



## No Kiss For Mother

*Tomi Ungerer*

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Children will sympathize with bad-kitty Piper Paw when he refuses to wear the clothes his mother sets out, squirms from her when she smothers him in kisses, and won't eat when she desperately tries to please him with his favorite foods. Through every disruptive means available to him -- slingshots, stink bombs, spiders, pea shooters, and firecrackers -- young Piper manages to earn the wrong kind of attention from parents, teachers, anti classmates. It ultimately takes a fight in the schoolyard to bring Piper's problems to a head. When Mrs. Paw reacts with her usual caring but overly protective ways, Piper comes back at her with angry words, and both feel hurt and misunderstood.

Finally, Piper takes a big step toward truly growing up by giving up some of his childish pranks and learning to let his mother know, in his own way, that he loves her, but that he is uncomfortable with too many kisses! Throughout this entertaining tale, Tomi Ungerer's expressive, imaginative illustrations show each character's deeper feelings as both Piper and his mother finally learn to respect each other's preferences.

## **No Kiss For Mother Details**

Date : Published May 1st 1998 by Roberts Rinehart Publishers (first published May 1st 1973)

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Author : Tomi Ungerer

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## From Reader Review No Kiss For Mother for online ebook

### Amy Chesman says

I liked this book . Piper, the cat is growing up and no longer wants to be smothered by his overbearing mother's kisses. Many kids, especially boys go through this phase. But I wonder if this book, originally published in the 70's, would be appropriate for a contemporary audience? Today's parents and teachers are very sensitive to some of this story's elements, including children (young kittens) playing with smoke bombs and firecrackers, gambling, fist fights, smoking cigars. In addition, the father threatens Piper with a spanking using a cane. While his mother, smacks him across the face. Piper's behavior is rude and insensitive but the punishment is not openly excepted today.

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### Nicigirl85 says

Titel: Mal ein ganz anderes Kinderbuch...

Ich weiß nicht wie es euch geht, aber die meisten Kinderbücher sind entweder Märchen oder aber es geht um super brave Kinder und das Buch ist quietschbunt. Da sticht Katerchen Toby doch völlig aus der Masse hervor.

In der Geschichte geht es um das Katzenkind Toby Tatze, das man als Mama nicht unbedingt geschenkt haben möchte, denn Toby zählt nicht gerade zu den artigen Kindern. Ihm geistern viele Ideen durch den Kopf, nur sind diese nicht immer ganz so clever. Und dass er der Klassenclown ist, kommt auch nicht so gut an. Doch was soll man machen, wenn man so voller Tatendrang ist?

Mir hat vor allem gefallen, dass Toby nicht das typische artige Kind darstellt, sondern durchaus so ist, wie die Kinder von heute nun einmal sind. Trotzdem ist er ja nicht böse. Toby weiß auf seine Art zu verzaubern.

Das Buch besticht vor allem durch tolle Schwarz- Weiß- Zeichnungen, die es für mich zu einem Highlight machen.

Am besten gefallen haben mir die Gerichte, die Toby und seine Eltern so verspeisen. Wie mag wohl Maulwurfsgulasch schmecken?

Fazit: Mal ein völlig anderes Kinderbuch mit kleinem Lerneffekt am Ende. Ich empfehle es gern weiter, da es aus der Masse hervorsticht. Gelungen!

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### Sarah Fox says

This is a children's book about a horrible child and what one long suffering mother has to do to make him get his crap together. Spoiler alert - It's not kissing.

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### Cheryl says

"[H]e usually manages to get himself kicked out of class before homework inspection. 'It's better to have bad grades in conduct than in work,' he tells the other pupils."

I think this is more of a memoir than fiction....

Not for little kids, despite the picture-book format. Nifty words like Vicious and Compassionately. Chapters, and lots of text. Fighting and sneaking smokes in the bathroom. But the ending is perfect, and understandable to all.

Ungerer is truly one-of-a-kind. Moon Man is still my favorite story, and The Three Robbers my favorite art, but I will continue to hunt for his lesser picture-books, too.

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### **Erika\_kartmann says**

Die schwarz/weiß-Zeichnungen sind wunderschön, niedlich und superlustig zugleich. Die kurze Geschichte um den akut an Pubertät erkrankten Kater Toby spielt in einer westlichen Großstadt in den 1970ern und das merkt man auch: Toby kriegt von seiner Mutter ein paar gewatscht, Toby raucht heimlich auf dem Schulklo und Toby mag auch kein Zähneputzen. Also wird das Buch auch mit neuer Rechtschreibung sicher keine Grundschullektüre. Umso besser : Da kann man das Buch zu Hause vorlesen.

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### **notgettingenough says**

Having read this at the same time as Otto, I find it very odd that this is so nicely written, when Otto is not. Is it perhaps because it is written in English, whereas Otto is translated from German (presumably by the author).

A charming book - I have no idea why the publisher's hype on the cover calls it 'outrageous and controversial' - both words and pictures.

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### **Manny says**

This is my favorite children's book of all time. Piper Paw is a seriously frustrated pre-teen kitten. He loves his mom (well, doesn't everyone, deep down?), but is sick to death of her overprotective ways. Can't she see that he plays on the football team and has already started smoking? What's wrong with her? Is she COMPLETELY in denial? Matters come to a head when he gets into a big schoolyard fight with one of his friends the day she's due to come and pick him up for lunch. She freaks out and starts kissing him and calling him her little sugar tiger; he screams that he just can't take any more of this; she loses it and hits him. I love this scene!

Tomi Ungerer was absolutely not your typical children's author. He spent a large part of his career writing

adult comic books, and was particularly interested in S&M themes. He was a brilliant illustrator, and the pictures are often quite disturbing... I mean that in the best possible way. Evidently this book is too much for many people to handle, and last time I checked it was out of print - sad, because many of his less adventurous titles are still doing fine. abebooks.com has plenty of copies, however.

All the adults I know who've come across *No Kiss* think it's fantastic. Children's opinions vary widely. My own kids didn't really like it - in particular, they found the pictures a bit too scary. On the other hand, I recently recommended it to a friend who has a precocious 6 year old (he orders his own *à la carte* sushi), and it was apparently a huge hit. So buy it for yourself, and maybe your child will like it too!

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When we were both at a conference in Ottawa a couple of weeks ago, I happened to mention this book to my colleague Marianne, who has a young daughter. I was curious to know if Ymelia also liked him. "Ungerer?" said Marianne vaguely. "Wait, isn't he from Strasbourg?" I said he was. "Oh, my mother knows him!" she said. "She's met him several times."

Well. Her mother has met God several times, and she'd never really thought it was worth mentioning. I suppose it's possible that I have an unusually high opinion of Herr Ungerer...

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### **Miriam says**

Kisses, yuck!

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### **MaryJo says**

Not my cup of tea

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### **Baconbitzy says**

This is such a classic from my childhood that my entire family uses references from the book on a regular basis. "Casserole of mole innards" was what my mom would say we were having when she made tuna casserole, for example. I can't say how much I love this book and the illustrations. It's a gem.

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### **Lisa Vegan says**

I didn't like the corporal punishment, fighting, cigar included in a young children's book. It will certainly resonate with those kids who are at that age when a public display of affection by a parent elicits horror and I think some of these kids might enjoy this book. I wasn't wowed by the pictures or the story though.

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### **Barb Middleton says**

An adult book disguised for a kid. The characters are too nasty to be funny for me.

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### **Reb says**

We loved this book so much, we named two of our cats Piper and Mitzi

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### **Seizure Romero says**

I don't have children, so when I pick up a book for children it's usually because of the illustrations. Feel free to judge this book by its cover. I laughed my ass off before I even opened it. OK, so if you really care about the story, a bratty kitten learns about compromise in regards to his affectionate mother. Whatever. LOOK AT THAT FACE. That, my friends, is comedy.

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### **Molly says**

I don't think I'm being overly pc, but this book was kind of... discomfiting? Just generally unpleasant and with a weird kind of ending. Very much tones of domestic abuse- made me uncomfortable, and even the cat illustrations couldn't save it for me.

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