacky) tales. No kid I know can put them down. My nephew asked to have it read 10 times a day the first week he got it!The story is about a retro guy and his dog that go out boating for the day and end up stuck in a tree. They are rescued by whales. While full of drama and adventure both stories end in a relaxing shared meal ;)

My wife and I had our 14 month old son, up at LL Bean's flagship store in Freeport, Maine in July, 2003. On our way out, we saw author Chris Van Dusen autographing two of his books - this one, and the one about camping with Mr. Magee. We chose this one because in Maine, we were staying by the sea. Mr. Van Dusen not only signed the book, but also drew a wonderful picture of a whale and gave an inscription wrote an inscreption to our "adventurous boy" Matthew. He posed for pictures and introduced us to his own family (with 2 boys).We read constantly to our kids, (probably having well over 200 books) and this is among his top favorites. He points to the vivid illustrations and loves the little dog Dee. We are sure this is among is favorites because of the great colors and cute pictures. It is among our favorites for the same reason, but also because of all the autographed children's books we have, we know this is a terrific author who takes the time to do more than quickly sign his name. Thanks Chris!

Having read books to my children every night for the past 10 years, I can honestly say that this is one of the few children's books that you really don't mind reading for the 25th time in a row. It's got great rhymes that kids love to repeat (or fill in the endings), and the illustrations are lovably retro, fun, and colorful. A pure delight! I can't wait for the sequel!

I got the paper back version of this book as that would be significantly cheaper than the hard cover version and I was not disappointed. The whole scenario of a goofy little man and his cute dog packing a picnic to the sea for a ride on their boat is such a cozy vision to the mind. The text of the story is not too simple and has a rhyme and rhythm to it and the illustrations are amazingly scenic with a kind of a 3D effect. This book is supposed to be the best in this series. Recommended age 4-8 yrs.

Extraordinary illustrations. The composition, design and color are great. It makes it all exciting and very professional. I'm not a big fan of rhyming books but this was actually very fun to read as an adult. It surely is a great collection to have as a paperback too. The kids had lots of fun, the story incited their imagination and discussion. I love a great children's book with a lot of improbable and surreal adventures.

Chris Van Dusen's books tell excellent stories that keep the kids VERY interested, they use a number of "stretch" vocabulary words, and the artwork is bar none the best I've ever seen in kids books. Highly, highly recommend all of Chris Van Dusen's books. And no I am not related to Chris V.D., nor do I write professional reviews for money/reward, nor do I have any other interest in writing this review other than giving credit where it is due. I simply like to recognize excellence when I see it since we don't see it too often these days. By this book and enjoy it with your kids! :-)

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