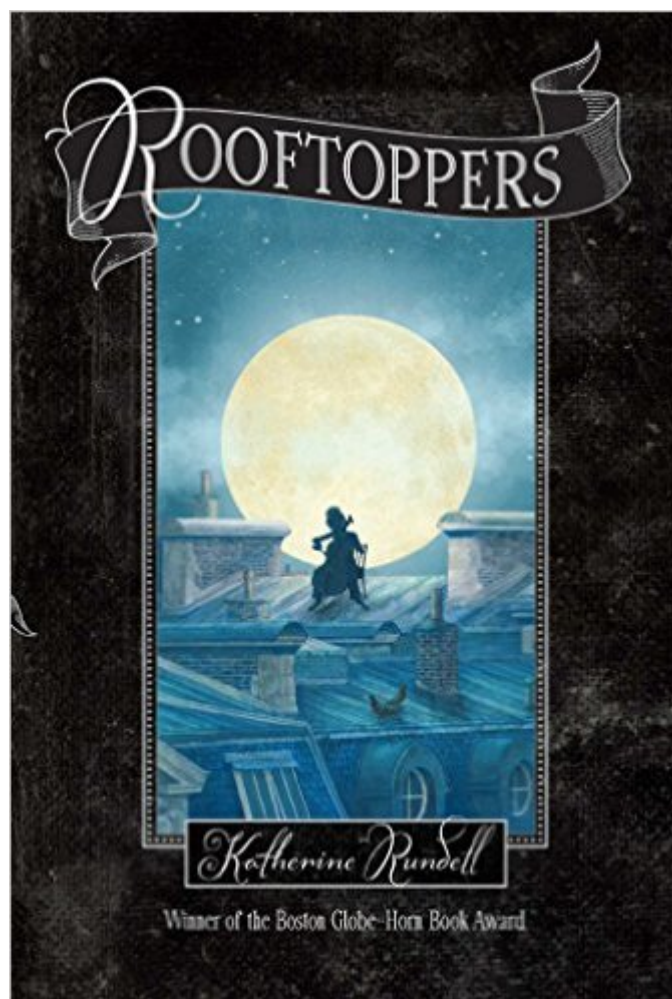


The book was found

Rooftoppers



Synopsis

The beauty of sky, music, and the belief in extraordinary things triumph in this whimsical and magical tale about a girl in search of her past who discovers a secret rooftop world in Paris. Everyone thinks that Sophie is an orphan. True, there were no other recorded female survivors from the shipwreck that left baby Sophie floating in the English Channel in a cello case, but Sophie remembers seeing her mother wave for help. Her guardian tells her it is almost impossible that her mother is still alive but almost impossible means still possible. And you should never ignore a possible. So when the Welfare Agency writes to her guardian, threatening to send Sophie to an orphanage, they take matters into their own hands and flee to Paris to look for Sophie's mother, starting with the only clue they have the address of the cello maker. Evading the French authorities, she meets Matteo and his network of rooftoppersurchins who live in the hidden spaces above the city. Together they scour the city in a search for Sophie's mother but can they find her before Sophie is caught and sent back to London? Or, more importantly, before she loses hope? Phillip Pullman, author of the His Dark Materials series, calls *Rooftoppers* the work of a writer with an utterly distinctive voice and a wild imagination.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 490 (What's this?)

Paperback: 304 pages

Publisher: Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers; Reprint edition (June 3, 2014)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1442490594

ISBN-13: 978-1442490598

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.8 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 7 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars See all reviews (46 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #121,086 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #145 in Books > Children's Books

> Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > City Life #193 in Books > Children's Books >

Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Orphans & Foster Homes #473 in Books > Children's

Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Parents

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

This story takes place near the end of the 19th Century shifting from England to Paris. The story begins with the sinking of an English ship named the Queen Mary and the rescue by one survivor of another. A 36yo English bachelor named Charles Maxim rescues a cute little baby girl with platinum blond hair he describes as the color of lightning. He becomes her legal guardian and names her Sophie Maxim. Although they are not rich in finances, they are rich in the love they have for each other as they are all that each of them has. Sophie is a precocious child and is home schooled by Charles when he thinks to give her any lessons. She loves him and wants to do everything he does, so to keep her from drinking any of his whiskey, he pours it into a plain bottle and labels it Cat's Urine. The inquisitive little Sophie smells it and then smells the backside of their cat and proclaims they didn't smell much alike to her. ;-)

Things work out pretty well for the duo until Sophie turns 12, at which time, the Welfare agency says she will be sent away to an orphanage until she is 18, since Charles is not a blood relative and they didn't think it was proper for a single man to be in charge of a young woman of impressionable age. Both Sophie and Charles agree this is about the dumbest thing they have ever heard, so high-tail it to Paris to try and find her mother if she is even still alive. They pick Paris since that is where the Queen Mary sailed from before it sunk. The first part of the book is devoted to Sophie and Charles loving relationship as she grows up from a 1yo to the age of 12. The second part then takes place in Paris as she and Charles try to find her mother.

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