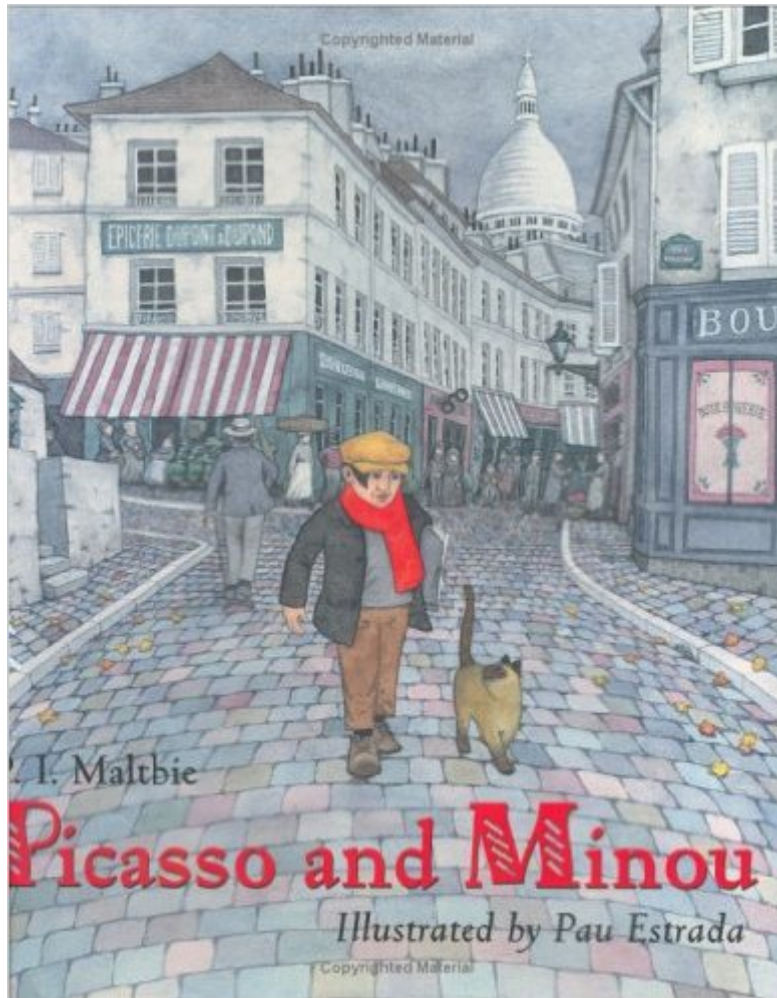


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Picasso And Minou



Synopsis

Distraught over the death of a friend, young Pablo Picasso spends his days creating sad, blue paintings that no one buys. Soon the starving artist is forced to put his cat, Minou, out on the streets. By chance Minou meets a troupe of circus performers who just might have the cure for Pablo's blues.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 710L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Charlesbridge (February 1, 2005)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1570916209

ISBN-13: 978-1570916205

Product Dimensions: 10.5 x 8.3 x 0.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.8 ounces

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (15 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #885,862 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #84 in [Books > Children's Books > Biographies > European](#) #1606 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Pets](#) #1855 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Cats](#)

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

So much to love about this story of friendship in hard times. Unlike many picture books about artists, this is first a very strong story with conflict, resolution, and character development. Animal lovers of all ages will appreciate this story of feline devotion. Though generally age appropriate for the preschool set, there is one page where Picasso turns the cat out of the house because he has no food to share. The illustration makes Picasso look angry at the cat, which upset my high empathy 3 yr old. I now highlight Picassos sadness at having to turn away his friend through inflection. This book is also a great introduction to Picassos blue period and the transition to cubism. Both the style of page (blue tones) and the paintings represented deepen the readers understanding and recognition of Picasso's work. In addition to the dominate theme of helping friends, there is also a nice theme about being both honest AND tactful with our friends. The complex artistic calculation between painting for love vs painting for money receives lots of attention without any definitive

resolution -- which is probably the best that can be done in a picture book. Good for long attention span preschoolers or elementary students interested in art or cat lovers of all ages

Each image in this book is so rich. When I read it to my daughter, I always get sidetracked looking at all the detail and the amazing colors and the way the artist conveys so many different moods. I love the section in the back that talks about the paintings referenced in the book too.

This glorious debut book by a talented children's author is filled with stunning artwork. More than that, the delightful story (based on true events) is masterful and evocative. The story of a special relationship between Picasso and Minou, a street-wise and loving feline, touched and intrigued me as both a cat lover and art lover. BRAVO, and may this book be the first of many successful works!--Amy D. Shojai, author 21 pet care books and a founder of the Cat Writers' Association

Picasso's growth as an artist reaches young readers through his beloved pet. The illustrations are beautiful, playful. The plot: A kind act changes Picasso's perspective; painful adversity is overcome. My child clamored for repeated readings, and was transported by its scenes of a French circus. You'll be proud to have it on your child's shelf; an irresistible intro to fine art.

When the first edition of this remarkable book came out, the Picasso family objected to the illustrator's interpretations of Picasso's work. This resulted in a reworking of the illustrations, with several subtle differences, as outlined below:1. In the first edition, there is a Jester's head to the right of Picasso on the last page; in the second edition, a red rose.2. In the first edition, the copy of Picasso's Old Guitarist is lighter toned than the original, and in the second edition, there are tiny tears at the shoulder and knee.3. In the first edition, on the title page, Minou is curled up on a drawing of two women, while in the second edition, Minou sleeps on a portfolio.4. On the third page, in Picasso's garret, there is a sketch of a man's profile at the top right, and in the second edition, there is a sketch of a windmill. This book is currently out of print. It is anticipated that the first edition, which was limited to 5,000 copies, will increase in value, reflecting its unique illustrations; the second edition is also highly collectible. It would be fun to sit with a child with both editions, and figure out these and other differences. Affordable copies can still be had and treasured!

Picasso and Minou is an amazing book that will capture the imaginations of both children and adults. The book, written by P.I. Maltbie, tells the story of how a poor, young Spanish artist named

Pablo Picasso moved to the art section of Paris, Montmartre. In the beginning, Picasso painted bleak, dreary pictures which came to be known as his Blue Period. He had a resident art critic in his adopted cat, Minou, a stray he rescued off the streets of Paris. Starving Picasso puts out his cat one day and asks it to fend for itself. The loyal cat returns with the gift of a sausage. Later, Picasso begins to paint more cheery pictures, and this period comes to be known as his Rose Period. Eventually, he begins to sell his paintings and the income allows him to experiment with a new style which came to be called Cubism. The illustrations that accompany the story are delightful to behold. Illustrator Pau Estrada has done a commendable job of depicting Picasso's early artistic beginnings, and the palette of color chosen aptly shows the transformation in Picasso's life - from the grey and dark hues of his early, poor beginnings to the more vibrant hues associated with his gradual successes in being recognized as a serious artist. I especially appreciate the lovely reproductions of Picasso's paintings from his Blue and Rose Periods which are artfully weaved into the story. This is a wonderful book to inspire and share with budding young artists.

This is a wonderful story about Pablo Picasso and his cat, Minou, during a time of extreme hardship in Paris. Picasso's personal deprivation is reflected in his "blue period." Minou tries to advise Picasso to paint more uplifting and colorful paintings that people will buy. Picasso pays no attention, his finances worsen, and at last he has to put Minou out on the street, because he can no longer afford to feed the cat. The rest of the story is heart-warming, one that children, parents and teachers will love.

A poor young artist became successful with help from his cat, Minou. Picasso progressed from his Blue Period, which made people sad, to a more cheerful Rose Period and finally, to his Masterpiece Period, Cubism. Both Picasso and Minou had big sharp eyes which made them look like brothers. The author and illustrator both did an excellent jobs. I can't stop smiling. Cat lovers must not miss this one.

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