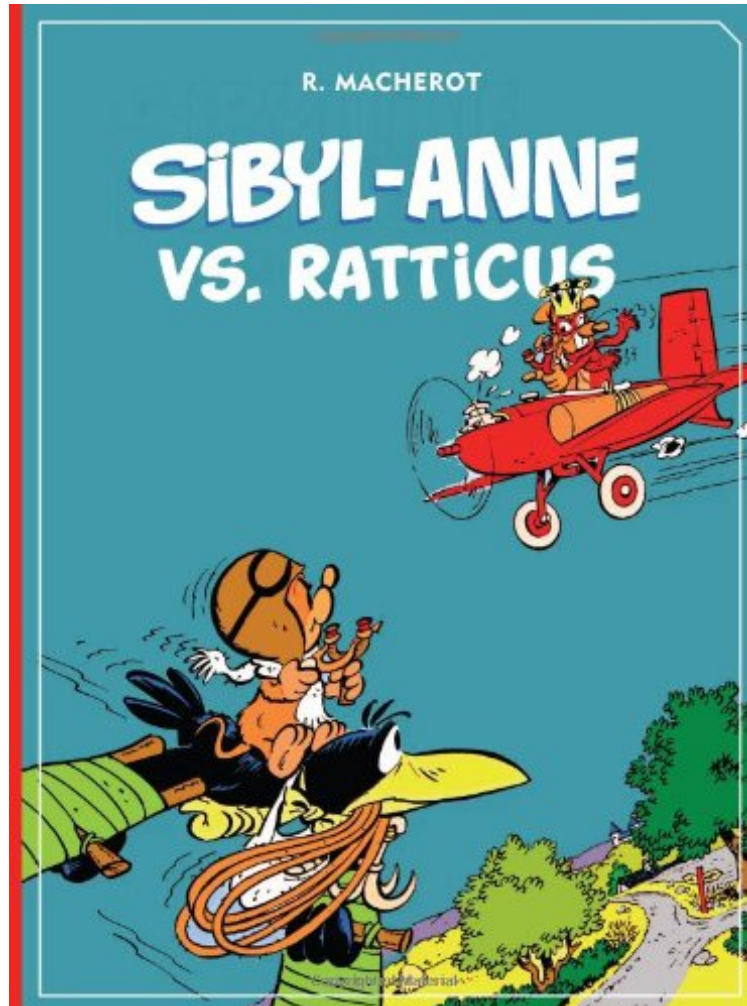


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Sibyl-Anne vs. Ratticus (Sibyl-Anne)

R. Macherot

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R. Macherot : Sibyl-Anne vs. Ratticus (Sibyl-Anne) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Sibyl-Anne vs. Ratticus (Sibyl-Anne):

5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. Magnificent All-Ages ClassicBy Michael 'De Smurfhrer' ThomsenYou can do a search for SIBYL-ANNE EDITORS NOTES in Google and find some very interesting notes about this book from editor Kim Thompson... I'm going to keep this review short, because I agree with pretty much everything he says, and he says it much better than me. I grew up with classic French/Belgian all-ages comics here in Denmark, and this is one of the books that REALLY made an impression back then. Other highlights of Europaen comics would be "The Smurf King", "Asterix and Cleopatra" and a some of the best Tintin books, particularly "Tintin in Tibet" and "The Seven Crystal Balls"/"Prisoners of the Sun". Anyway, re-reading this book I'd say I had pretty good taste back then, because this is quite magnificent. It's like a timeless Pixar epic, with great characters and perfect art.

Only negative thing I can say about it: Thompson should have combined this book and its sequel (also featuring Ratticus) into one perfect 130 page book. Oh well, hopefully it will sell well enough for them to do the sequel.

A bucolic paradise becomes the site of a fierce struggle when an army of rats invades. Sibyl-Anne and her fianc Boomer live in blissful peace in the French countryside until the evil rat Ratticus, evicted from his previous residence, sets his eye on the quiet acre that the couple share with their friends (a porcupine, a crow, and a rabbit). After a hilariously unsuccessful attempt to infiltrate the quiet little community in drag (which leaves a member of the cast smitten, *Some Like It Hot*-style), the devious Ratticus engineers the takeover of a neighboring rat colony and builds it into an army that sweeps Sibyl-Anne and her friends off their homestead and onto an island. Battles by land, by sea, and even by air ensue, until finally the wicked are defeated and peace is restored. Macherots charming mouses-eye views of bucolic idyll and his fast-paced, witty storytelling turn this book into something like a Pixar version of *The Wind in the Willows*. Part of Fantagraphics program of bringing American readers the best of post-Tintin Franco-Belgian all-ages comics, Macherots Sibylline series (as it is called in French) is widely regarded as one of the great classics of the field, and is slated for re-release in French in 2011 as part of a Complete Sibylline project. This is the very first instance of Macherots work being translated into English. 64 pages of color comics

Macherots plotting is lively and unexpected... Thompsons translation is colloquial and funny and, one can assume, smooths out some of the originals mid-century social attitudes. - Publishers Weekly
About the Author
During a career that stretched from the 1950s to the 1980s, working for both Tintin and Spirou magazines, Raymond Macherot (1924-2008) created the series Chlorophylle, Clifton, Chaminou, and Sibylline (Sibyl-Anne).