



The Van Gogh Cafe

By Cynthia Rylant

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At the Van Gogh Cafe, *anything* can happen. Clara's dad owns the cafe, and she's seen it all--from food that cooks by itself to poems that foretell the future. This award-winning collection of vignettes by Newbery medalist Cynthia Rylant is a treat to be relished. So bring your appetite for the unexpected, because at the Van Gogh Cafe, your order of tea and toast comes with a side of magic!

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The Van Gogh Cafe By Cynthia Rylant Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #107590 in Books
- Brand: Sandpiper
- Published on: 2006-09-01
- Released on: 2006-09-01
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 7.50" h x .24" w x 5.00" l, .17 pounds
- Binding: Paperback
- 64 pages

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Within the walls of a small Kansas restaurant there is magic to cure all manner of ills. In PW's words, "Newbery Medalist Rylant breaks new ground in producing this whimsical tale, dexterously weaving extraordinary events into the fabric of ordinary life." Ages 8-12.

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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 4⁺-6. With her usual mix of elegance and down-to-earthness, Rylant offers seven vignettes of life at the Van Gogh Cafe{ , }. Situated off I-70 in Flowers, Kansas, the cafe{ , }(formerly an old movie theater) is run by Marc and his 10-year-old daughter, Clara, who appreciate the magic that comes from the cafe{ , }'s very walls. A possum turns up (upside down, actually) and is responsible for a widower's finding new meaning for his life. An aged film star and the man he loved many years ago are reunited in death at the cafe{ , }. Rylant's works can be deceptively simple on the surface, but there are layers to probe here. Some children may not wish to; even with magic in the walls and Clara hovering about, there's an adult, occasionally indulgent, sensibility that also permeates. But others will enjoy the odd cast of characters and Rylant's ability to turn a phrase, which can be quite magical in its own right. *Ilene Cooper*

Review

"Newbery Medalist Rylant breaks new ground in producing this whimsical tale, dexterously weaving extraordinary events into the fabric of ordinary life."--*Publishers Weekly*

"Full of uncanny observations and wry wisdom."—*The New Yorker*

Users Review

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Exactly why? Because this The Van Gogh Cafe is an unordinary book that the inside of the guide waiting for

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