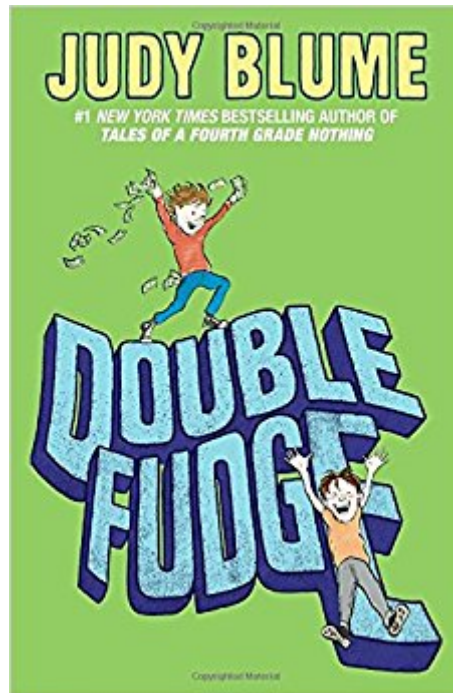




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Double Fudge



Synopsis

Part of the classic Fudge series from Judy Blume, bestselling author of *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*! Fudge is obsessed with money. He's making his own "Fudge Bucks" and has plans to buy the entire world. But life gets really crazy when Fudge and his older brother, Peter, run into their long-lost relatives, the Howie Hatchers. Now they have to deal with annoying twin cousins and a weird younger cousin, coincidentally named Farley Drexel Hatcher "just like Fudge! Their names aren't the only similarity, and before long, mini-Fudge is causing just as much trouble as Fudge always has! As a kid, Judy Blume was my favorite author, and *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing* was my favorite book." —Jeff Kinney, author of the bestselling *Wimpy Kid* series

Love Fudge, Peter, and Sheila? Read all the books featuring your favorite characters: *Tales of a Fourth Grade Nothing*, *Otherwise Known as Sheila the Great*, *Superfudge*, *Fudge-a-Mania*

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 0530 (What's this?)

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Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Fans of *Superfudge* and *Fudge-a-Mania* will welcome the return of seventh-grader Peter Hatcher and his five-year-old brother, Fudge, who in this comical caper meet distant cousins from Hawaii. The two families unexpectedly encounter one another in Washington, D.C., where the New York City Hatchers have gone so that Fudge, who has developed an obsession with money, can visit the

Bureau of Engraving and Printing. The Howie Hatcher clan proves an eccentric lot. Twins Fauna and Flora, unironically nicknamed the Natural Beauties, would be in Peter's grade if they weren't home-schooled; apt to break into corny songs at any moment, they perform together as the Heavenly Hatchers. Their younger brother, who shares Fudge's real name (Farley Drexel), acts like a dog, growling and licking people. And their father won't stop calling Peter's dad "Tubby." Narrator Peter grits his teeth when the Honolulu Hatchers invite themselves to Manhattan to stay in his family's cramped apartment, where nestled in their sleeping bags on the living room floor they "slept flat on their backs, like a row of hot dogs in their rolls. All that was missing was the mustard and the relish." The boy is further appalled when the twins show up at his school and convene an assembly so that they can sing. Peter's wry reactions to the sometimes outsize goings-on, Fudge's inimitable antics and the characters' rousing repartee contribute to the sprightly clip of this cheerful read. Ages 8-12. Copyright 2002 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

Grade 3-5-Judy Blume's book (Dutton, 2002) is a fun story with interesting characters, but lacks the plot focus of the earlier titles in the series. As in the previous stories, Peter Hatcher, now a seventh grader, tells about an episode in his life in which his mischievous brother Fudge-a nickname for Farley Drexel, who is now five-drives him crazy. The story begins with the discovery of Fudge's new fascination with money, and is headed in a comical direction when the Hatchers go to Washington, DC to visit the Bureau of Printing and Engraving. However, the plot is hampered when they run into Peter's father's long-lost cousin, Howie Hatcher, and his family. The Hatchers invite themselves to stay with Peter's family in New York City. Although Howie and his family are all hilarious characters, their introduction is a diversion from the original plot. The characterizations are enhanced by author Judy Blume's superb reading, which brings them to life with just the right intonation. Preteens, especially those with younger siblings, will relate to the ups and downs of Peter's compounded life, and Fudge fans will continue to find his antics amusing, though not fully developed here. Cynthia Grabke, Thayer Public Library, Braintree, MA Copyright 2003 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the Library Binding edition.

It's almost immediately made clear that these books are directed at older elementary school kids, but if you read the whole series, you quickly realize that there are several subtle qualities that anyone (be it kid, teen, or grandma) can relate to, whether it's the well-hidden adult humor or how Peter and Fudge's brother relationship changes throughout the series to the point where Peter

doesn't see his brother as so much of a nuisance, but more as someone who looks up to and loves him (but has an eccentric way of showing it). My advice? Let your son or daughter read this series, especially if you feel like you're overlooking them and might be favoring the younger kid. Then read them yourself. It's a lot more effective in getting into the mindset of the older kid than probing. Don't be one of those parents

I first read this series when I was a kid (I'm 40) and never forgot how greAt Judy Blume books are. I couldn't wait to share that with my kids. I read this series to my daughters (9,11,15) before bed. My 15 year old listens in on it, and laughs out loud at parts. I'm telling you, buy the series , read in order, and have some laughs with your kids! There's even some adult humor in it. The girls couldn't wait to jump into bed, so I'd read, on school nights! Works like a charm;) Ya hear that Moms and Dads? Get books and read to use as leverage;) lol

My 8 year old loves these Fudge books. He couldn't wait for each new one to come in. They're still a timeless classic. Bummed this is the last one of the series.

A must have to read as a family. Even by book five, Blume has still got us hooked. A little formulaic toward the end of this series but that is what we wanted, right?

I had read the first three books in the Fudge series (plus Otherwise Known as Sheila the Great) when I was between the ages of ten and eleven. After I finished Fudge-a-Mania, I was convinced that was it for the Fudge series, and so apparently did Judy Blume. I was pretty surprised when I was in my early twenties and discovered that Ms. Blume had gotten the inspiration for this book in 2002. Why I didn't read it or get it in audio form then, I don't know. I finally got around to it seven years later in 2009. I ordered it from the public library, not knowing the happy mistake I'd made in ordering the audiobook. Then, I played it and was pleasantly surprised to hear Judy Blume reading the book herself. It didn't take me too long to listen to it, and I can remember feeling the main character's feelings of frustration from the beginning of the story to the end. It was, as Ms. Blume wrote near the end, "way too familiar." Peter Hatcher's younger brother Farley Drexel, a k a "Fudge" becomes obsessed with getting money during the period just before the school year begins. He wants to buy New York City, before deciding on something "smaller" like Toys R Us. The boys' grandmother suggests a trip to Washington DC, to the Bureau of Printing and Engraving will set Fudge straight, but this plan backfires. In addition, it's in the bureau's gift shop where Peter's father

Warren stumbles on his long-lost cousin Howie Hatcher from Honolulu, a man who persistently calls Warren "Tubby," his wife Eudora, their "perfect twin daughters" Flora and Fauna, plus their soon-to-be-four-year-old son, also named Farley Drexel whom Peter nicknames "Mini." This encounter is badly overwhelming for Peter, who is embarrassed by how stuck up and self absorbed they seem to be, but it's nothing compared with what he has to go through when the Honolulu Hatchers materialize in New York, and Peter has to contend with interacting with them for seven weeks. This book was quite enjoyable from beginning to end. It was interesting to "witness," even as Fudge is living out his money obsession, his character and his little sister, Tootsie actually seems to be growing up a little. I was also impressed with how Ms. Blume successfully set this book in 2002 with amenities such as cell phones, online messaging, mp3 players and elevator surveillance which weren't in the earlier books. I can just imagine that most readers and listeners were glad to have this book.

Great bedtime story for my grandson. He reads to me and I read to him.

This book is brilliant it's hilarious shows all of the techniques my teacher teaches me in class. Plus, the minute I sat down to read tales of a 4th grade nothing I couldn't stop reading the fudge series until I was done th as t-shirts why I give this book five stars.

I loved Peter and Fudge (and Uncle Feather) as a kid, and so did my 7 year old. She's sad we've read all the Fudge books already! This series stands the test of time, and I note that some of the areas have been updated for a modern audience.

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