



## Maybelle in the Soup

*Katie Speck , Paul Rätz de Tagyos (Illustrator)*

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**Maybelle in the Soup** Katie Speck , Paul Rátz de Tagyos (Illustrator)

Maybelle is a lovely, plump cockroach. She lives in her own cozy little home under the refrigerator of Mr. and Mrs. Peabody. Maybelle knows it's best to stay hidden away, but she simply adores food. Just once she would love to taste something yummy before it hits the floor!

When the Peabodys invite a Very Important Guest for dinner, Maybelle can't resist. She takes a teeny taste—and splashes into the biggest adventure of her life!

## Maybelle in the Soup Details

Date : Published September 4th 2007 by Henry Holt and Co. (BYR)

ISBN : 9780805080926

Author : Katie Speck , Paul Rátz de Tagyos (Illustrator)

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## From Reader Review Maybelle in the Soup for online ebook

### Erin Dobrow says

I loved this story! This is a sweet story about a very likeable cockroach who just wants to experience a morsel from a plate - is this really too much to ask? I read this with my own kids at home and with a third grade home bound student that I am working with. It was suitable for both age groups and all enjoyed the story!

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### Margarite Markley says

Maybelle is a cockroach who dreams of just once getting to eat hot food off a plate. She's tired of following the rules: #1. When it's light, stay out of sight, #2. If you're spied, better hide, and #3. Never meet with human feet. She decides to break the rules, just this once, but learns that breaking the rules can lead to dangerous adventures. Hilarious!

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### Elaine says

Very silly! The author's bio reveals some context.

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### Zainab says

Another chapter book she enjoyed. We read one chapter per day.

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### Bobby Simic says

Summary:

Maybelle's a roach who loves food. Wanting more than the crumbs and spills she's accustomed to, Maybelle aims to taste the soup Mrs. Peabody has prepared for a dinner party. Unfortunately, Maybelle falls into the soup, creating a domino effect of chaos that involves the family cat and her friend Henry the flea.

Strengths:

Cute. Kids might dig the wild events that follow Maybelle's fall into the soup.

Weaknesses: I found it kinda forgettable.

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### Dolly says

We've read both of the books in the Maybelle series by Katie Speck and Paul Rátz de Tagyos. We really liked them, and although we read them out of order, it didn't seem to matter much. The humor is entertaining and the illustrations are cute. I like that they feature "icky bugs" like a cockroach and a flea (and a fly in the

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second book.) I think it helps to show that every creature has a purpose in nature, no matter how gross we may find them to be. I see that the next book, *Maybelle at the Fair*, is scheduled to be published in 2013 and we plan to read it as soon as our local library has it available.

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### **Amanda says**

This is an amusing story about a cockroach, Maybelle, and flea, Henry, who live in the house of a fastidious couple, Mr. and Mrs. Peabody. (Mr. Peabody looks remarkably like Oliver Hardy.) Maybelle is no longer satisfied eating crumbs off the floor, and so sets out to taste some food from a plate, which puts into motion a series of humorous events that include the Peabodys trying to rid their house of bugs, and Maybelle and Henry narrowly escaping.

I will be interested to see what the kids think of this one. I suspect that the kids in second grade and younger will enjoy the humor. It also seems likely that we will see more stories about Maybelle and Henry in the future.

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### **Dawn says**

Maybelle is a cockroach that lives under the refrigerator of Mr. and Mrs. Peabody's home along with her friend Henry the flea. More than anything, Maybelle wants to eat food off of a human's plate instead of always having to eat food that falls on the floor. Maybelle's quest for fresh food gets her and Henry into all sorts of laughable predicaments.

There is one scene in which Maybelle ends up in a guest's soup. The visual image was kind of revolting to me. Actually, the whole idea of a cockroach scheming to eat off a plate is kind of revolting; however, children are sure to enjoy Maybelle even if the adults around them gag.

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### **Louise (A Strong Belief in Wicker) says**

As someone who lived in Sydney for more than 10 years with hundreds if not thousands of cockroaches, a book with a main character of a cockroach is going to have limited appeal. No matter how big the bow they put on her head is. Maybelle wants to taste food before it hits the floor, and causes a whole lot of trouble by breaking the rules about keeping out of sight, and avoiding peoples feet.

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### **Gayle says**

Maybelle yearns for the good life. She wants what she can't have--to enjoy dinner right off the plate instead of eating crumbs off the floor. Maybelle is a cockroach, not the most endearing of protagonists. She knows the rules for staying alive."When its light stay out of sight; if you're spied, better hide, and never meet with human feet." Maybelle tries to remember these rules as she struggles to fulfill her dream of eating a real meal. With the help of Henry, her flea friend, she manages quite an adventure. This transitional reader by Katie Speck is right on in the humor department. From the bug's eye illustrations to the entomophobic

humans Maybelle in the Soup will satisfy young readers.

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### **Becky says**

Maybelle is a cockroach who is tired of eating the crumbs she finds. She dreams of food directly from the plate. With the encouragement of her friend flea, Maybelle sets out to follow her dreams. However, trouble arises because she chooses to eat from the bowl of soup during a dinner party. The owners of the house in which she lives like everything "just so." Imagine the chaos that breaks out when Maybelle is spotted. A delightful transitional chapter book.

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### **Chelsea Couillard-Smith says**

Cute, action-packed easy chapter book. Clever and funny, with a spunky little heroine who is led astray by her temptations. She may be a cockroach, but it's hard not to root for her!

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### **Sharon Lawler says**

With her pink bow and pearl necklace, Maybelle is a very stylish cockroach with a love of fine food, especially chocolate. Along with her friend Henry the flea, Maybelle's adventure carries her from a dinner party to a stay at the luxurious Grand Hotel. The problem is to avoid Ramona the cat, and to try and follow The Rules. No cockroach has had such adventures since Archie, of "Archie and Mehitabel" fame.

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### **Heather says**

A cute quick read for kids just getting into chapter books.

Maybelle is a cockroach who lives in the home of a very particular couple. When Maybelle accidentally makes herself seen during an important dinner party, the Peabody's decide to call the Bug Man. Maybelle hitches a ride to the Grand Hotel in the Peabody's luggage, rather than face the Bug Man, but life at the hotel isn't all rosy.

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### **Miss Gardner says**

I have to admit, I wasn't very excited about reading a book with a cockroach as the main character, but I think you will like this short, funny book! Maybelle is a cockroach who loves food. Even though it would be much safer to stay in her home under the refrigerator until night, Maybelle ventures out in daylight in search of a delicious snack with hilarious consequences.

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