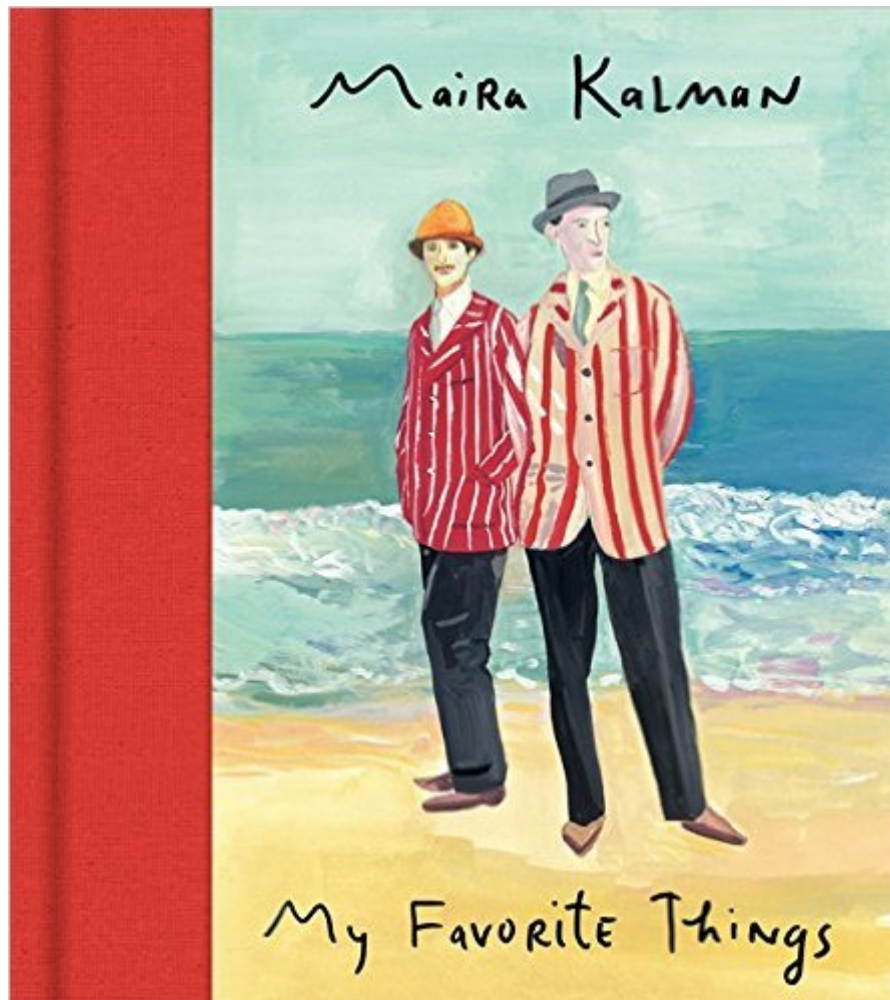


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# My Favorite Things



## Synopsis

From Maira Kalman, the author of the bestsellers *The Principles of Uncertainty* and *The Elements of Style*, comes this beautiful pictorial and narrative exploration of the significance of objects in our lives, drawn from her personal artifacts, recollections, and selections from the collection of the Cooper-Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum. With more than fifty original paintings and featuring bestselling author and illustrator Maira Kalman's signature handwritten prose, *My Favorite Things* is a poignant and witty meditation on the importance of both quotidian and unusual objects in our culture and private worlds. Created in the same colorful, engaging, and insightful style as her previous works, which have won her fans around the world, *My Favorite Things* features more than fifty objects from both the Cooper-Hewitt, Smithsonian Design Museum and Kalman's personal collections: the pocket watch Abraham Lincoln was carrying when he was shot, original editions of *Winnie-the-Pooh* and *Alice in Wonderland*, a handkerchief in memoriam of Queen Victoria, an Ingo Maurer lamp, Rietveld's Z chair, a pair of Toscanini's pants, and photographs Kalman has taken of people walking towards and away from her. A pictorial index provides photographs of the actual objects and a short description of them, enhancing the reading experience. As it speaks to the universal experience and importance of beloved objects in our lives—big and small, famous and private—this unique work is a fresh way of examining and understanding our society, history, culture, and ourselves.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I have long been a Maira Kalman fan, but in this book she has moved to a new level of genius! Gertrude Stein said that it was hard being a genius since you need to sit around all day doing nothing. Well, not sitting around and doing something--walking, observing, collecting, drawing, painting, writing, curating, thinking, remembering, LIVING ( and I'm sure occasionally sitting on broken chairs found on the street!), have taken Maira Kalman to the level of Genius +. This book is to read and read and read and give and give and give. Tried reading the e book version, but it's not the same. Buy the real thing.

A lovely thing, this book. Contemplative, tender, amusing, droll, perceptive. Ideal for those with magpie minds who like to mull things over and have their own collections of memories - and wish they had the wit and talent to gather them together in similarly creative ways. Writers, artists and curators of all things whimsical will delight in these pages. Kalman's hand-writing is also a delight - not a whiff of Arial, Verdana or Times New Roman in the whole thing.

This book is incredible. It is very high quality and of excellent print material. The pictures are vivid and the text is wonderful to read. It is a nostalgic look at her life when she was young and one can easily relate to how rooms and things mean so much to us because of what took place there or what we did/where we took those objects. I find this book introspective and thoughtful. Definitely worth a reread over and over again. I loved this so much I also gave one as a gift. An excellent buy and super gift if you know someone who loves her stuff! Other thoughts: The quality of the actual book is excellent. The binding is of very high quality and has the nice added touch of being red fabric, lending itself to feeling like an old library book rather than a modern print. This went along perfectly with the book's point of recalling memories and old objects. Also, each page has just the right amount of text and pictures on it--one does not overshadow the other. It is not crowded which is important given the artist's funky text type. This is by far my favorite one of her books and I love to curl up with it on a rainy day and reminisce about my own childhood memories!

This is another lovely, creative, fun, and touching book from Maira Kalman. She begins the book, which is richly illustrated in her clever art, with a short memoir. Funny accounts and touching stories fill out a sense of where she comes from in this section. Next comes the description of her curation experience at the Whitney. The cool thing about this book is that it's an account of how she curated a set of pieces at the Whitney, finding, as she describes, only things that caused "Delight." Some of the art she chose is pictured in the book; other pieces she illustrates in her clever, artful

hand. It's a lovely book about art, about what might be a "favorite thing" and what may not, and about Maira Kalman herself. I loved reading through and then looking back through this book. It's really lovely.

This is my kind of favourite book! I love the gorgeous illustrations, the writing is great, and the book itself is well made and beautiful. Just the kind of book I love to read and enjoy over a nice cup of coffee on a sunny Sunday morning. Not long, just enjoyable and beautiful!

love maiira....her whimsy, is a delight....pure, honest, childlike.....working my way thru the pAGES....have not missed any of her books...had bought all!!!! she illustrated for my daughter when she was young.....all are a collector's item.....BRAVO

Nice book. I thought it would be a little quirkier than it was, but it's a lovely idea. It turned out not to be what I had hoped to give as a gift, but it's great on the coffee-table for guests/family/friends to pick up and thumb through.

I loved this book. A friend gave me a copy for Christmas and I bought my copy for my best friend's 97th birthday. And SHE loved the book. Maira Kalman is marvelous, funny, witty, clever, perfection. Her art is fresh and utterly appealing. One of my favorite books in my entire collection. A person cannot go wrong in purchasing "My Favorite Things."

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