



The Cheese

By Margie Palatini

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Why the cheese stand alone?

In this hilarious riff on the favorite nursery rhyme "The Farmer in the Dell," readers will discover what really happened to that hunk of cheddar.

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The Cheese By Margie Palatini Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #741237 in Books
- Brand: Katherine Tegen Books
- Published on: 2007-04-24
- Released on: 2007-04-24
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 10.88" h x .25" w x 8.75" l, .80 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 32 pages

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

PreSchool-Grade 3—A rat living in the dell wonders why the posted rules and regulations state that the cheese stands alone—especially when it is a tasty-looking hunk of cheddar standing uselessly in a meadow. Napkin in hand, he goes to investigate. In this reverse version of "The Farmer in the Dell," the rat is then joined by a cat, a dog, a child, a mother, and finally the farmer father, all of whom initially insist that the cheese must stand alone, and then are persuaded to consider that the rule might actually be a silly one worth challenging. The farmer decides that if they are going to eat the cheese, they might as well make a party out of it, and everyone goes to fetch apples, pears, sausages, milk, and, of course, crackers. The folk-art quality of the illustrations is rich with country colors—barn reds, field greens, and earthy yellows, and the cartoon animals are funny and expressive. A smattering of words and music from the song is worked in effectively on most pages, and the full lyrics are printed on the last page, useful since this book will no doubt be the featured star in a number of sing-alongs.—*Susan Moorhead, New Rochelle Public Library, NY*

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From Booklist

Palatini's uproarious spoof on "The Farmer in the Dell" begins at the end of the song: the cheese stands alone. While eyeing the solitary chunk of cheddar in a field, a rat rethinks the order of things: "Give me one good reason why the cheese stands alone . . . Why should good food go to waste because of some silly song?" Dashing off for a nosh, he encounters the cat, who joins him in his trot toward the cheese. Then the dog appears, as well as the rest of the song's characters, who make a grand picnic from the towering cheese wedge. Children will easily overlook the flat ending as they delight in Palatini's raucous twist on the ubiquitous song (the original's lyrics close the book). The high-energy, mixed-media illustrations, which appear in multiple, comics-style frames on several spreads, turn up the silliness with the cast of expressive animals—the cunning rat, the airhead dog—who speak in funny, sly asides. Best for small groups, who can view the detailed pictures up close, this will be a read-aloud hit. Engberg, Gillian

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Review

"Palatini's uproarious spoof...will be a read-aloud hit." (ALA Booklist)

"Genially subversive outing." (Kirkus Reviews (starred review))

"This book will no doubt be the featured star in a number of sing-alongs." (School Library Journal)

"An amusing riff on a nursery favorite." (Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Marilyn Washington:

Information is provisions for individuals to get better life, information today can get by anyone in everywhere. The information can be a knowledge or any news even an issue. What people must be consider if those information which is from the former life are challenging to be find than now's taking seriously

which one would work to believe or which one the resource are convinced. If you find the unstable resource then you obtain it as your main information we will see huge disadvantage for you. All of those possibilities will not happen throughout you if you take The Cheese as your daily resource information.

Louise Graham:

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