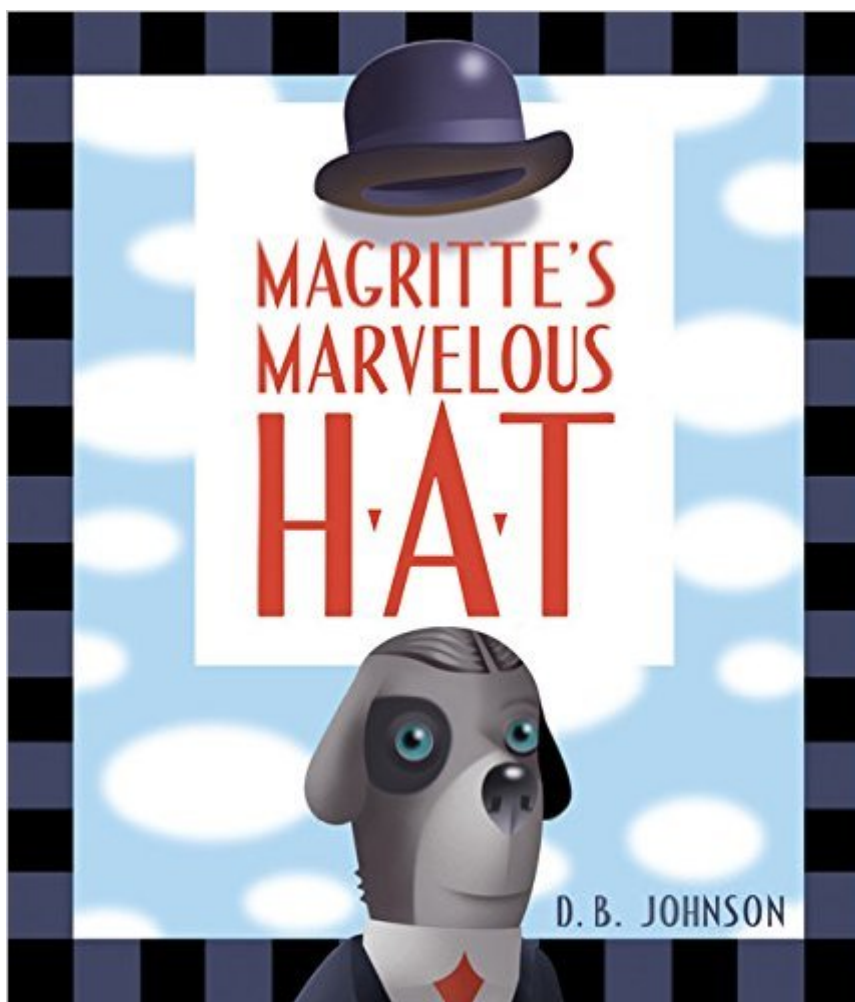


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# Magritte's Marvelous Hat



## Synopsis

"Everything we see hides another thing, we always want to see what is hidden by what we see."  
â "Rene Magritte D.B. Johnson writes andÂ illustrates the surreal story of famous surrealist painter Rene Magritte and his very mysterious (and mischievous!) hat. While the art reflects some of Magritte's own work, the text sets readers on a fun and accessible path to learning about the simpler concepts behind Mr. Magritte's work. This delightful picture book captures the playfulness and the wonderment of surrealist art. Four transparent pages add yet another level of surrealism to the illustrations as pictures can be altered with the turn of a page.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD620L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers (April 17, 2012)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0547558643

ISBN-13: 978-0547558646

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 10 x 11.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.4 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (17 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #671,586 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #70 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Biographies > European #652 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Education & Reference > Jobs & Careers #1677 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Arts, Music & Photography > Art

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

D. B. Johnson tells a fanciful story of Magritte, whose runaway hat leads him on adventures and encourages him to paint. The artwork, inspired by the surrealistic painter Rene Magritte, uses clear overlays that add and subtract from illustrations to spark the creative imaginations of children and explore Magritte's surrealistic view of the world. Where does Johnson get these ideas? His previous children's books have gently introduced young children to ideas based on Henry David Thoreau's philosophy and the incorporation of mathematics into art by M. C. Escher. How dry you may think, but don't worry. Johnson's stories are engaging and amusing, and children will love manipulating the overlays in Magritte's Marvelous Hat to transform the illustrations in the blink of an eye.

Marvelous is the word for this book! It is funny. It rewards careful study of the illustrations. It promotes an appreciation of Magritte and his fellow surrealists. It has a great message about appreciation, and maintaining balance in our lives. And did I mention it is funny, too? It is a great all round package, which will be enjoyed by readers from age three thru adults. Definitely worth adding to the permanent collection.

The Surrealist world of Rene Magritte finds a new home in a genteel between-the-wars city populated by domestic animals, including a namesake dog who happens to be a painter. Magritte buys a hat that floats above his head, and the experience improves both his life and his art. The illustrations, carefully evoking the style of Rene Magritte, make references to many of his most important works--so much so, that you have to go through it a few times before you can be fairly sure you spotted them all (or, true to the Surrealist spirit, until the illusion overtakes you that you've done so). The book is a delightful way to bring Modern art to children. My three-year-old boy has me read the book to him over and over. Parents--you know what that means: you've got a winner here. My son always calls out, "The hat came back!" at the appropriate moment in the story, and he shouts out again to announce when Magritte has made it back home after the adventure that drives the plot. This is the most original children's book I've read in years, and I recommend it to all parents who want to find a fun way to lead their children onto a journey of discovery of Modern art.

I bought this as a gift for a 6-year old boy. He was thrilled! He said he had never seen anything like it before & was so excited about the story & the transparent overlays. He kept running around showing everyone. This book is delightful for adults as well as children - it is charmingly written, beautifully illustrated, & very magical & unusual in the way it's presented.

This is really a story of friendship--the friendship between an artist and his inspiration, which can be a fickle thing. But the message (that being playful, lighthearted, and appreciative always brings our inspiration back) is clear, and a good one for a child or adult of any age to receive. I've given this as a gift to kids and also to grown-up artists, and it's always a hit. Who doesn't love a hat wearing a dog? The book is downright enchanting, as are all D.B. Johnson's books. I would frame every beautifully colored illustration, if its magic weren't in motion: the acetate pages in between each regular page alter the illustrations and make reading this book a dynamic experience.

This book has been a big hit at home. Love the illustration, the story, the transparent overlay pages, and the general sense of mystery and creativity that it conveys. Pardon the cliché, but this is also one of those books that will be a hit equally with kid readers and adults. I've enjoyed the playful approach to Magritte's work.

This book has superb images based on work by the painter Magritte, presented as a funny story of a hat that travels with the artist. The book is really enjoyable for the parents and the children and helps them get started learning about and appreciating art at a very young age. It is a book they will love for many years.

Rene Magritte is known for his surrealist paintings. He was also known for a bowler hat. In "Magritte's Marvelous Hat," author/illustrator D.B. Johnson brings Magritte to life in the form of a dog. One day, Magritte sees a marvelous hat in a store window. He tries on the hat and it just pops up and floats above his head, and that's just the way she likes it. Magritte hurries home and finds that painting has become easy -- his hat is amazing! The next day Magritte goes for a walk and his hat pretends to blow away. The hat loves to play, and when Magritte wants it to sit still so he can paint, the hat runs away. It's a giant game of hide and seek that ends with some of Magritte's best work. The artwork for "Magritte's Marvelous Hat" was inspired by Magritte's work in real life. Magritte painted real-life objects like an egg, hat, apple and pipe. They make appearances throughout the book. "Magritte's Marvelous Hat" is a marvelous read. The illustrations are beautiful and the text fun. Four transparent pages are really what make this book special, adding to the surrealist feel while being accessible for its young audience.

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