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I Am Going! (An Elephant And Piggie Book)



Synopsis

Gerald is careful. Piggie is not. Piggie cannot help smiling. Gerald can. Gerald and Piggie are best friends. In *I Am Going!*, Piggie ruins a perfectly good day by telling Gerald she is going. If Piggie goes, who will Gerald skip with, play Ping-Pong with, and wear silly hats with? Willems's Geisel Award winning duo continues to delight readers with their silly shenanigans. Packed full of humor and heart, the Elephant & Piggie Books are vetted by an early-learning specialist and early learners themselves, so they'll be right on target for new readers.

Book Information

Series: An Elephant and Piggie Book

Hardcover: 64 pages

Publisher: Disney-Hyperion; 1 edition (January 26, 2010)

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Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 71 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #19,150 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #37 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Elephants](#) #60 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Pigs](#) #411 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Chapter Books & Readers > Beginner Readers](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - Kindergarten

Customer Reviews

PreSchool-Grade 1 *Once again, Willems shows his talent for distilling the most profound human emotions to just a few words. Gerald the elephant is exhibiting anxiety, and his issue is the fact that Piggie says, "I am going!" For young children, this fear of abandonment can surface even when a friend or caretaker leaves for a brief time. It turns out that Piggie is just planning to go get lunch, and in his typical, reassuring way, Willems shows a picnic spread at the end with the two friends enjoying the meal together, Gerald's worries having been assuaged. Fans of the series will recognize that sometimes Gerald is the in-charge character and sometimes it is Piggie; as in real life, different people show their vulnerabilities in different situations. Once again, Willems uses just two colors, showing pink Piggie marching on the front endpapers and gray Gerald hopping on the*

back. He uses text bubbles to indicate who is speaking and includes plenty of white space. The illustrations are hilarious while at the same time capturing the truest of feelings. Be sure to add this easy reader to your collection as an addition to the series or even as a stand-alone. — Gloria Koster, West School, New Canaan, CT Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

The mercurial friendship of Elephant and Piggie survives another minor (but seemingly life-ending!) tiff. The two are basking in shared bliss when Piggie announces, “Well, I am going.” Elephant proceeds to get histrionic, clawing at his ears and wailing, “Who will I skip with? Who will I play Ping-Pong with? Who will I wear a silly hat with? WHO WILL I SKIP AND PLAY PING-PONG IN A SILLY HAT WITH?!?” Though it falls short of the high-water marks of *I Love My New Toy!* (2008) and *I Will Surprise My Friend!* (2008), Willems again distills the abrupt melodrama summoned by the commonest of childhood disagreements. As always, the key is the offhandedness of the presentation—the pencil art, the simple font, and the generous white space create a mid-tempo visual rhythm that is somehow intrinsically funny. This austerity is broken when Elephant reaches the mad heights of his tantrum. For both adult and child readers, it’s a moment as pleasurably predictable as the making-up that quickly follows.

Preschool-Grade 2. --Daniel Kraus

My kids LOVE all the Elephant & Piggie books. We have the entire set. My kids are 4yrs & 7yrs old now. We’ve been reading these books since my older son was 2 or 3. The stories are solely told in word bubbles as conversations between the 2 main characters, plus a few recurring characters who stop by in some of the stories. We each choose a character to ‘be’ and then we read the story, which is simple sentences of easy words. I honestly believe these books were a huge factor in my older son teaching himself to read at a very early age. We routinely give E&P books as gifts, and I always keep my eye out for new ones and pre-order well in advance. It’s a nice little package that comes out of the blue, and both my boys are very excited when the UPS man brings us a new E&P book that they’ve never seen before.

My children have loved the Piggie and Elephant book series since they were four years old. At 8 1/2 they still enjoy reading the funny stories and love to read them aloud to family and friends! Highly recommend this book series for early or reluctant readers. The stories are entertaining for children and adults alike! :)

This book addresses Gerald's anxiety when Piggie announces that she is going. He panics and tries various strategies to prevent her from leaving. This just might be a good book to give to a child who tends to jump to conclusions, as it turns out that Piggie is just planing to leave for a short time. It is not the end of Gerald's world as he knows it (which is the way he reacts), and Piggie is not leaving him forever. It's a good book for a child with separation anxiety. Most importantly, however, it is a fun story with a happy ending; Elephant and Piggie, although they are very different personalities, understand each other pretty well and care for each other. The accompanying illustrations are wonderful, as always.

These Elephant and Piggie are the best books ever! I have almost every book of the series and my 3,4,7 year olds read them EVERY SINGLE NIGHT. They loved it so much, now my 3 and 4 year olds are reading on their own from memory, and I have no doubt that it'll help them with recognizing words. The books are simple, clear, funny, and SO entertaining. Get them, you will love them!

I think Mo Willems is one of the bestcurrent children's authors. These booksuse topical issues about sharing; being told they are too little or too young to do something; loosing a favorite cuddle bug;not including others to play....and problem solving; etc. But they are books that are just plain hysterical! They speak to the frustrationsand concrete thinking of I would saypreschool (Kids will need some one to be an animated reader!) and definetley1st graders who are learning to read. If second to third graders who have not met these books, the children who need easy readers will love all ofMillem's books. My grandson is 6 and in 1st and mygrand daughter is 4 and in pre school. My grandson reads the stories andusually just cracks up, laughing likecrazy! He reads to his sister who alsothinks they are so much fun. Then sherequests them for a bedtime story. Zi am certain this is helping her increase hersight vocabulary; and how to use theillustrations as a reference to rememberthe story and the words for her own"reading time". You know books are good when children respond positively by choosingto hear or read them over other books and other toys! Yo, Mo!! Keep these delightfulstories coming. Sorry, we are eating them like peanuts! I gave Almost all your booksto a friend's children during a verystressful time in her life. I really thoughtthey needed something to distract themall from their worries and bring sometherapeutic laughter into their lives. Those kids flipped over those books!And in the process the entire familywas lifted to a happy therapeuticplace! They clung to their Knuffle Bunniesduring their families ordeal, and lovedthose happy, funny, stories. I'd give Willem's 10+ stars or 100(!)and a big hug for the joy he bringsadults and children

alike. Thank you, Mo! C Holub alias Gooma!

I shall begin this review by telling why I love the Elephant and Piggie books in general: They are the perfect combination of silly storytelling and easy sight words/decodable text. The illustrations are adorable and hilarious in their charming simplicity. And while many people like to think that the only "good" readers among children are those who pop from the womb reading Tolstoy, the fact remains that kids need easy text upon which to build their skills. And oh, does Mo Willems win with these books. Beginning readers are given more than meaningless, plotless text; they get the adventures of best friend duo Elephant and Piggie! The stories are simple and quick, but thoroughly entertaining (I once read "I Will Surprise My Friend! (An Elephant and Piggie Book)" to a group with ages ranging from 14 to 30 and they are all enchanted.) The illustrations take on a major load of the story-telling, making a mere picture walk enough to help figure out the story, leaving more mental power to the actual reading process. Even more advanced readers can use these books for practicing expression (I'm sorry, but anyone reads aloud these books without some degree of screaming is reading them wrong). Now, onto this particular book. Elephant and Piggie are enjoying a nice day when, out of the blue, Piggie announces she is going. Poor Elephant is devastated, and shows it through his typical drama and over-reacting. It's hilarious and kids will love it. This wasn't quite my favorite of the bunch, but then again I don't think any of these can be truly terrible. Heck, it brought a smile to my face and my students were charmed. The surprise ending and aftermath is certainly worth a laugh. It is presently the in-demand book for personal reading time, and I will go ahead and let them be the judge of its entertainment value.

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