



# Ramona and Her Father

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Lately Ramona had the terrible feeling that she was the only happy member of the Quimby family. Since her father lost his job, he seemed too worried to love her anymore. Ramona's mother and big sister Beezus had become awfully busy and and grouchy. Even Picky-picky, the family cat, was grumpy. He didn't like her new cheaper food and had eaten the Quimby's Halloween jack-o'-lantern instead.

Ramona tried everything she could to make things better. With Beezus's help she launched a campaign to stop her father from smoking so much, but he didn't seem to appreciate it. Ramona also tried to act adorable, like kids in TV commercials. Mr. Quimby said the boy who sang the Whopperburger jingle made a million dollars year! Ramona wanted to make a million dollars, too, because then her father would surely be fun again.

## Ramona and Her Father Details

Date : Published April 15th 1979 by Yearling (first published 1975)

ISBN : 9780440472414

Author : Beverly Cleary , Alan Tiegreen (Illustrator)

Format : Paperback 186 pages

Genre : Childrens, Fiction

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## From Reader Review *Ramona and Her Father* for online ebook

### Steve Shilstone says

Beverly Cleary has a very fine grasp indeed on kid think.

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### Lori says

I remember this book so well- partly because I went on a campaign to try to get my dad to stop smoking just as Ramona had after I read this book. My campaign was unfortunately, not as successful as Ramona's. Still, this remains one of my favorite books from childhood. I love the part in which Ramona tells her teacher that her pantyhose are wrinkled like an elephant's skin. So funny. Cleary has an uncanny ability to remember and describe children's feelings- without being condescending or phony. Ramona's worry over her father's job loss and his possibly blackening lungs rung so true for me as a child. I remember how much I could relate. Another excellent book starring Ramona Quimby.

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### Holly Splawn says

The last chapter is about the church Christmas play and it is so sweet. We love Ramona.

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### Anna says

It has been a long time since I read a Ramona book. This was fairly cute and felt relevant despite the difference in time period, I think kids feelings about things remain much the same. Popsugar 2018: a book set in the decade you were born.

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### Manybooks says

While I have generally very much enjoyed Ramona and her Father and think that Beverly Cleary has painted and portrayed not only an enjoyably humorous, but also very much realistic portrait of middle class American childhood (not dwelling on the negatives, but at the same time, also not shying away from potential problems and issues, such as the trials and tribulations faced by the Quimby family when the father loses his job), I do tend to feel that the ending of Ramona and Her Father is a bit rushed and incomplete (to me, Cleary simply stopping the novel with Ramona's sheep performance has left me, and potentially leaves readers, hanging a bit). Now the rather abrupt and rushed ending does really make me want to read the rest of the series, so perhaps this is actually an interesting and cleverly deliberate narrative tool. But that being said, if I had read Ramona and her Father when I was a child, when it first came out (I did not, as this was my first sojourn into Ramona Quimby territory), I would more than likely have been rather majorly annoyed at the abrupt and unfinished ending, but especially at probably having to wait some months before the next book was published (I am not the most patient person, never have been, and have also never enjoyed open ended

stories all that much either, both then and now).

Now what I actually do find really and personally very sadly annoying is the unfortunate fact that more than a few reviewers actually seem to be faulting and even condemning the fact that smoking is featured and depicted in Ramona and her Father. I do know and yes appreciate that everyone is entitled to his or her opinion. However, Ramona and Her Father was written at a time where smoking was not yet seen either as all that generally negative or even as a probably lethal habit. Secondly, and for me even more importantly, smoking is actually NOT AT ALL glamourized by Beverly Cleary in Ramona and her Father. For it is soundly and continuously criticised (as unhealthy, too expensive, that it can start fires and so and so on and so on) and both Beezus and Ramona are constantly at their father to quit smoking. And therefore, I personally really do NOT understand the negativity in the reviews that take issue with the fact that smoking is featured (if in Ramona and Her Father smoking were portrayed as glamorous and grown up, then perhaps I could more understand the negativity, but that is not ever the case, as smoking is continuously shown and portrayed as a bad, unhealthy and potentially dangerous habit, as well as very expensive, especially considering that Ramona's father has just lost his job). And the only minor annoyance for me is that when Beezus and Ramona talk back to their father, take their father to task with regard to his smoking, the mother does not interfere when he verbally chastises his daughters (yes, he does later admit to Ramona that she is right about how his smoking is a bad and unhealthy habit, but the mother really should have defended her daughters, and not just remained silent, and with that silence, enabling and condoning).

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### **Kelly says**

Still holds up really well -- especially about the tightening of budgets and giving up of frills when a job loss happens. I love how squarely lower middle class the family is. Dad's new job is bagging groceries, while mom works at a doctor's office as a secretary. Going out for dinner is a huge deal to them. And the entire subplot with dad giving up smoking is a thing that I remember reading as a kid, and now, as an adult, can't really recall in books I've read for young readers in years.

I think the thing I'm loving most so far: Ramona's parents treat her like she's not a baby. They're fair with her, and they're trying to make her not give up what it is that makes her who she is, but they're also not bending to her very strong will.

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### **Kathleen Sanchez says**

In the book Ramona and her Father Ramona's father loses his job Ramona thinks he's miserable. So she tries to do everything she can to cheer him and the rest of the family. Even if it means getting burs stuck in her hair to trying to get him to stop smoking. I rated this book a 4 star because it was a little easy for me. This book is humorous. I would definitely recommend this book to reader who like the Ramona series and to readers who like realistic fiction.

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### **Mary says**

I love this book so much. This is the book where Ramona really starts to get to know herself. I love the way her father's character is developed and the way Cleary relates the experience of being worried about money





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### **Arielle Walker says**

Came across my 2003 school reading log, so figured I should enter these books in too. In the words of my ten-year-old self, this book was: "Really good, pretty easy"

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### **Nathan Sizemore says**

94/100

Man, I love Beverly Cleary's stuff so much. I feel like she needs to be recognized as an amazing writer not only for children but for all readers. Few other authors have moved me as much with their power of observation.

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### **Kellyn Roth says**

Ramona is really the sweetest. I mean, don't get me wrong ... she's a pain, too! ... but she's also a sweetheart. :)

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### **Heather says**

I'm reading this to the girls and we're having a good time. They are FREAKING out that the dad smokes. It was published in '75, and I'm trying to explain that things were a bit different back when I was a kid.

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### **Kevin Fink says**

Oh! I had hoped that this book would be as fun and lovely as I remembered. When I received it in my sweaty hands, I said, "Oh my. I remember this book as a lot thicker." But you know what? It was fun and lovely and nostalgic. I read it in one day, on two bus trips to work and back. Who can forget Nosmo King? And the crown of burrs? And Ramona wanting to be on television commercials so she can earn a million dollars and her father and family can be happy again? And the bittersweet Christmas ending, where Ramona, in her pajama-ed sheep costume, bleats loud and proud? I often hesitate to read books that I absolutely loved as a child, but this (and Ramona and Her Mother) absolutely did not disappoint. If you need a shot of nostalgia for your childhood, and need to know that everything will work out in the end, read this book. \*I do suggest finding an edition illustrated by Alan Tiegreen, from the original publications in the 80s. These are the only Ramona illustrations that will suffice.\*

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## **Dolly says**

We started reading the series of books starring Ramona Quimby, Beezus, Henry and their friends a few years ago, but we never made too much progress. We intended to read more, but we always chose something else.

Our youngest was given the book Ramona the Pest (Ramona Quimby to read by her second grade teacher to practice her reading comprehension and I thought we'd give the series another try. We recently listened to Ramona and Her Mother

This book brings a sense of nostalgia to me, a reminder of my childhood. Although these were written more than thirty years ago, they are still fun and great for children. It's refreshing to see that as time passes, some things still stay the same.

I like the Ramona's sincerity and the fact that she experiences real emotions. She gets angry at times, but she is also joyous, fearful and proud. She is jealous of her older sister, but loves her and looks up to her as well. She worries about her parents and wants her father to quit smoking so he won't get sick and die.

Children can empathize with her emotions, her wants and her fears. I think that's why these books are so enduring - it's because they feel so real. We really enjoyed reading this book together.

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