



***Are You There God? It's Me, Margaret* by Judy Blume**

ISBN: 9781481413978 (Hardcover)

Atheneum Books for Young Readers, an imprint of Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing, 2014

\*Age Range: 8-12 (Suggested by Publisher)

Grade Range: 3-7 (Suggested by Publisher)

## BOOK SYNOPSIS

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Margaret Simon, almost twelve, likes long hair, tuna fish, the smell of rain, and things that are pink. She's just moved from New York City to Farbook, New Jersey, and is anxious to fit in with her new friends—Nancy, Gretchen, and Janie. When they form a secret club to talk about private subjects like boys, bras, and getting their first periods, Margaret is happy to belong.

But none of them can believe Margaret doesn't have a religion, and that she isn't going to the Y or the Jewish Community Center. What they don't know is Margaret has her own very special relationship with God. She can talk to God about everything—family, friends, even Moose Freed, her secret crush.

Margaret is funny and real, and her thoughts and feelings are oh-so-relatable—you'll feel like she's talking right to you, sharing her secrets with a friend.

## REVIEWS AND PRAISE

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"... a tender, funny first-person story narrated by an almost twelve-year-old girl who discusses her private hopes and anxieties in candid conversations with God . . . Family and peer relationships and dialog ring true. —*Booklist*

"With sensitivity and humor Judy Blume has captured the joys, fears, and uncertainty that surround a young girl approaching adolescence." —*Publishers Weekly*

## AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

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- Flicker Tale Award (ND)
- Golden Archer Award (WI)
- Great Stone Face Book Award (NH)
- ILA/CBC Children's Choices
- Nene Award (HI)
- Time Best YA Book of All Time
- Young Hoosier Book Award (IN)

**Updated 2.23.24**

Simon & Schuster Children's Publishing  
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## MEDIA AND RESOURCES

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- [Reading Group Guide](#)
- [A Mighty Girl blog post](#)
- [Entertainment Weekly interview with Judy Blume](#)
- [NPR interview with Judy Blume](#)
- [ALA 2023: Judy Blume Offers a Rousing Defense of the Freedom to Read](#)
- [Judy Blume's website resources](#)

## RESPONSE TO CHALLENGES

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- [Judy Blume on Censorship/Variety article](#)
- [PBS NewsHour Interview](#)

## AUTHOR STATEMENT

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“Having the freedom to read and the freedom to choose is one of the best gifts my parents ever gave me.”—Judy Blume

## \*A NOTE ON AGE RANGES

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A publisher-suggested age range covers the gamut of readers that publishers envision using the book, whether for independent reading, family sharing, group study, or in other ways. Educators have the best sense of the appropriate age range for the diverse learners they work with and understand these ranges vary depending on a book's intended use.

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