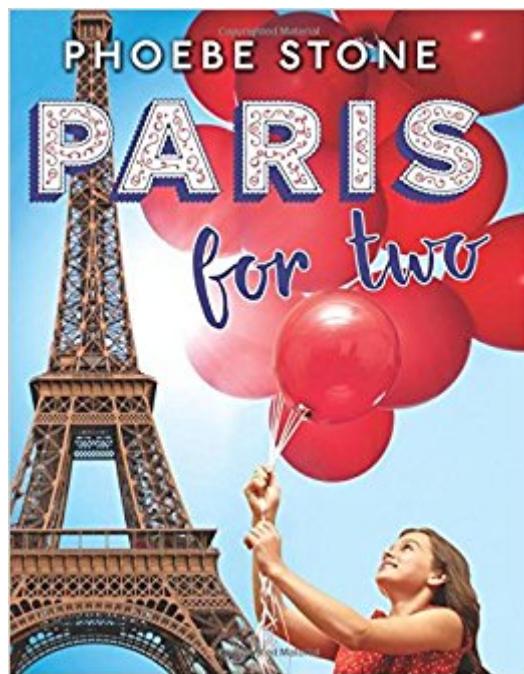


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## Paris For Two



## Synopsis

The best cure for a terrible crush on someone like Windel Watson is a trip across the ocean. That's what twelve-year-old Petunia Beanly thinks, until she hears where her family is moving. Not Paris. Not France. Anywhere would be better. Because that's where Windel will be, too. When the Beanly family gets to Paris, Pet's older sister seems right at home. Ava swans around looking beautiful, and making Pet feel even smaller and more awkward. It feels like Paris has a place for everyone except Pet. All she wants to do is hide in a dark room with the pillows over her head. But it turns out Paris has plans for Petunia Beanly. There are three bouquets awaiting her. If Pet can only find her courage, each bouquet will open a door and bring with it a sparkle that will change everything. And the person behind it? That will be Paris's biggest surprise of all. "

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 690 (What's this?)

Hardcover: 272 pages

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Language: English

ISBN-10: 0545443628

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Product Dimensions: 5.5 x 1.1 x 7.6 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.2 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (12 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #690,200 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #175 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Stepfamilies #2355 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Siblings #3593 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Girls & Women

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

The joy of this book is in the author's depiction of Paris. Anyone with the tiniest interest in the City of Lights will love her take on the culture and beauty of the city. You'll simply want to pack your bags immediately!The basic plot of the story was a little less success for me, largely because I didn't like either Pet or her sister, Ava.Pet was very much - maybe too much - a bratty little sister. Based on how Ava treated her, I understood it, but it made her difficult to read. And Ava - even though I

understood why she was the way she was, and kind of felt sorry for her, I simply didn't like her. Oh, and the mother! Disinterested in her younger daughter, rather scornful of her husband, and the weirdness of her pushing her 14 year old into a romance! I do think this may be of interest to a child dealing with the difficulties of a half sibling and all the family challenges that can come along with a blended family, but honestly, I think there are far more positive ways to portray a blended family than this. It's an okay book. I love everything about the way the author portrays Paris, but didn't particularly like our characters or the way their family drama was handled.

This was an interesting story about a young girl facing the challenges of growing up. Petunia and her family move to Paris, which is a welcome way for Pet to get escape the boy sheâ™s had a crush on and has embarrassed herself over him. But when they get to Paris, Pet feels lost and wishes she could be more like her stepsister, who fits right in. But someone is mysteriously helping Pet to come out of her shell and she learns how to enjoy the situation sheâ™s given. My daughter really liked this book. She said it was enjoyable to read and she seemed really engaged as she whizzed through it. I read it after she did and I thought it was alright. While the premise was interesting, I found that I didnâ™t much care for any of the characters. By the end, I was rooting for Pet, but she was kind of annoying along the way. I did enjoy reading about the city though. I think this would be a good book for a young reader who has an interest in Paris or France in general or perhaps someone who is in a family with step siblings and step parents. Itâ™s recommended for ages 8 to 12, but I think 10 to 14 might be a better range given the parts about crushes and family discontent. My son didnâ™t read this one, I know itâ™s not really the type of book heâ™s interested in, but it was the type of story my daughter likes to read.

Great book! As an adult I was surprised to realize that I was actually really interested in the story. It kept reminding me of something and I finally decided that it is reminiscent of "The Mystery of the Green Cat" by Phyllis Whitney. Although the Green Cat was written in 1957 and thus has some situations and activities that would bewilder most of today's kids, its story is similar and it's still an entertaining story after all these years. Both books involve children whose parents have remarried and relocated the kids (for different reasons, though) to another place. Both involve a lot of local color, interesting and sometimes mysterious characters and objects; both involve another culture in some way; and both have sibling difficulties. There are a lot of life lessons gently given in this story. I felt the characters changed their behavior and "became nice" a little faster than would happen in real life (The Green Cat had a little bit of the same type of rushed change) but an author only has so

much time, especially in a book for younger readers (which tends to be shorter) and, after all, it IS fiction. In some ways, it would make a pretty good movie for preteens or early teens. I think that girls about 10-14 will like it.

Petunia has a crush, but she just can't seem to get this across in a non-creepy way. She constantly embarrasses herself around him and she just can't seem to do anything right. When her family moves to Paris in order for her dad to research a book, she wants to start fresh. Her sister, Ava, fits right in, but Petunia feels lost. She just can't seem to figure life out in the right way. When she finds a secret drawer, things begin to change as she embarks on a mystery. The mystery forces her out of her shell and she begins to make friends and deal with this new place. Honestly, the parts about Paris are the greatest aspect of the book. Otherwise, it is only okay. There is quite a bit of sibling rivalry and uninterested parents. Also, there are several other things happening in the book that seem like they are going to be an interesting subplot and then just end or don't do anything at all. I'm not sure if this is something that my students would really like to read even though it has a bright cover and discusses a city most of them would love to visit.

Devoted readers of Phoebe Stone's coming-of-age chronicles--as well as those new to her work--will be delighted by this tale of Pet Beanly's coming to terms with her new life in Paris, to which her family has been temporarily relocated. Stone's evocation of Paris is pitch-perfect, at once utterly contemporary and timeless. The sure sense of place, of spoken idiom, and --delightfully--the conventions of fashion and design ground the novel in a convincing naturalism. But it is Stone's sympathetic understanding of the depths of an emerging adolescent's insecurities and the vaulting aspirations of first love that move the heart. I will not spoil plot beyond confirming that Pet must contend with serious challenges and set-backs before matching minds and hearts with her elusive and accomplished first love. In PARIS FOR TWO Phoebe Stone enters new territory, while delivering familiar satisfactions.

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