



BOOK RESUME: MOUSETRAPS

Mousetraps

by Pat Schmatz and illustrated by Bill Hauser

Carolrhoda Books, Lerner Publishing Group, 2008

ISBN: 9780822586579 (Trade Hardcover)

*Age Range: 12-18 (Suggested by Publisher)

Grade Range: Grade 7 and Up (Recommended by *School Library Journal*)

BOOK SYNOPSIS

Back in grade school, Maxie and Rick were best friends. Rick would design crazy inventions, and Maxie, the artistic one, would draw them. Then something terrible happened to Rick, and he vanished from her school and her life. Years later, he shows up at Maxie's high school. In some ways he's the same person she once knew. But in other ways - frightening ones - he's very, very different . . .

REVIEWS AND PRAISE

"Rick and Maxie's thought-provoking story, juxtaposed against Hauser's renderings of Maxie's cartoons, is unexpectedly, richly dark, with no easy answers. Both chilling and sweet."—*Kirkus Reviews*

". . .Maxie's voice captures the insecurity and wish to fit in that color the adolescent years. . ." —*School Library Journal*

"The dialogue zips along as Maxie's struggles with her conscience and comes to an understanding of what friendship really means. For mature middle school and high school students, the dialogue and issues presented will ring true and reflect the difficulties faced when determining the right action to take. Recommended."—*Library Media Connection*

"The most compelling aspect of this book is the changing relationship between the two main characters, Maxie and Rick. The way they start to become friends once more, and the obstacles that stand in their way keep the reader wondering what will happen next."—*SLJ Teen*

AWARDS AND ACCOLADES

- Lambda Literary Awards Finalist

MEDIA AND RESOURCES

[TeachingBooks.net](https://www.teachingbooks.net) – Author Page, Story Map Multi-Levelled Lesson, Cultural Representation Reflection, Qualitative Text Complexity Rubric

***A NOTE ON AGE RANGES**

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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Lerner Publishing Group

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