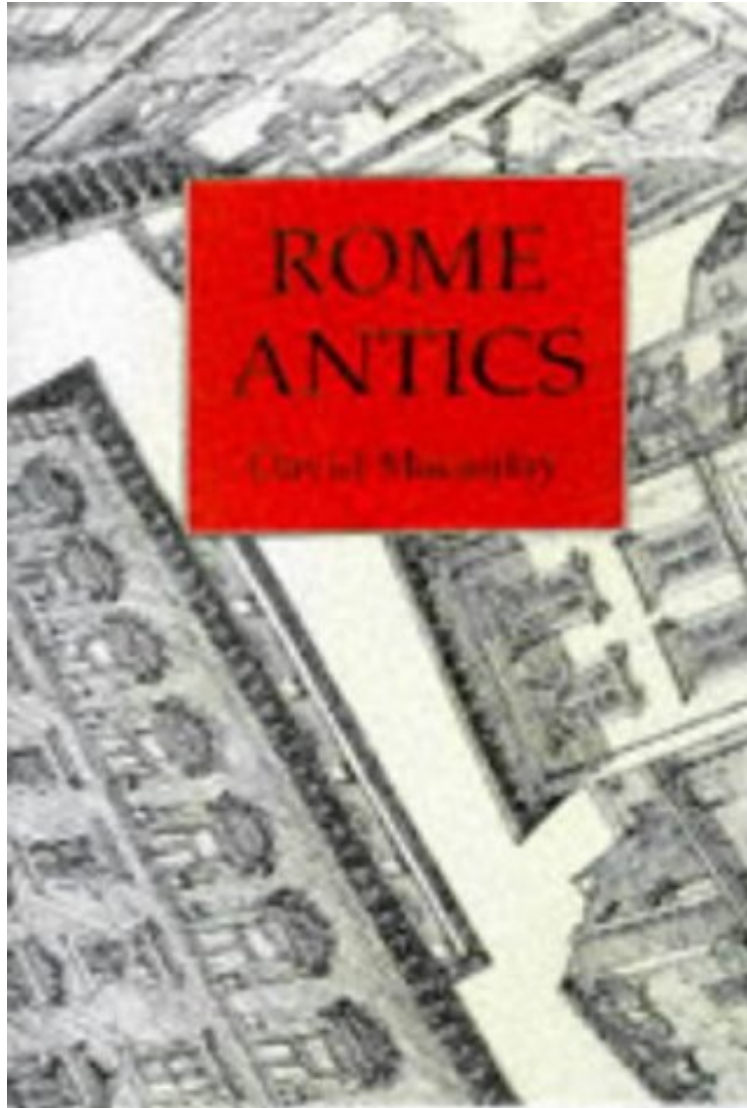


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Rome Antics

David Macaulay

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David Macaulay : Rome Antics before purchasing it in order to gauge whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Rome Antics:

1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Rome's architecture -- plus a little story By emmejay A birds-eye tour of Rome's architecture, specifically a homing pigeon's eye, and it's a bird on a mission, developing into a narrative with a sweet surprise ending. I found it a bit harder to get my bearings in these drawings by the fabulous Macaulay (vs. Castle or Cathedral), maybe because of the bird's swooping flight, but loved the little story. 5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Witty lines strung together is red By S. Wonderful! Macaulay's lively yet precise drawing of

bits and pieces of Rome forms a witty masterpiece! The more familiar you are with the architecture of the City of Rome, the more you will cherish this book! It is also a wonderful introduction to the city for a child: Rome can be overwhelming and in *Rome Antics* Macaulay makes the city into child's play! 9 of 12 people found the following review helpful. Great pictures, simple story, must-have for Rome fans
By Carolyn McKenzie
This book is a trip through Roma from a pigeon's point of view. The pigeon flies around, through, over and past many of Rome's historical landmarks, and a brief section in back describes their history and significance. I checked this out of the library to read with my 5 year old after I went to Rome last year, and bought a copy for myself, just to enjoy the pictures and the memories they bring! The Chiesa de San Ignazio (Church of St. Ignatius) is an especial favorite, as my choir performed there to a "standing room only" crowd! Quite a feat for an amateur choir on their first overseas tour! The pen and ink sketches, the snippets of history, and the wonderful way they evoke the charisma of Rome make this a great addition to any child's or adult's library.

This travel guide to Rome provides a bird's eye tour of the city's architectural marvels and details, as a red line follows the path of a homing pigeon starting from the ringside at the Colosseum. It also includes an aerial map of Rome and brief descriptions of the highlights of the tour.

.com "Somewhere in the Italian hills, a homing pigeon is released. She soars quickly and follows an old road, which (of course) leads to Rome." So begins Caldecott Medal-winning artist David Macaulay's visually festive journey that tracks the whimsical flight of a homing pigeon through the archways, over the terra-cotta rooftops, and between the columns of this most ancient and vibrant city: "Instead of traveling directly to her destination, which is standard pigeon procedure, she decides to take the scenic route." Macaulay's angle of vision pans back and forth between the pigeon's-eye view and that of a roaming cinematographer. The effect is a kaleidoscope of whirling, swooping, dizzying images that must resemble flight itself. Macaulay's intricately crosshatched pen-and-ink images of Rome--with its ancient amphitheater, Colosseum, Temple of Hercules, elaborate fountains, and bustling cafes (with a feast of crumbs for a travel-weary pigeon)--provide a dazzling display of architectural finery. We are so swept up in the homing pigeon's divergent path--marked on the black-and-white vistas by a thin red line--that we momentarily forget she has a task at talon. All is explained in the uplifting one-word message joyfully delivered by the pigeon to the sketch artist (Macaulay himself?) shown at work in the last scene of the book. *Rome Antics* concludes with an aerial map of the city, marked with the pigeon's flight path. Roman sites from the Arch of Constantine to the Pantheon are briefly described as well. This lovely visual serenade to Rome is a delight for anyone who could fall in love with such a city as this. (All ages)
From School Library Journal
Grade 5 Up. Macaulay's trademark bird's-eye views of famous works of architecture become in this book the literal substance of the text. Modern Rome is seen through the skewed perspective of a homing pigeon's erratic flight through the city streets as she delivers a message to an artist in a garret. Darting and swooping above rooftops and into alleyways, the bird takes readers on a haphazard tour as it catches an overhead view of the Colosseum, sees churches aslant and turned upside down, sails into the sky above a piazza, and makes brief forays down cobbled streets to search for crumbs. Macaulay adds sly touches of humor to the pen-and-ink sketches, as voracious cats eye the pigeon and people pursue their chores and pleasures, oblivious of the bird's flight, which is indicated by a thin red line. The famous landmarks are here, perhaps seen only as a piece of a cornice, the columns of a structure, or a section of an ancient wall. The book includes a map of the city "As the pigeon flies" with each structure numbered, and an addendum shows the 22 featured buildings with a paragraph or two of interesting facts about each one. As a guidebook to modern Rome, Macaulay's sketchbook is unconventional and too sophisticated for young children, but for those with a knowledge of, or a yearning to see one of the great cities of the world, it is full of informative details and amusing incidents.
?Shirley Wilton, Ocean County College, Toms River, NJ
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From Kirkus s
In another of his explorations of the traversal between A and B (*Shortcut*, 1995, and *a detour: Why the Chicken Crossed the Road*, 1987), Macaulay takes the scenic route and concludes, perhaps, that all roads really do lead to Rome. This bird's-eye view of a grand city's architecture begins when a maiden ties a message onto the leg of a homing pigeon. Before readers can say S.P.Q.R., the pigeon has made the unusual decision of abstaining from the shortest path between two points in favor of a whirling flight through Rome. Macaulay has created a pen-and-ink sketchbook of ancient buildings in the modern city, stringing together black-and-white drawings of landmarks with the thinnest of red lines (to indicate the pigeon's flight). Along with labeled monuments are more mundane sightings: On the street, a dog drinks from a fire hydrant while conversations take place in cafes and on cell phones. The views of Rome are so encompassing that by the time the pigeon delivers its message to a draughtsman hunched over a drawing, readers have almost forgotten the bird's errand. "Yes" is the answer to an unstated question that hangs, tantalizingly, in the air. An aerial map of Rome ("not to scale") and brief, conversational descriptions recap the highlights of the pigeon's trip. In it, Macaulay confirms that his is not a profession, nor an obsession, but a love affair of sketching and architecture. (Picture book. 7-11) -- Copyright ©1997, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.