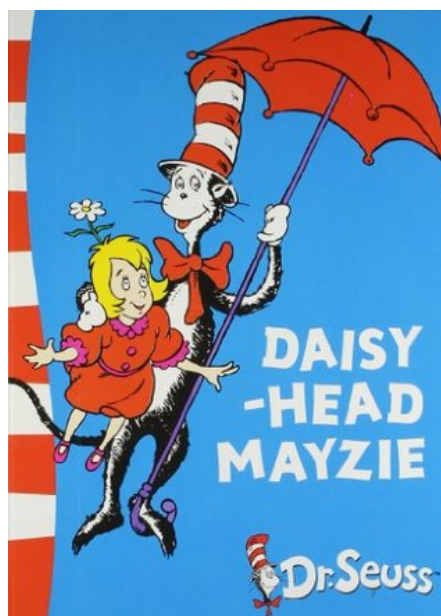




Daisy Head Mayzie

Dr. Seuss

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Dr. Seuss

Daisy Head Mayzie Dr. Seuss

When a daisy suddenly sprouts from the top of Mayzie McGrew's head, she is faced with her classmates' taunts, her parents' dismay, and a publicity agent's greed. How poor Mayzie learns that love is more important than fame and fortune makes an endearing morality tale for our time--and for all ages. Narrated by the Cat in the Hat, *Daisy-Head Mayzie* is vintage Seuss!

Daisy Head Mayzie Details

Date : Published by HARPER COLLINS PUBLISHERS (first published January 1st 1994)

ISBN : 0007433972

Author : Dr. Seuss

Format : Paperback 48 pages

Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Fiction

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From Reader Review Daisy Head Mayzie for online ebook

Patrick says

Years before I had kids, I taught a class on children's literature. In preparation for that class, I went out and bought copies of every Dr. Seuss book ever written.

Since then a decade has passed. I've had kids and read many Seuss books to both of them, many many times.

So imagine my surprise when I was looking through our bookshelves today and there, among all the Seuss, I saw this: A Seuss book I don't remember **ever** reading.

So I pulled it down and started reading it to my youngest boy, Cutie. (Not his real name. He's a little under 2).

The first thing that struck me as odd was the art. It looked similar to Seuss, but it was... flatter. Cleaner. The lines were straight and precise. I shrugged it off, thinking to myself that maybe it was one of his later books, and his style was more polished then. Or maybe he was trying something new....

But as I kept reading, the words weren't right either. Rhyme and meter as flawless as Seuss's are delightfully easy to read, but they are a nightmare to write. I know. And while some pages were fine solid others were just... odd. They had bad lines in the middle of good lines. The number of syllables would change randomly from stanza to stanza. Or things would stop rhyming entirely.

About five or six pages in, I actually closed the book to look at the cover to see if it really said, "By Dr. Seuss" or if I'd been tricked by one of those goddamn abhorrences in book form that pretends to a book by a certain author, but really it's "based on" the the author's work. Or "inspired by" the work. That is bullshit behavior.

But no. It said "By Dr. Seuss" right on the cover.

So I kept reading it. Cutie liked it well enough, but then again, it's not that hard to impress a 20 month old.

It got worse and worse as I continued. And after I finished it, I did a little research and found out that this book was published several years after his death. It was discovered as a draft in 1994. It was doubtless finished by someone else, and the art was done by someone else "based on some of the sketches discovered with his draft."

So, simply said, this is only "By Dr. Seuss" in the very roughest sense.

Here are my problems with the book:

1. The language is bad. The rhyme, meter, and word choice are neither consistent nor good. I could probably go through this book and highlight the parts that Seuss actually wrote.

If this weren't posing as a Seuss book, this would be less of an issue. But Seuss was a master of the language. To present this is as Seuss though.... It's like going into a restaurant and ordering a bowl of soup and getting a bowl of soap instead. Close, but no. It's not really close at all, is it?

2. The art isn't the same. It's similar in style, but really not the same in terms of feel.

3. The message/moral/plot is... strange/confusing/messy/nonexistent.

So is this book painful? Is it like eating broken glass or having a nail driven into your eye? No. Not really. And honestly, if it was just a random kid's book, it would rank a solid 'Meh' from me. Maybe a Meh-minus.

But this isn't being pitched as a random kid's book. It's supposed to be Dr. Seuss. And this isn't. It **very** isn't. And reading it is like picking up your glass expecting a mouthful of orange juice and instead getting milk. Or a bowel of soap. Not what you signed up for **and** startlingly unpleasant.

So yeah. Don't squander your money on nostalgia like this. You're much better off re-reading a different Seuss. Or, if you're looking for something new, then try out a new kid's book by a struggling new author. That way, at least, you have the chance of finding a new favorite. Here all you're going to find is the sad, dim room, empty except for a worn chair where a great man used to sit.

Ahmad Sharabiani says

Daisy-Head Mayzie, Dr. Seuss

The book is about a 12-year-old warmhearted schoolgirl named Mayzie who one day suddenly sprouts a bright white daisy from her head. It causes alarm in her classroom, family, and town, until an agent makes her a celebrity. The Cat in the Hat who serves as the narrator to this story helps Mayzie to understand her problem and persuade her to go back home. The book has a mini-song titled "Daisy-Head Mayzie" which her classmates chant.

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Jennifer says

This book is the 2016 version based on his original sketches. The earlier version used the animated characters from the film. There is interesting back matter that explains the versions and how they both came to be published.

The story is one of the few with a female central character. Daisy-Head Mayzie celebrates the qualities that make each of us unique and special.

Jennifer Mackintosh says

This is the book my son brought home from the library this week and at first I was excited. Dr. Seuss is always good.

Except this time it wasn't. The poetry was badly scanned and the story really wandered.

Enlightenment hit. This book was actually written by someone else after Dr. Seuss died. It's based on a partial manuscript they found in his belongings.

People think it's easy to write a kid's book but it's not. Seuss has been compared to Shakespeare and with good reason. The rhythm and flow of language and sound is flawless and apparently inimitable.

Leave this one on the shelf and find some that the good doctor actually wrote.

Suzanne Moore says

I read this to first graders in honor of Dr. Seuss's birthday. They thought it was definitely strange to have a daisy growing out of the top of your head! Funny, I remember making daisy chain crowns as a girl to put in my hair.

After the teacher, principal, Daisy's parents and practically the whole town try to figure out what to do about it, Daisy becomes sort of famous for having this exceptional feature. It is soon obvious that money can't replace friends, and life at the top is lonely. When Mayzie's daisy begins shedding petals one-by-one she wonders if her friends "love me (her)" or "love me (her) not." Of course they love her! As the last petal falls and she realizes she has returned to normal, she assumes life as a regular girl again. Although every now and then when another daisy sprouts up, Mayzie and the other characters now accept this peculiarly. I think it would be cool to have a flower in your hair ... a very pretty accessory.

Evers?n says

Once again I lied! I have no desire whatsoever to read this book. Why? Because I refuse to aid and abet the efforts of whoever it was that completed this book after Dr. Seuss died. Sorry, I'm sure that the heirs to the Seuss fortune (however great or however small) do not require any further aggrandizement from ghost writers. On top of this, I was fortunate enough to meet Dr. Seuss on the campus of UCSD back in the very early 1980's, and he was a really nice human being. So I would not disrespect his memory by purchasing something that has his name on it but which he did not write in full!

Shelly says

Of course I read this as a teenager, and I'm sure I loved it then, but I just re-read as an adult and it didn't dazzle me or excite me like I expect Dr. Seuss books to do. It was cute, but not cute enough for me. This sounds like a silly complaint, but it had tons of words, lol! Usually Dr. Seuss books are a little long, but each page is kind of short and sweet, kind of a little poem to itself almost. This didn't feel that way to me. The illustrations were good, but I think what I love about Dr. Seuss is the silliness. There are a few silly things, starting with a daisy growing out of the head of Mayzie, but I really like all the weird creatures and inventions of Dr. Seuss, and this didn't have very many. Like I said, it's cute, but not his best, but you still have to read it, it's Dr. Seuss after all!

Tim says

Originally a screenplay, this was republished as yet another charming book by Dr Seuss after his death. Unlike most of his books and similar to his other screen plays, it is about a human being, they're not an ordinary one...

Giselle Avina says

I grew up with this book and it is one of my favorite Dr. Seuss books ever! I love how each of his stories seem to have a profound social issue within them, in this case it was about a girl who forgot about her family and friends through the excitement of fame and fortune because of her strange "daisy head" condition. She eventually realizes that nothing is more valuable than her loved ones at home, and as a result the daisy disappears- only to reappear on occasion. The book's rhymes are entertaining and the iconic Seuss illustrations complete it.

Anna says

An old childhood favorite.

Jack Kirby and the X-man says

Daisy-Head Mayzie was found as a script by Dr. Seuss's family after his death. First it was released as a Hanna-Barbera cartoon. After the cartoon was aired, the original book version was released. I really dislike post humorous released books by famous authors. The author writes 100 words on the back of an envelope, decides that it needs significant work before they would ever put there name to it in public, and move on to create the fantastic books they are famous for. Just read about the thousands or re-writes and years of work it took for Mem Fox to produce the instant classic Where Is the Green Sheep?. Then the author dies. The family, agent, or publisher goes through their things and discovers this rough draft. Now should they respect the memory of the dead author by respecting their decision not to publish this work, or should they cash in? Well in this case they certainly cashed in...

The text of Daisy-Head Mayzie needs significant work. The rough bones of Dr. Seuss's usual rhyme and rhythm is there - but there are numerous occasions where the cadence breaks down and you are left floundering. The plot too needs smoothing over - the point at which Daisy gives up her fame is key - but really doesn't work.

The script the family found had only rough sketches - so someone else has drawn them. That someone else is not credited - which irritates me. The illustrations look typically Hanna Barbera - except for Dr. Seuss's Cat in the Hat who appears exceedingly out of place as the 'narrator'. There is no mention of the Cat in the book, and it seems to be the only purpose of Cat's appearance is to provide some semblance of a connection with Dr. Seuss.

Steph says

What?!?!??

Barbara says

This updated version of the classic Seuss story featured Mayzie McGrew and the flower that blossoms in the most unlikely of all places--the top of her head. Not surprisingly, this occurrence causes quite a reaction among her classmates, her teacher, and the principal. When efforts to get rid of the daisy have a negative effect on the girl, her parents are summoned. Suddenly, everyone is trying to remove that daisy. What can poor Daisy do? Young readers will thoroughly enjoy all the silliness while swallowing a sound message about leaving well enough alone and not picking on someone or her flowers just because she's a little bit different.

Sheila says

This book was published many years after my own personal childhood, so this was another Dr. Suess book I had never read before reading it aloud to my daughter. The story was a bit weird, though the "sacrifice" of the daisy towards the end was a bit sweet I thought. Because love is what it is all about.

Arwen says

A very strange and wonderful tale about a little girl who sprouts a daisy out of her head one morning at school. Not liking any of the options to get rid of the daisy the girl instead allows it to make her famous. In the end though fame leaves her feeling lonely and unloved. "Well, you know, about daisies. When love is in doubt, The job of a daisy is, Try and Find Out!" So the daisy begins dropping its leaves "They love her... They love her NOT! They love her..."
