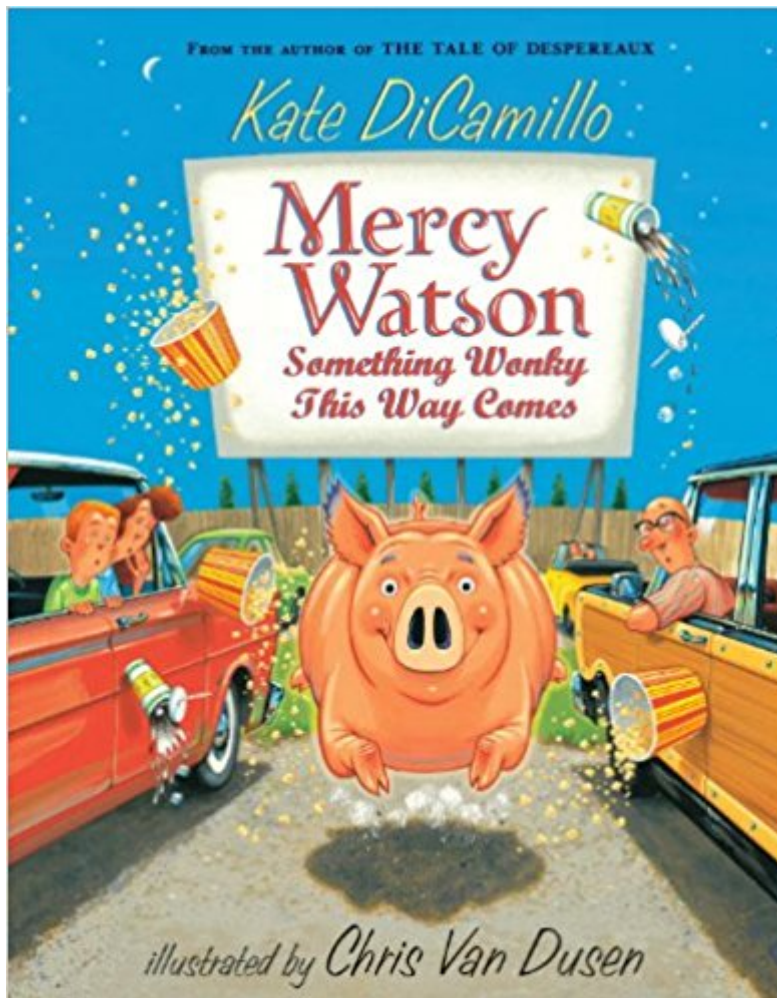




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Mercy Watson: Something Wonky This Way Comes



Synopsis

"Youngsters are sure to delight in the exploits of this butter-loving pig, savoring the extreme text and energetic, innocent art." -School Library Journal

Some may find it wonky to take a pig to the drive-in. But not the Watsons, who think the movie's title, *When Pigs Fly*, is inspirational. And not their beloved Mercy, who is inspired by the scent of real butter from the theater's Bottomless Buckets of popcorn. As they pull up in their convertible, Mercy lifts up her snout and becomes a pig on a mission, leading a delirious chase that's trailed by hapless rescuers reunited from Mercy's earlier adventures.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 440L (What's this?)

Series: Mercy Watson (Book 6)

Paperback: 96 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 61 customer reviews

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Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

Customer Reviews

Grade 2

In her sixth adventure, Mercy Watson is in the family's familiar pink convertible on her way to the Bijou drive-in theater, which is showing *When Pigs Fly*. Mr. and Mrs. Watson are sure she'll find it inspirational, but Mercy is more excited by the prospect of real butter on Bottomless Buckets of popcorn. Familiar characters from other adventures—Police Officer Tomilello, Animal Control Officer Francine Poulet, and reformed robber Leroy Ninker—are also at the Bijou. They leap into action when Mercy, with snout in the air, follows the irresistible

scent of butter to waiting cars with windows down. "People screamed. People laughed. People fainted. Mercy kept eating." When the Watsons realize that their porcine wonder is missing, they join the chase, which ends only when two clever firemen catch up to her and suggest a treat of buttered toast. Though no one gets to see the movie, they all eat toast together, which, for Mercy, is a very happy ending. Illustrations are done in gouache using a bright, retro palette of glossy colors, bringing the text vibrantly to life. All of the elements of the earlier stories are here—jovial characters, good-humored mayhem, and effortless repetition that moves the story forward while allowing emerging readers to peruse it themselves. Youngsters are sure to delight in the exploits of this butter-loving pig, savoring DiCamillo's "wonky in the extreme" text and Van Dusen's energetic, innocent art.

•Mary Jean Smith, Southside Elementary School, Lebanon, TN Copyright
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Kate DiCamillo is the author of THE TALE OF DESPEREAUX, which won the Newbery Medal; BECAUSE OF WINN-DIXIE, which received a Newbery Honor; THE TIGER RISING, a National Book Award Finalist; THE MIRACULOUS JOURNEY OF EDWARD TULANE, winner of a BOSTON GLOBEÆHORN BOOK Award; and the NEW YORK TIMES best-selling picture book GREAT JOY. She lives in Minneapolis. Chris Van Dusen has illustrated all the books in the Mercy Watson series. He is also the author-illustrator of DOWN TO THE SEA WITH MR. MAGEE, A CAMPING SPREE WITH MR. MAGEE, and IF I BUILT A CAR. He lives in Camden, Maine.

All of the Mercy Watson and Tales from Deckawoo Drive from Kate DiCamillo are the PERFECT reading level for my 6 year old. She started reading these when she was 5. Great beginning chapter books! Clean and respectful content, silly stories, good word repetition, opportunities to expand vocabulary and practice intonation...we sit and read together and giggle for hours!

Very cute, easy read. My 4 year old enjoys these as a bed time story. I find them amusing as well. We read one book a night and then start over again.

Great beginner chapter book series. My 1st grader reads them all by himself.

Great book for a 1st-2nd grader!

What a great early chapter book series! I'm a pre-school teacher but had never seen these books until my daughter was going into second grade. She loved that they were easy and could read them in one setting, great for airplane rides or long drives. They're very simple to read and have fantastic illustrations. I use them as "chapter" books with my four and five year-olds in class to introduce them to the idea of listening to a book over several class times, they LOVE Mercy and her crazy escapades.

Great way to introduce early readers to chapter books. It has large type so not too intimidating to the young reader. My 6 year old loves the series, & reads it all by herself with ease and confidence. She is so proud to be reading chapter books too.

This is the final book in the series that we have read, and it brought the whole series together well, with cameos from basically every character from the other books. The last chapter is very long (compared to others) and we split it into two nights, which is the only possible complaint I could have. The books are beautifully illustrated, fun to read, fun to listen to, and keep my 4-year-old engaged.

My grandchildren love the Mercy books. I have bought all of them and other books by the same author. I love the idea of the characters showing up again and again in the different books. I highly recommend this series.

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