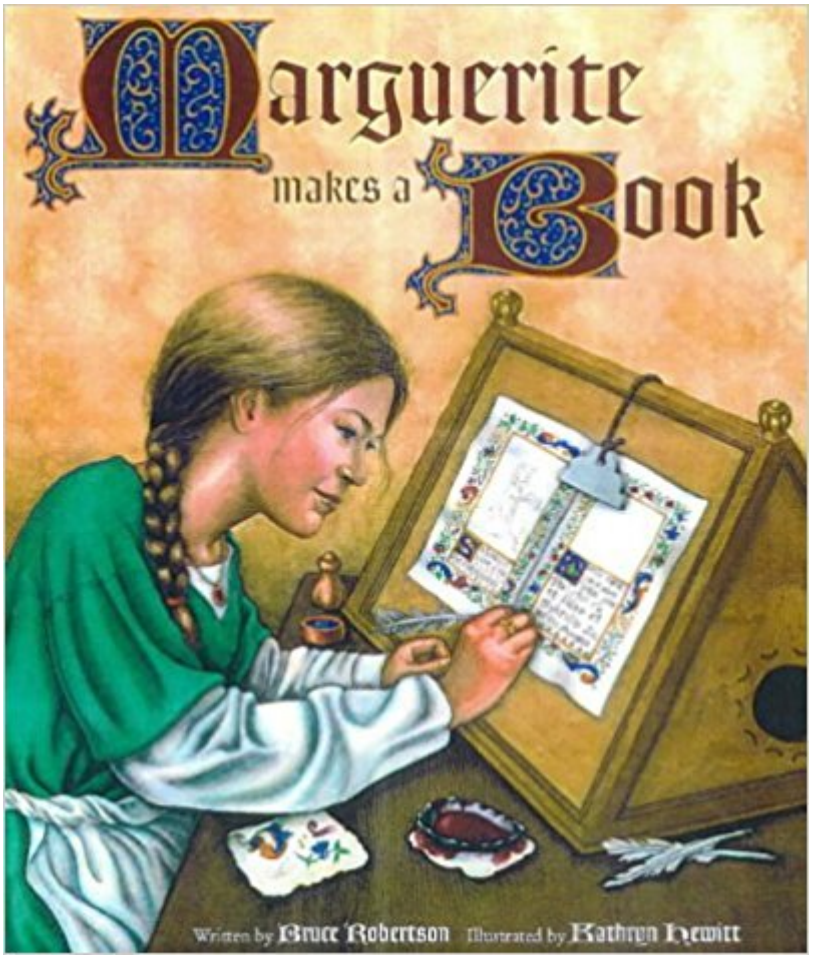
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Marguerite Makes A Book (Getty Trust Publications: J. Paul Getty Museum)



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Synopsis

Paris in the 1400s. A young girl named Marguerite delights in assisting her father, Jacques, in his craft: illuminating manuscripts for the nobility of France. His current commission is a splendid book of hours for his patron, Lady Isabelle, but will he be able to finish it in time for Lady Isabelle's name day? In this richly illustrated tale, Marguerite comes to her father's aid. She journeys all over Paris buying goose feathers for quills, eggs for mixing paints, dried plants and ground minerals for pigments. Then she expertly finishes the illumination of Lady Isabelle's book, to the delight of her father and his patron. This delightful book, brought to life by the finely detailed, evocative art of a renowned children's artists, was inspired by an illuminated manuscript in the collection of the Getty Museum.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 570L (What's this?)
Series: Getty Trust Publications: J. Paul Getty Museum
Hardcover: 44 pages
Publisher: J. Paul Getty Museum; 1 edition (October 28, 1999)
Language: English
ISBN-10: 089236372X
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Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.4 x 11 inches
Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 21 customer reviews
Best Sellers Rank: #129,024 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #48 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Medieval #98 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Europe #476 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Art
Age Range: 8 - 11 years
Grade Level: 3 - 6

Customer Reviews

In his first book for children, art historian Robertson imparts a wealth of information on 15th-century book illumination via a sweet if somewhat hackneyed story. Papa Jacques is the most admired book illustrator in all of Paris, but he is growing old; his shaking hands and poor vision have delayed his work on an important prayer book. And when his glasses break, daughter Marguerite realizes that

she must be the one to complete Papa’s work. Robertson’s descriptions of the materials used in creating an illuminated manuscriptAanimal skins dried for parchment; goose feathers plucked for pens; madder root, parsley, saffron, vermilion and lapis lazuli mixed to make the vivid paints (shown in a four-page gatefold)Aare sandwiched into transparently didactic prose ("Lapis lazuli stone!... To think these came from over mountains and deserts, across rivers..."). Departing from the sly caricatures she created for Lives of the Artists, Lives of the Writers, etc. Hewitt offers realistic watercolors that give a lively sense of the bustling Paris of nearly 600 years ago. Best of all are the illuminated borders she creates for chapter openers, portraying the illustration style described in the text, and the judicious use of gold ink to set off her compositions and her projections of Marguerite’s manuscript. Ages 8-up. (Oct.) Copyright 1999 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Grade 2-5-Careful attention to detail is demonstrated in this artful presentation of the story of a young French girl who carries on her father’s book-painting tradition in 15th-century Paris. Papa Jacques is unable to complete a commissioned prayer book for his patron, Lady Isabelle. In four chapters, readers follow Marguerite as she assembles the needed materials: the parchment made from calfskin, the goose feathers used for pens, the eggs used for mixing paints, and apothecary roots and herbs for paint colors. Marguerite’s ultimate success gains her the gratitude of her proud father and the attention of Lady Isabelle herself. The process of producing the vivid pigment used in manuscripts is described in a four-page center foldout. Brilliant gold highlights, originally produced by the delicate process of gluing gold leaf onto parchment, are reproduced in luminous decorated margins and page frames. Oversized illustrations are richly hued and realistically rendered; page color simulates parchment. This elegant picture book provides a wealth of educational detail and successfully conveys the spirit and beauty of medieval manuscripts. It’s a useful and attractive addition to studies of medieval times and to the art of early manuscripts.Mary Ann Carcich, Suffolk County Community College Library, Riverhead, NY Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

I wish the book had been in better condition but aside from that it is a glorious story and the illustrations are spectacular.

Great story, lovely illustrations. If you are teaching a unit on Medieval or Renaissance history, this is a great book for you!

lovely

Borrowed this from the library and had to have a copy of our own. Beautifully illustrated.

Very beautiful book.

This is such a beautiful book. I used it during our homeschooling in learning about this type of book making.

This book was perfect for the Level 2 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd faith formation room.

I think the best way to review this book is to describe my 4 Ãƒâ Ã Â yr olds response to it. We read it aloud twice and then she was ready to role-play the character in the book who's learning to be an 'illuminator' of manuscripts from her father in the 1400's in Paris, France (my daughter loves role playing).So this morning we dressed in our best approximation of 1400's French medieval dress (think handkerchief on head, wool shawl, cloth nappy tied as apron). We collected parsley from the garden and soot from the chimney to make our paints, just like Marguerite. We also used tea, beetroot and calendula. After preparing with the mortar and pestle these were strained then mixed with beaten egg white.We used scissors to sharpen feathers into quills after a try with a knife wasn't very successful. We used some oyster shells from our shell collection and voila! My daughter was able to role play being an illuminator in medieval France!She spent the rest of the morning `illuminating' with amazing concentration and when it was time to go to an appointment she wanted to `stay in role'. So we did. There was a man paying who was obviously intrigued by our get up - let's face it, I had a handkerchief on my head and was wearing a long green velvet dress! Turns out he spoke French, had been to Paris, and knew some history - spoke to us in French (ouch!) - tres bon!A book that captures our interest and imagination like this is definitely a star in our eyes. I so wish there were more books like this! My daughter says regarding Marguerite: `She did interesting things - like making the paint' and `her clothes were different and olden day'.Highly recommended especially for children interested in art, history, book making, architecture, fashion, social classes, France, technology and especially girls for the strong female lead. Age - very wide - I've found this book listed under `Sophisticated Picture Books 8-12 yrs'- I think our experience show's how much younger ages can find intense interest in this book. I hope you enjoy it as much as we did.If you're really keen, email the publisher like I did to say: WE Loved This Book - Please Do More ! I'm sure Getty Museum would love to hear this from you!

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