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Escargot



Synopsis

Bonjour! Escargot is a beautiful French snail who wants only two things: 1. To be your favorite animal. 2. To get to the delicious salad at the end of the book. But when he gets to the salad, he discovers that there's a carrot in it. And Escargot hates carrots. But when he finally tries one—*with a little help from you!*—he discovers that it's not so bad after all.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 19 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #28,919 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #65 in Children's Books > Animals > Bugs & Spiders #103 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Social Skills #169 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > New Experiences

Age Range: 4 - 6 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 1

Customer Reviews

"Say bonjour to your new favorite animal, the garden snail!...In Hanson's soft, cartoonish illustrations, Escargot's hammy expressions are perfectly in keeping with his gently boastful narrative. Give this charming read-aloud a little extra *joie de vivre* by reading it in your best French accent." *Booklist* "A charming little French snail takes center stage as it entices a child to share a meal. It's hard to imagine an escargot heading toward a salad as destined to be anything other than part of the dish, but this engaging snail upends convention...An unusual, tongue-in-cheek aid to getting children to eat a disliked food—*even* the dreaded carrot." *Kirkus Reviews* "Escargot's voice is *parfait*, an airy blend of ego and need masterfully balanced in witty and well-turned sentences that leave plenty of room for audiences to get the joke...Trim, controlled pencil and watercolor art gives Escargot the inevitable French sailor's shirt, neckerchief, and teeny beret, but the jaunty guy's wide, sincere eyes

reveal the depth of his yearning snail soul and make for some great comic faces."

Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books, starred review

Dashka Slater has written several picture books, including Baby Shoes and The Sea Serpent and Me, which was a Junior Library Guild Selection. She is also an award-winning journalist whose articles have appeared in Newsweek, Salon, The New York Times Magazine, and Mother Jones. She lives in California. Sydney Hanson was raised in Minnesota alongside numerous pets and brothers. She has worked for several animation shops, including Nickelodeon and Disney Interactive. She lives in California.

This has quickly become one of our favorite books to read at bedtime, especially with a really bad fake accent!

This book is wonderful. Never thought I'd love a snail, but Escargot is magnifique! Kind of like Pepe Le Pew, but sweeter (and not nearly as grabby); guaranteed to enchant young and old. It made me laugh out loud several times and simply MUST be read with a French accent, whether mental or verbal. We bought a dozen for our library system and all the way through the cataloging and processing area, I could hear the "Awwwww!"s and delighted laughter. We see a lot of books here and this one really stands out. Illustrations are wonderful, text is perfect for lap reading or story time. Funny and sweet, and a good example of the importance of manners and kindness.

The most fun I've had reading a story in a long time. I will read or tell it to anyone who will listen. "I kees you, mwah" is the new love phrase in our family.

Escargot is a small snail who has one big plan. He has to get to the salad at the end of the book. Along the way, Escargot tries to convince the young reader that snails should be their favorite animal. They will have to ignore the trails of slime on the page and focus on how very brave snails are and maybe how fast? The reader helps Escargot along the way, testing out ferocious faces, given him a little push, and offering kisses too. By the time Escargot reaches the salad, he will have won their hearts, just in time to try a new vegetable together. Slater cleverly combines several themes in this picture book and melds them in such a way that they work seamlessly with one another. There is the interactive piece of the book that ask the child to participate and impact the story. There is the favorite animal part that is engaging and funny, filled with enough action and

interaction to keep even restless children busy. The final aspect is the bravery piece, trying something new and being a friend. Hanson's illustrations add to the appeal of the book. Escargot wears a jaunty striped shirt, red scarf tied at his neck and a beret. He oozes French appeal and confidence even as he is willing to ask for help. He is expressive with his wide eyes and tilting antennae that he uses to gesture. A stellar if slimy little hero that will wend his way onto your favorite animal list in no time, this picture book will work best with a small group or one-on-one. Appropriate for ages 3-5.

Absolutely loved this book. If you read it to your little one with a french accent, it's even better! Beautiful pictures and we learned some new facts!

My three year granddaughter immediately took to this book and babbled on so much at home to her daddy about 'Escargot' that he had to order a copy for their house. It has colorful pictures and lighthearted text. Just enough to be more than a picture book but not too much text for a three year old attention span.

Purchased this for my nephew's birthday and had the whole group of kids clustered around to read it - in the middle of the party! Absolutely adorable, there's some great participation cues that had the older kids miming along. If you can do a French accent, I recommend using it, c'est magnifique!

I admit, I am not a fan of snails, but after reading this adorable story with adorable illustrations, my favorite animal is now indeed a snail, in particular Escargot! I even got my husband to read (and love) this book. I can't wait to share it with kids!

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