



Madeline at the White House

John Bemelmans Marciano

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Readers will see Washington, D.C., as never before, when Madeline takes a midnight sightseeing tour on a magic carpet of cherry blossoms. Invited to the White House by Candle, the president's lonely only daughter, for the annual Easter Egg hunt and roll, Madeline and the other little girls have a rollicking good time, and introduce Candle to the joys of occasionally breaking the rules. With a bouncy read-aloud text and gorgeous watercolor pictures, *Madeline at the White House* is in the best tradition of the beloved Madeline books.

Madeline at the White House Details

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Author : John Bemelmans Marciano

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From Reader Review *Madeline at the White House* for online ebook

Carrie says

I must give praise to the illustrations of this book! In *Madeline at the White House*, written and illustrated by John Bemelmans Marciano, Madeline and her classmates visit the White House with Miss Clavel. Awaiting for them is the president's daughter, Penelope Randall, but everyone called her Candle for the curl that sticks out on top of her head. Madeline and her classmates got to spend Easter at the White House, and the girls were becoming great friends with Candle. When Candle expresses how restricting it is to live as the president's daughter, Madeline and Candle got to go on an adventure with much thanks to Rabbit the magician!

Furthermore, that is where the incredible illustrations rose to shine, and Bemelmans Marciano take his readers along on a ride, sight seeing the major attractions of D.C. through his colorful illustrations. This would be a fantastic book to introduce to children. While reading another great book by Bemelmans Marciano, they are also introduced to the beauty of their country's capital!

Ryan says

Madeline is always good for a story. A lively and spunky girl. However I love the background for this book. His granddaughter writes it in the end. It was a product of the author and Jacqueline Kennedy. From start to finish this book is amazing.

Shazzer says

As posted on Outside of a Dog...

In *Madeline at the White House*, John Bemelmans Marciano works off an idea his grandfather, the great Ludwig Bemelmans, had about sending the titular heroine to the white house to visit with the First Daughter. In this case, Madeline and all of Miss Clavel's girl come to visit Miss Penelope Randall, nicknamed Candle because of a shock of hair that sticks up, who was "as lonely a girl as there can be". She never gets to see her father, is the only girl at her White House school and has a Secret Service agent that "made sure she never left the grounds". If ever a girl needed Madeline, it's Candle. The girls hunt eggs and play games at the White House Easter celebration, and Madeline and Candle stay up all night together and have "a lark". Finally the girls must part, and Madeline and all Miss Clavel's girls return home.

Marciano doesn't have quite the touch his grandfather had. The rhymes don't always land, and the cadence wavers. But the art is still charming and warm, and Madeline's joy is infectious. The magical fantasy element introduced towards the end is beautifully illustrated, but feels mildly out of place. All in all, the text could have been neaten up, but this is a nice entry into the Madeline family of stories.

Madeleine (Top Shelf Text) says

Review posted on www.topshelftext.blogspot.com

This is the story of Madeline's trip to the White House, where she meets the President's only daughter, Candle, who most of the time feels lonely and bored. Candle is isolated, but finds that she has a true friend in Madeline. The girls take a ride on a magic tide of cherry blossom throughout the capital of our country, and readers get to see the sights rendered in perfectly enchanting watercolors.

Madeline at the White House was gifted to me by my mother while I was attending college in Washington, D.C. (I've since transferred back to Massachusetts.) When I was a child, Madeline was my favorite literary character (for obvious reasons- although my name is spelled a tad different), and I still have a collection of Madeline dolls for every season and occasion. What I love most about this book is the backstory- it was originally a collaboration between Ludwig Bemelmans (the author of the original Madeline) and his dear friend, Jacqueline Kennedy. Not only am I a huge fan of the Madeline series, I'm also a huge fan of Jackie Kennedy. That woman emanated class as First Lady, and her style is iconic and endlessly inspiring. I loved that this was an idea that the two of them worked on, but sadly it never came to fruition as Bemelmans passed away before they could collaborate further. His grandson, John Bemelmans Marciano, came upon the project while researching his grandfather's life, and decided that it was time to bring the book to life. I wouldn't go so far as to say that this book is the masterpiece of the Madeline collection, but I did enjoy the book and would recommend it for any young readers who already enjoy the adventures of Madeline. This would also be a great gift for any children as a precursor to a trip to D.C., as they would be able to make text-to-world connections between the illustrations and the monuments, as well as make text-to-self connections between Madeline's experience and their own.

V.A. Trafton says

The presidents daughter was lonely until Madeline came to visit as a surprise. The girls embark on a magical adventure together and form a special friendship with an odd ending.

Avie cayl Uy says

A few months back, I read "**Madeline**" by *Ludwig Bemelmans*, and was unable to enjoy it that much. Now, I've read "**Madeline at the White House**" by *John Bemelmans Marciano*, and unfortunately, I was unable to find satisfaction in it. Again. It's just that I find it hard to enjoy these books despite liking the show. However, I would still like to commend the illustrations in this storybook. The illustrations were pretty and were worth commendable.

JaNeal says

I think this book is special for two reasons. First, I loved the fact that this story was begun by Ludwig Bemelmans and Jacqueline Kennedy and finished by a grandson of Bemelman, John Bemelmans Marciano. The later faithfully studied the life and work of his grandfather and then chose to bring the book out of the

files and onto our bookshelves. Second, I loved how Marciano filled the book with playful yet reminiscent illustrations of the White House and of the sites of Washington D. C. (one of my favorite cities). I will forgive the forced rhymes for the love and devotion that this book represents (both to family and country).

When I read this, I was reminded of a book I read earlier, "The Frogs and Toads All Sang," found in the unpublished works of Anrold Lobel and brought to publication after Lobel's death through the illustrations of his daughter, Adrienne Lobel. If I remember right, this was a work that Arnold created for his friends at Christmas time. Again, the story behind the story inspires me.

Luisa Knight says

I didn't realize that Jacqueline Kennedy had a part in the writing of this book! Apparently Marciano was friends with her and used her as a sounding board for a few ideas in the book. There's some great illustrations in here!

Ages: 4 - 8

Cleanliness: a girl seems a little bitter/upset at the beginning of the book. There is a magician who takes two girls out to see some sites in D.C.

**Like my reviews? I also have hundreds of detailed reports that I offer too. These reports give a complete break-down of everything in the book, so you'll know just how clean it is or isn't. I also have Clean Guides (downloadable PDFs) which enable you to clean up your book before reading it! Visit my website: [The Book Radar](#).

Bookworm's Nemesis says

I didn't realize this Madeline story was written by the grandson of the original. It was an okay story and followed the same rhyming techniques which my daughter enjoyed.

Sarah Sammis says

Madeline at the White House by John Bemelmans Marciano began as a collaboration between Ludwig Bemelmans and Jacqueline Kennedy. Marciano decided to finish the book as he did with Madeline in America.

Miss Clavel and the girls are invited to the White House. The president has a daughter who is about the girls' age and is in need of friends and fun. Madeline and the others are sure to come through.

The girls arrive for the annual Easter Egg hunt and roll. They quickly make friends with Candle, the first daughter, and soon find themselves invited to stay over night.

It's a cute book done in the style of the original Madeline books with the same rhyming scheme. While it's a good edition to the Madeline series, it's not quite as tightly constructed.

Emily Kelly says

This was cute, but not as cute as the original Madeline stories!

Rosita says

This is a great book to help a child if he/she is only child in the family and bring a heartfelt friendship. John Bemelman Marciano made a bright and elegant pictures in the book. In Washington, D.C., Candle needed a friend to talk to and could be able to use her imagination. She was bored in the White House school, she had a secret services Agent Downs to protector not to leave the White House. Her mother send her letter to Candle, but she can't wait for mother's friend to come for Easter. The president's lonely only daugther had an annual Easter Egg hunt and roll with spoons, Madeline and other little girls had a good time especially with magician rabbit.

Learning Experience: The teacher will place a table with 2 pail of water with two teams. The children will be team (A) and team (B): the children need to carry the easter egg on a spoon with one arm behind his/her back. The child needs to balance the easter egg on a spoon until he/she will arrived with the easter egg to be place inside the water pail.

Mickayla says

Grade range: 2-5

Genre: Modern Fantasy

This book would be super great if you were doing a unit on Washington D.C. around Easter time. I really enjoyed the content of this book, but it being a Madeline book, it just wasn't the same not having Ludwig Bemelmans illustrate the book. But I would definitely use this in my classroom if the opportunity arose.

Dianna says

A cute tour of the White House by Madeline and her classmates. This book is done by the original author's grandson, and he's quite a good copycat. The pictures were nice. The verse was pretty close. But the story just fell flat for me. I didn't feel that poor little Candle's problems were actually solved, and there was no life-and-death excitement like there is in the original books.

Lisa Vegan says

Well, I have to first say that I'm a Madeline fool. I loved the original book and a couple others from the time I was three or four. My father had to read them over & over & over & over at my bedtime. I loved the

rhyming and the girls and especially Madeline. As an adult I added Mad About Madeline to my book collection, and gave it and other Madeline books as a gift, so I couldn't resist reading this book.

The negative: The rhyming doesn't always quite work, although most of the story has the reminiscent sing song quality. Except for the brief visit, I never stopped feeling sorry for the First Daughter. Madeline and the girls in line just weren't quite as fun in Washington, D.C., U.S.A. as I find them to be in France. The American history and White House traditions and the appearance of Arlington Cemetery on the inside covers screamed Educate!!!

The positive: It was fun. I had fun reading a new book about Madeline and her lined up peers. There were times I found myself smiling big smiles. It's a sweet story. Although, I did feel for the first daughter being an only child and being so sequestered.

The interesting: This was written by the original author's grandson and in his background note at the end of the book, I learned a bit about the original author, and I loved that it was his idea to do a Madeline at the White House, and it was going to be written by Jacqueline Kennedy and be about Madeline's visit to first daughter Caroline. Oh, I'd have eaten that up when I was a kid!

My expectations were not overly high and I felt only a smidgen of disappointment. I enjoyed this book and, even though I have mixed feelings about books such as this, I'm glad it was written.

The illustrations were uneven. Some were fabulous and some had an entirely different style of which I was not a fan. Overall, they more than did their job and showed off the story well.

3 ½ stars
