



The Upper Room (A Mama Ruby Book 1)

By Mary Monroe

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Mama Ruby's known for taking things that aren't rightfully hers, like her best friend's stillborn infant, who she brought back to life and christened Maureen. She's also rumored to have done away with her husband. Some fear her, others try their best to avoid her. But Mama Ruby doesn't pay them any mind. Not when she's got the one gift God gave her--her precious baby girl.

But growing up with a mama like Ruby is enough to make any half-sane girl wish for something--anything--else. And when Maureen gets the chance to explore the "real" world, you can bet she's going to take it. . .and run like hell.

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Originally published in 1985, Mary Monroe's engaging debut novel, *The Upper Room*, features Ruby Montgomery, an obese, indomitable character who steals her best friend's baby daughter and flees to rural Florida, where she establishes herself as an almost mythical figure. The dialogue and setting are reminiscent of Zora Neale Hurston, but the story has a bizarre, violent edge ... la Stephen King. Fantastic and exaggerated, the novel may seem dated in its descriptions of race and sex, but it is a candid portrayal of the cold-blooded yet fascinating Mama Ruby.

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From [Booklist](#)

Mama Ruby is the seventh daughter of a seventh daughter, with healing hands and an inconceivably vengeful spirit. After successfully bringing her best friend's stillborn baby to life, she claims the child as her own and runs away to a migrant settlement in the Everglades. Mama Ruby's ever-increasing girth and unhealthy dependence on her daughter, Maureen, cause her to make choices and decisions that are both troubling and foolish. Mama Ruby makes sure that Maureen is treated special by giving her the upper room of the house. It becomes Maureen's special place and is off-limits to most people, especially men. As Maureen grows into a beautiful woman, she begins to have desires of a life outside of Mama Ruby's watchful eye and of a city far away. It takes an unthinkable series of events for Maureen and Mama Ruby to accept the other's ways and needs. A chilling story that is bound to astound Monroe's fans. *Lillian Lewis*

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Frances Carlton:

Playing with family in a very park, coming to see the ocean world or hanging out with pals is thing that usually you might have done when you have spare time, after that why you don't try issue that really opposite from that. One particular activity that make you not sense tired but still relaxing, trilling like on roller coaster you have been ride on and with addition details. Even you love *The Upper Room (A Mama Ruby Book 1)*, you may enjoy both. It is very good combination right, you still desire to miss it? What kind of hangout type is it? Oh come on its mind hangout fellas. What? Still don't get it, oh come on its named reading friends.

James Shaw:

Do you have something that you enjoy such as book? The reserve lovers usually prefer to select book like comic, limited story and the biggest an example may be novel. Now, why not seeking *The Upper Room (A Mama Ruby Book 1)* that give your pleasure preference will be satisfied simply by reading this book. Reading addiction all over the world can be said as the way for people to know world a great deal better then how they react to the world. It can't be explained constantly that reading addiction only for the geeky man but for all of you who wants to possibly be success person. So , for all you who want to start reading as your

good habit, you are able to pick The Upper Room (A Mama Ruby Book 1) become your own starter.

Robert Price:

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Jennifer Powell:

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