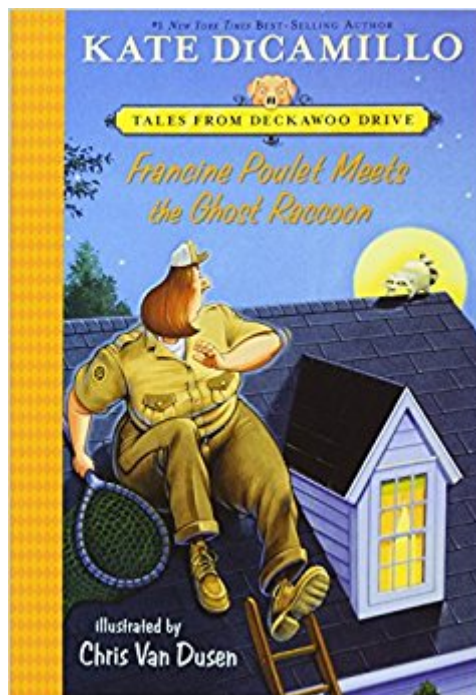




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# Francine Poulet Meets The Ghost Raccoon: Tales From Deckawoo Drive, Volume Two



## Synopsis

Deckawoo Drive's intrepid animal control officer meets her match—or does she? A funny, heartfelt, and fast-paced romp from Kate DiCamillo. Francine Poulet is the greatest animal control officer in Gizzard County. She hails from a long line of animal control officers. She's battled snakes, outwitted squirrels, and stared down a bear. "The genuine article," Francine's dad always called her. She is never scared—until, that is, she's faced with a screaming raccoon that may or may not be a ghost. Maybe Francine isn't cut out to be an animal control officer after all! But the raccoon is still on the loose, and the folks on Deckawoo Drive need Francine back. Can she face her fears, round up the raccoon, and return to the ranks of animal control? Join a cast of familiar characters—Frank, Stella, Mrs. Watson, and Mercy the porcine wonder—for some riotous raccoon wrangling on Deckawoo Drive.

## Book Information

Series: Tales from Deckawoo Drive (Book 2)

Paperback: 112 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 50 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #16,365 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #18 in Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > City Life #31 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Mammals #137 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Self-Esteem & Self-Respect

Age Range: 6 - 9 years

Grade Level: 1 - 4

## Customer Reviews

K-Gr 2 "Welcome back to the world of Mercy Watson and friends! In this installment, the fearless and unflappable Francine Poulet, animal control officer extraordinaire, is called upon by the bejeweled Mrs. Bissinger to capture a screaming, ghostly raccoon. When Francine faces the raccoon, she unexpectedly panics and ends up in the hospital. Her self-confidence lost, she resigns

her position because she no longer knows who she is. "She was not an animal control officer. And she was not a Poulet, because Poulets never panic." Then she meets Frank, an observant boy who not only knows the whereabouts of the still-at-large raccoon but encourages her to face her fears and live up to her true calling, to remember "she was the genuine article—solid as a refrigerator." Encouraging readers to believe in themselves, this short chapter book pairs illustrations on almost every page with brisk dialogue and short, descriptive sentences. With plenty of white space and a large font the title is tailor-made for young readers transitioning to chapter books and will be enjoyed by "Mercy Watson" (Candlewick) fans and new readers alike. VERDICT A worthy addition to the series. —Ramarie Beaver, Plano Public Library System, TX --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Fans of Leroy Ninker Saddles Up (2014) will relish this new tale, which successfully expands the core of the Mercy Watson series while offering generous cameos from the original characters, as well as much buttered toast. No one offers early readers better quality prose than DiCamillo, who never allows the constrictions of this format to deter her from excellent writing: "Franny, you are the genuine article. You are solid. You are certain. You are like a refrigerator. You hum." Series illustrator Van Dusen's artwork (not seen in final form) is a treat, as always, reflecting the quirkiness of DiCamillo's unique cast of characters. Francine Poulet will wrangle readers' hearts along with rascally wildlife in this standout early chapter book. —Booklist (starred review) New readers ready for a challenge and some laughs will welcome more characters from Deckawoo Drive. —Kirkus Reviews Like Leroy Ninker Saddles Up, it's a witty yet tender reminder of the importance of being one's best self. You do you, Francine. —Publishers Weekly With plenty of white space and a large font the title is tailor-made for young readers transitioning to chapter books and will be enjoyed by "Mercy Watson" (Candlewick) fans and new readers alike...A worthy addition to the series. —School Library Journal DiCamillo's quick, dryly hilarious dialogue makes this over-the-top story shine, as does the tender subplot about Francine's father, who still roots for her from the great beyond. Chris Van Dusen's comical caricatures of Officer Poulet, the ridiculously bejeweled Mrs. Bissinger and that crazy ghost raccoon make the whole book hum. —Shelf Awareness The wacky plot comes smartly together with humorous insights and lively illustrations. Familiar characters, including Frank and Stella, the Lincoln sisters, and Mrs. Watson, lead the story to its climax on Deckawoo Drive, resulting in the raccoon's capture, the restoration of Francine's self-esteem, and lots of toast. —The Horn Book DiCamillo's writing is diverting and warmly descriptive, the story has heart, and Francine is an undeniably likable character. Even in

black and white, Van Dusen's illustrations evince warmth and humor. Fans of the first book in the series, Leroy Ninker Saddles Up (BCCB 9/14), and the Mercy Watson books may find similar enjoyment here. "Bulletin of the Center for Children's Books School librarians will definitely want to add this new escapade to their collections." School Library Connection Kate DiCamillo delivers an inspiring message replete with suspense and fun... "Star Tribune

All of the Mercy Watson and Tales from Deckawoo Drive from Kate DiCamillo are the PERFECT reading level for my 6 year old. She started reading these when she was 5. Great beginning chapter books! Clean and respectful content, silly stories, good word repetition, opportunities to expand vocabulary and practice intonation...we sit and read together and giggle for hours!

Lots of figurative language. My 7 years old had to really learn and guess what it meant. Good for learning vocabulary and meanings of some figurative language. Might be a little hard for some kids to remember specific details due to a language.

What can I say? These books are endearingly written with a touch of insight to the human condition that resonates with all ages. I'm so glad we found this series. My 5 and 7 year old grandchildren love them, as do I.

Francine is a character in the Mercy Watson series also by Ms. DiCamillo. We love anything with Mercy and especially from Ms. DiCamillo!

If you like the Mercy Watson series then you will love this spin-off book which has many of the same characters.

My grandson loves the Mercy Watson books. I am sure he will love this title too!

Fun book for preteens

Kate DiCamillo does it again with another hilarious book filled with quirky characters and zany situations. She's such a clever writer! My 10 year-old son had a blast reading this book out loud together.

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