



Maudie and Bear

Jan Ormerod, Freya Blackwood (Illustrator)

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Bear's world revolves around Maudie. Maudie's world also revolves around Maudie.

In this delightful picture book, readers will meet Maudie, a plucky young girl, and her friend Bear, a gentle giant with a heart of gold. Whether they are going on a bike ride, fixing an afternoon snack, or dancing together, Bear's love for Maudie is unwavering and his devotion will win over readers of all ages.

With beautiful prose and irresistible illustrations, Maudie and Bear is a classic in the making.

Maudie and Bear Details

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Author : Jan Ormerod , Freya Blackwood (Illustrator)

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From Reader Review Maudie and Bear for online ebook

Melissa says

Sweetly old-fashioned illustrations but MAN Maudie is a bully. Bear and the Giving Tree should start a support group.

Lusitarius says

Kirjan viidessä sadussa seikkailee pieni, hieman määräilevä Maija ja Karhu. Karhulla riittää kärsivällisyyttä odotella Maijan pakkailut ulkoilureissa varten, löytyy erilaisia lepyttelytapoja ja kokkaustaitoja vaikka muille jakaa. Toivoisin Karhun piipahtavan meillä kahvilla ja kertovan pieniä vinkkejä Maijojen käsittelyyn.

Lynley says

This would be another fantastic choice for a child who loves teddy bears. It is a series of vignettes, reminiscent of Winnie-the-Pooh, except instead of a little boy we have a little girl whose only companion in life seems to be this huge grizzly bear, who sometimes plays the part of playmate, sometimes female caregiver (with an apron), sometimes a grandfatherly role (dancing with her in the moonlight while wearing a bow-tie.)

I love the stories themselves, which make me go, 'Awww'.

Ingrid says

I think I dislike this book more than any other book I have purchased for the library. It is the story of a young girl and her bear friend. There is no explanation of why she is friends with a full-sized live bear--I have no problem with this. Together they undertake minor adventures. In each little vignette, the girl treats the bear with total disrespect. She is bossy, impatient, lazy, demanding, dismissive and ungrateful. The bear is a total doormat.

I think the point of this book was to paint a picture of unconditional love, a common message in children's literature. A wonderful message, but why does the girl need to be a complete brat? In my family, unconditional love is accompanied by calling someone out when needed. I kept waiting for some humorous comeuppance. If the bear had eaten the girl in the end, then I might have enjoyed it.

My one compliment is to the illustrator. It IS a beautifully illustrated book, it just happens to have a terrible message.

Clare Cannon says

The illustrations are lovely, but it isn't pleasant reading about a spoilt child who never learns to apologise.

Cynthia ? ❤️ ❁ says

On our first visit to the library together my daughter and I picked this as one of the first we checked out with our new library card. Let me say I honestly picked this picture book because of the cover and the illustrations. I did not pre-read any of the text. Now, after reading the book let me start with what I liked about the story, I liked the idea of Maudie and the Bear having a close friendship. I also loved the charming illustrations. Unfortunately, I find myself in agreement with what many others have said in their reviews of this book on the GoodReads site...Maudie is not well behaved. In other words, she is not the role model I want for my daughter. Let me add that my daughter is 19 months old, a red-head, and she has a temper if she does not get her way, so a story that has the central character not behaving well just did not work for me. I write this review after having just given my little red-head a timeout for not listening to me. One read was all we gave the book. I was tempted to give Maudie and Bear two stars, but instead gave it three because of the illustrations. I am very glad it was a library book and I can return it. It was among the new books in the children's section of the library and truly grabbed my attention because of the gorgeous cover illustration.

Alyson (Kid Lit Frenzy) says

Beautiful illustrations but I disagree with the message. Basically a child is taught that it is okay to be rude and demanding and take for granted the care and dedication and love of a caregiver. A parent's love (which the Bear is suppose to represent) may be unconditional but that doesn't mean that a child shouldn't be held accountable for inappropriate behavior.

Donalyn says

While a lot of reviewers focus on Maudie's bratty, ungrateful behavior, I prefer to focus on Bear's unconditional love for her. Beautiful illustrations.

Lois says

Other reviewers have criticized this book for its bratty and capricious little girl. She certainly is a handful, and Bear (parent figure) is endlessly patient with her. In my experience children like reading about characters who are naughty so that they can live vicariously without getting into trouble. The illustrations are gorgeous and can be particularly enjoyed by those familiar with Australian architecture and birds.

Kirah Marshall says

1. Maudie, a young, opinionated, demanding girl, has adventures with her friend Bear. They ride bikes, have picnics, dance, and tell stories together. The daily adventures are always Maudie's idea, however, Bear usually does most of the work while Maudie piddles around.
2. This book would be good for grades pre-k -1st.
3. This book would be fun to share during story time. You could ask the students if they thought Maudie was nice to bear or not and discuss what happens in the story.
4. Students who like animal fantasy books would like this story. I think little girls would like this story more than little boys as well.
5. You could have the students identify references to other stories. (EX: Goldie Locks and the Three Bears.)
6. You could read this book aloud to students, but it would have to be read to younger students because I think older students would lose interest.
7. Related books are Goldie Locks and the Three Bears, Clifford, and Arthur.
8. There are youtube videos related to this book.

Barbara says

Maudie is used to having her way, and luckily for her, her companion, Bear, is quite patient and quietly tolerates her detours, her rudeness, and her insecurities in a series of five different adventures. It's a good thing Maudie has Bear since there aren't a lot of individuals who would be content to leave a just-set table filled with all sorts of yummy breakfast items such as fruit and pancakes to take a walk. Even when they settle together in a comfy chair to listen to a story, Maudie becomes annoyed since Bear keeps falling asleep, understandable since Maudie is quite a handful. And yet, throughout the story, it's clear how much Bear loves Maudie. In a similar fashion that occurs to many troublesome youngsters who grow up and look back in astonishment at their own parents' patience with them, I suspect someday she'll realize just how much she's put Bear through. The illustrations, filled with soft, warm colors, are lovely tributes to this relationship that often seems out of balance but, nevertheless, is filled with mutual affection. They remind of illustrations from books published in a bygone era.

Karen says

Maudie is adorable - willful and imaginative and charming. She has a bright personality, and to those reviewers that take that to task....lighten up. My daughter was like this as a kid and she's a creative bright 20-something now with a full-time job and a Hollywood internship and creative friends. There's a place in the world for girls like Maudie who are acting out their imaginative impulses on their own terms. Bear is wise to be patient and kind and play along! I love how this book gets to the core of that relationship. And I love the pictures featuring Maudie's quirky outfits and her range of emotions. Bravo!

Miriam says

Is this a commentary on motherhood, on how mothers slave and sacrifice for their thankless, selfish vampire brats?

Is it a warning about the reality of toxic friendships where one "friend" does nothing but take and the other gives beyond exhaustion?

Is it a blackly humorous observation of the reality that the world favors the cute and disadvantages the ugly, fat, and ungainly?

Is it a parable of the working class and the false consciousness that keeps them subject to the demands of the uncaring elite?

In any case, the first panel of every story tells it all: Bear toiling over the housework while Maudie lounges about with a toy bear tied to a leash.

Arminzerella says

Lovely and appealing watercolor illustrations draw your eye to this book. Unfortunately, Maudie is a whiny, over-indulged, bratty child. The first story isn't so bad - it takes forever for Maudie and Bear to take their bicycle ride because Maudie keeps forgetting, then remembering things that they need to do/bring/wear before they can leave the house. Maudie's messes might have been endearing if she didn't throw tantrums and need So.Much.Special.Treatment. and Understanding. This picture book just seems to encourage children to do whatever they want, because their indulgent parents will be understanding, forgiving, and nurturing no matter what. While that's certainly reassuring for the kids, it's pretty unrealistic for parents, who have got to be rolling their eyes by the end of this. Watch out, Maudie, people are lining up to throttle you, if Bear won't do it! This made me wonder if kids in other countries/cultures are as whiny, spoiled and bratty as Maudie. I don't think it's particularly spirit-crushing to choose not to be your child's doormat.

Dana says

Why is it that some of literature's most serious and honest depictions of intimacy, with all its attendant horrors and joys, are dealt with in children's picture books about bears? I don't know. I fucking do not know. But here's a starter list:

Maudie & Bear (co-dependency)
A Visitor for Bear (fear of rejection)
The Lonely Doll (trust issues, also: spanking)
