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Magrit lives in an abandoned cemetery with her friend and advisor, Master Puppet, whom she built from bones and bits of graveyard junk. One night as Magrit and Master Puppet sit atop of their crumbling chapel, a passing stork drops a baby into the graveyard. Defying Master Puppet's demands that the baby be disposed of, and taking no heed of his dire warnings, Magrit decides to raise the baby herself. She gives him a name: Bugrat. Magrit loves Bugrat like a brother. But Master Puppet knows all too well what will happen when Bugrat grows up – that the truth about them all will be revealed.

<http://classroom.walkerbooks.com.au/h...>

Magrit Details

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Author : Lee Battersby , Amy Daoud (illustrator)

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Download and Read Free Online Magrit Lee Battersby , Amy Daoud (illustrator)

From Reader Review Magrit for online ebook

Alana says

Another local author, another stunning piece of work. This book is the author's first childrens/YA book and is a beauty. Moving and powerful, funny and sad. If I had read or been read this as a child it would have stayed with me forever

Adele Broadbent says

Magrit lives in an abandoned cemetery, surrounded by tenement buildings. When a stork flies by and drops a crying bundle into the cemetery, her only friend Master Puppet (who she made herself out of bones and sticks and rags), tells her to leave it alone. But she can't and as soon as she picks it up knows what it is. And she also knows, if she doesn't quieten it, one of the surrounding tenement windows will open and discover her hiding place.

A quick read, but one that holds you until you discover the truth about Magrit, along with her. Her world is the cemetery and as you read, the walls of the buildings and chapel surround you as you join her world. A little creepy, but not too much for young readers, who will enjoy the ending.
Something different.

Lisa Ikin says

I read this book because all the kids in my Year 5 class have read it and they were raving about it. I read it pretty quickly and found it a marvellous read! It was a little spooky and deep but it is the type of book the 10 year old me would have absolutely loved. Reading it as an adult was interesting and I found I was analysing it quite a bit, even coming to the conclusion that Magritte was schizophrenic which made me think that maybe it was a bit too much for children. But as it turns out, that is not the case. I loved the illustrations and highlighted bits of text. A great children's book with a difference.

Aimee says

I received a copy of Magrit to review from Walker Books Australia. This is a junior book but I thought it sounded interesting.

Magrit has been living in the cemetery for years with only Master Puppet for company when the mysterious bundle falls into her world. Then, things start changing. Especially her friendship with Master Puppet.

I thought I had the story figured out early in the book but then some things started to confuse me a little. But it turned out I did have the right idea. The reader learns the truth along with Magrit.

Magrit is presented beautifully. It has cute illustrations through the book. It's a weird and sad story but I

found myself liking it. The book has a little over 150 pages so it didn't take long to read.

It's a little creepy but not too creepy for young readers. It's something different and I think if I'd read this when I was a child I'd have loved it.

Anthony Panegyres says

Rhythmic prose. Refreshing to read a layered, intelligent children's novel.

Alan Baxter says

Macabre and fantastical, just creepy enough but with hope and love to shine through. It's a fable of sorts, and a dream. I can imagine this enchanting younger readers, for whom it's obviously written. Recommended.

Alicia Papp says

A rather strange, beautiful and poignant fable. And a fabulous looking book. A quick, but moving read about friendship, loyalty, growing up and death!

Pocket Full of Pages says

We received a copy of Magrit to review from Walker Books Australia! Thank you very much for sending it our way!

We have to admit we haven't had the chance to read many Children's Middle-Grade books for quite a while! However, Magrit by Lee Battersby really spoke to us as it's such a beautiful novel.

The novel really helped open our eyes to the people and situations around us. As the main character, Magrit slowly opens up about her emptiness and loneliness, the graveyard which she calls home slowly expands, allowing herself to capture her own thoughts and discover the clues to the mystery of which we call life.

Small, lovely illustrations throughout the novel really helped capture the books ideal audience and portray the world in which the characters situate.

Although we were a little confused at the very beginning of the novel, this was easily explained as the novel continued. As we were introduced to Magrit she was slowly opening up and being introduced to herself at the same time. This was special in the way that it was portrayed as the author allowed us to understand the character and the truths of which she was trying to unravel.

This was such a gorgeous novel which explored grief, loneliness, honesty, friendship, and adventure. This novel really captured our hearts and we are quite positive it would capture yours as well! This is the perfect story for all younger readers.

Book Rating: 3/5??

Trisha says

A fable of sorts. Just scary enough.

Tehani says

My review for this book will appear in Books+Publishing, but I can say here HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. It's a superbly written, just-dark-enough, thought-provoking and shivery story, beautifully packaged. You won't regret getting your hands on it, for yourself or the younger reader in your life, when it is released in March.

Bruce Gargoyle says

Ten Second Synopsis:

Magrit has had the run of the forgotten graveyard between apartment blocks for as long as she can remember, kept company by the rats and Master Puppet, her skeleton friend. When a baby appears in the graveyard, secrets may be uncovered that will change the way Magrit sees the world, and herself.

If you are a fan of Neil Gaiman's *The Graveyard Book*, and have wished that there existed a book very like it, but suited to a younger audience, Lee Battersby has fulfilled that wish in *Magrit*. The book is set in a beautifully atmospheric cemetery, wherein the inhabitants lie forgotten and a self-contained, private sanctuary has been chiseled out of the silence. Magrit is an easy character to follow along with; a carefree nearly-ten year old, whose imagination is fed to bursting by her mouldering home and her questions answered by the all-seeing Master Puppet. Master Puppet is a great, original character, I must say – a skeleton patched together from various discarded bones and lashed to the cross atop the cemetery's chapel, dispensing wisdom and criticism in a voice that is practically audible while you read. The plot is easy to follow for young readers, and while adult readers (and indeed, canny youngsters) may pick up on which way the wind is blowing reasonably early in the story, the ending is unexpected and satisfactorily ambiguous.

If you have not read Neil Gaiman's *The Graveyard Book*, then this criticism will pass you by and not affect your reading of *Magrit* at all. If this is the case for you, I am truly happy that you have yet to discover the magic of both of these wonderful books. The only problem I had with this story is that it felt far too much like *The Graveyard Book*. So much so, in fact, that I felt like Bod and Magrit could have easily lived in Bod's graveyard at the same time, with Magrit's corner cordoned off in some way so that the two never got around to meeting. The reason this was a problem is that because I read *The Graveyard Book* years ago on its original release (our dust-jacketed, hardbacked edition has pride of place on our shelf, with only slight paper-specklage after eight years), and have since re-read it multiple times, Bod, Silas and the gang have taken up residence in my brain as the superior graveyard-dwelling crew. Again though, if you haven't read *The Graveyard Book*, you should find *Magrit* and Master Puppet entirely original and thoroughly unique.

I would also have loved to have seen a bit of the quirky, bizarre humour that Battersby inserts into his adult

fiction works make its way into Magrit's story.

Overall, this is definitely a book that you won't regret purchasing and displaying in a prominent place on your shelf to amaze your friends and confuse and dismay your enemies.

Luna says

Magrit is one of those books that I came to unexpectedly and loved instantly.

Magrit is nearly ten and lives in a graveyard, her only friend is Master Puppet, a skeleton she built from bones and rubbish. One day 'the terrible thing' as Master Puppet calls it, arrives. It's a baby and Magrit wants to keep it – Master Puppet wants her to kill it, saying it will be the end of everything.

I loved the story and how it was told. There is a fairy-tale feel when reading this book, Master Puppet, how Magrit chooses the baby's name and the horror of the chapel.

Master Puppet says 'the terrible thing' is the end of Magrit's world – you'll have read the book to find out if he's right.

Alex (PaperbackPiano) says

4.5 stars

I loved this beautiful, strange, surprisingly poignant little book. Magrit and Bugrat were wonderful characters and I enjoyed the creepy atmosphere the author created. Things took a heavier turn towards the end and, I admit, I shed a few tears! Maybe I was being a bit dim but I genuinely didn't expect the twist in the story until I was a good way through it.

I would say that the comparisons to Neil Gaiman and Tim Burton are accurate, and would recommend this to fans of more macabre fantasy. A delight for all ages.

Steve lovell says

I've eschewed crime, whodunits, mysteries, sci-fi, dystopian, fantasy for years now – not because I have anything against them, but more from worry that I'd get hooked, when I'm already hooked on so much. But when two writers, usually plying their trade in those areas, veered a little into my territory, I gave them a go.

I'd read a review of Michael Robotham's 'The Secrets She Keeps' citing this was a break from his normal output, that being related to the solving of crime. He was lauded as one of the best in that genre going around. With this offering I thought I'd be safely spreading my horizons without being reeled in. I'm not so sure, after it, that that's the case. Am I entering dangerous territory?

Now, although the book eventually makes it into crime territory, we know who's going to commit it almost from the commencement. This is not a blow by blow account of coppers, or similar sleuthing heroes, getting

to the bottom of it and making the perpetrator pay. No, they are largely in the background until the back end of the story, ramping up as the conclusion nears.

Instead Robotham gives us a close examination of two pregnant ladies whose paths cross – one is wracked with guilt, one is wracked by envy. It doesn't take long to figure out who is also a tad whacky. And its reasonably clear, early on, where all this will lead us. What's not so discernible is if there will be a solving or happy ever afters for either of the duo – particularly as, it could be argued, there is no true guilty party.

As the two women career towards the inevitable and then go their separate ways, the dastardly deed being successfully pulled off, we are reminded of another unsolved real life British mystery of the same ilk – then perhaps, as well, the excellent first season of 'The Missing' (am hoping there will be a series 3).

There are no real surprises with the narrative, but it was, nevertheless, a page turner as Meg and Agatha, in alternating chapters, played out their tale as the British press feasted on it. I enjoyed 'The Secrets She Keeps' very much – but what happens now when Robotham reverts to the usual and presents a new release?

As with the above author, Lee Battersby, a Western Australian wordsmith noted for his sci-fi and fantasy, turns away from his normal fare. He centres this delightful effort in a cemetery which almost becomes a character in its own right. This is a strange and compelling short read – and quite moving. Whole lives are being led within the inner-city confines of the burial ground – but not lives as we know them. The eponymous, ten year old Magrite has found this out. She's not quite sure what she is, but with her fantastical friend, Master Puppet, she scavenges out an existence of sorts. Then a low-flying avian drops a bundle on an overhanging roof and marked changes occur to how she sees the world.

This is a beautifully wrought tale, its exquisite presentation assisted by the contributions of artist Amy Daoud. It's a mini-gem of a marvel, aimed at children, but it certainly had this old codger spellbound. 'Magrite' is a title that will linger in the synapses.

Sharon says

A beautiful story about a lonely little girl named Magrit. Magrit lives in a Graveyard with her only friend, Master Puppet, fashioned from bones and junk.

One day, a stork drops a baby into the Graveyard. Magrit loves him instantly, names him Bugrat, and devotes her days to teaching him and taking care of him. But the day will come when Bugrat must leave - and then the truth about Magrit will be revealed.

A wonderful, beautiful, sad story perfect for this time of year. Reminiscent of Sebastian Gregory, Tim Burton and Neil Gaiman. Suitable for younger readers. The illustrations are beautiful, the cover is beautiful - this is just a gorgeous book.
