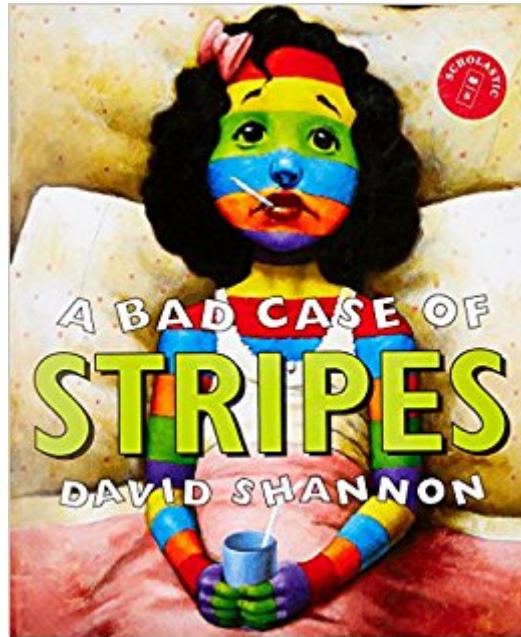




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A Bad Case Of Stripes



Synopsis

"What we have here is a bad case of stripes. One of the worst I've ever seen!" Camilla Cream loves lima beans, but she never eats them. Why? Because the other kids in her school don't like them. And Camilla Cream is very, very worried about what other people think of her. In fact, she's so worried that she's about to break out in...a bad case of stripes!

Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD540L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Blue Sky Press; 1st Printing edition (March 1, 1998)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0590929976

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Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 9.5 x 11.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 15.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 405 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #26,285 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #7 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Runaways](#) #25 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Peer Pressure](#) #205 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Self-Esteem & Self-Respect](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

Customer Reviews

On this disturbing book's striking dust jacket, a miserable Betty-Boop-like girl, completely covered with bright bands of color, lies in bed with a thermometer dangling from her mouth. The rainbow-hued victim is Camilla Cream, sent home from school after some startling transformations: "when her class said the Pledge of Allegiance, she turned red, white, and blue, and she broke out in stars!" Scientists and healers cannot help her, for after visits from "an old medicine man, a guru, and even a veterinarian... she sprouted roots and berries and crystals and feathers and a long furry tail." The paintings are technically superb but viscerally troubling?especially this image of her sitting in front of the TV with twigs and spots and fur protruding from her. The doe-eyed girl changes her stripes at anyone's command, and only nonconformity can save her. When she finally admits her

unspeakable secret?she loves lima beans?she is cured. Shannon (How Georgie Radbourn Saved Baseball) juggles dark humor and an anti-peer-pressure message. As her condition worsens, Camilla becomes monstrous, ultimately merging with the walls of her room. The hallucinatory images are eye-popping but oppressive, and the finale?with Camilla restored to her bean-eating self?brings a sigh of relief. However, the grotesque images of an ill Camilla may continue to haunt children long after the cover is closed. Ages 5-9. Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Kindergarten-Grade 2?A highly original moral tale acquires mythic proportions when Camilla Cream worries too much about what others think of her and tries desperately to please everyone. First stripes, then stars and stripes, and finally anything anyone suggests (including tree limbs, feathers, and a tail) appear vividly all over her body. The solution: lima beans, loved by Camilla, but disdained for fear they'll promote unpopularity with her classmates. Shannon's exaggerated, surreal, full-color illustrations take advantage of shadow, light, and shifting perspective to show the girl's plight. Bordered pages barely contain the energy of the artwork; close-ups emphasize the remarkable characters that inhabit the tale. Sly humor lurks in the pictures, too. For example, in one double-page spread the Creams are besieged by the media including a crew from station WCKO. Despite probing by doctors and experts, it takes "an old woman who was just as plump and sweet as a strawberry" to help Camilla discover her true colors. Set in middle-class America, this very funny tale speaks to the challenge many kids face in choosing to act independently.?Carolyn Noah, Central Mass. Regional Library System, Worcester, MA Copyright 1998 Reed Business Information, Inc.

This is a really good book with a very unique story that kept the attention of my 5 year old. She loves this book!

My daughter just loves this book. Her teacher read this book in class and she just had to have it.

Great artwork and a great message about individuality and standing up for what you love.

My granddaughter & I loved the story. But even with my reading glasses I had a hard time with the seeing the tiny words. I tried to make the words bigger but nothing worked. Hopefully the next book will work out better.

Such a cute and funny story for kids! It has a good moral of the story as well! A+++

A family favorite for years. Our previous copy got worn out.

My 5-year-old granddaughter read this book in school and couldn't stop talking about it. The story is fairly simple, and the illustrations are wonderful. I'm a bit disappointed that the adults, particularly the doctors, scientists, and "experts," are presented as idiots who can give the child no help, but the theme of the story is that Camilla has the solution to her problem within herself, if she will only recognize it. The "be yourself" message is an important one, but I wouldn't have minded if Camilla's teacher or parent or pediatrician, rather than a strange old lady, had been the one to remind her of that.

Great Niece loved this book for her birthday.

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