



## The Elevator Family

*Douglas Evans*

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**WHAT'S THE STRANGEST HOTEL ROOM YOU'VE EVER STAYED IN? WHATEVER IT IS, THE WILSON FAMILY CAN TOP IT. BECAUSE FOR THREE DAYS, THEY LIVE IN AN ELEVATOR.**

For the Wilson family, only the best will do! So when they arrive at the San Francisco Hotel and discover that there are no available rooms, they decide to stay in the place that suits them best of all: a room that has its ups . . . and its downs—a room called Otis, the hotel elevator.

Staying in the elevator is absolutely “fantabulous!” After all, where else would Mr. Walter Wilson, Mrs. Winona Wilson, 10-year-old Winslow Wilson, and his twin sister, Whitney Wilson get to meet:

- A weary traveling salesman of kids' fads
- A British rock group with a funny name
- A lovesick bellhop
- A society lady and her pampered poodle
- And a slew of other surprising visitors!

For fans of middle-grade giants like **Andrew Clements, Jerry Spinelli, Louis Sachar, and Judy Blume**, *The Elevator Family* is a funny and heartwarming story about an eccentric family who'll be remembered long after they check out of Otis. Drop in on them for an elevator ride filled with adventure and zany humor!

## The Elevator Family Details

Date : Published July 10th 2001 by Yearling

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Author : Douglas Evans

Format : Paperback 96 pages

Genre : Fiction, Childrens, Middle Grade, Juvenile, Humor

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## **From Reader Review The Elevator Family for online ebook**

### **Jeff Coffin says**

My nine year old daughter brought this book home from the school library and asked if we could read it during our pre-bedtime reading. The first night, I wanted to stop because the concept was so ridiculous. Plus, the family seemed so clueless. But since my daughter had asked to read it, I kept on going. And it was sort of a cute book. The family met some interesting characters and had some unique adventures, and through the book revealed they had hearts of gold. It was short, but engaging, and there are certainly worse ways to spend time with your kids.

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### **Cara's Craftastic Creations says**

2.5

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### **Emyrose8 says**

You know, it never says until the end that they're staying in an elevator. A short, but delightful book about a family on vacation staying in an elevator. It's surprising how many people they are able to help in their three day stay!

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### **Coolcat says**

It was ok.

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### **Jentry says**

This one is silly and fun. I read it after a boy at the library told me he loved it so much that he made a model of the elevator for his room. Axel and I read it to each other on a vacation and we both thoroughly enjoyed it. :)

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### **Thomas says**

My daughter asked me to read this, and I'm glad it was short. Outside of the positive messages, the book was rather dry. Simplistic, but I suppose it has more to offer to young children. I just think there are many better books within this novellette's age range.

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## **Pandora says**

Plot: A family unable to find a room in a hotel check into the elevator believing it is a room.

Review: I had trouble with this book. At first I thought I was reading a British import but, then discovered that the author is from California. Which explained why the silliness wasn't working for me. YOU'RE A BAD MAN MR. GUM this is not. I also thought the book was a young reader but, discovered it is rated as 5.6 reading level. This makes the book without an audience with too silly a plot for older readers and too high a vocabulary for younger readers. For example some of the words used are: Petit, chronicle, ringamarole, frazzled, fantabulous, and slivers.

As for the plot I had trouble understanding how a family could not understand what an elevator. I also had trouble understanding why everyone went along with this idea especially the cranky manager of the hotel. At least with THE STUPIDS by Harry Allard you understand that the family is stupid. Most other books with crazy plots, like CAPTAIN UNDERPANTS, has such a zany tone that you can go with it. With this book the tone doesn't support the plot.

Kids may be more forgiving of this book shortcomings. As for me I have trouble seeing how this book could work except as a read aloud for parents of third graders.

Quotes:

"On the twentieth floor, Tom and Tia Twiddle, two tourists from Texas, entered Otis toting trunks."

"The light bathed the entire room in a soft golden glow."

"Top of the morning, gentleman."

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## **Emily M says**

Number of pages~ 98

Genre~ realistic fiction/fiction

Author~ Douglas Evans

Title~ Elevator Family

Imagine going on vacation with your family, being told your hotel is full, the first room you step into is perfect and ideal for their little family, who loves to be with each other. They are used to living in tiny spaces so this room is ideal for them. It has buttons that bring them up and down, and pictures on the wall. But what the family doesn't get is that they are living in an elevator! They end up meeting new people who think they are the strangest people ever.

I thought this book was super cute! It was quirky, but funny at the same time. I loved how you could feel everybody's emotions throughout the book, and how one family can make the best out of the worst situations. I gave this book a 2 star rating because I feel the author could have gone into more detail, with the plot and with the characters. I definitely enjoyed all the crazy "W" names.

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### **Cathy Hall says**

I thought this was a cute story and a funny premise, what with a family parking themselves in an elevator. But the story itself wasn't as good as the set-up. Still, it's an entertaining read.

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### **Xiao Wen says**

This book is kind of funny to me, but I do not like it that much, and I do not know the reason why neither. The only thing that I like about this book is the good relationships between people and the good socialization between people. The evidence of showing good relationship is no matter where the family is and what condition are surrounding them, they can still keep their happy mood. This shows the significance of a UNITED family, because if the family is not united, all the members will be complaining when they need to stay in the elevator.

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### **Angel says**

Read this book around many years ago and LOVED it.

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### **Kira Nerys says**

What can I say? I love this book. Both times I've read it I've felt too old for it and I've still been endlessly amused. Yeah, it's a bit ridiculous, and I couldn't keep the four Wilsons straight, but it's also sweet and heartwarming and all about the virtue of welcoming people into your life.

Of course, it must have been a fairly large elevator.

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### **Melissa Giraldo says**

Imagine going on vacation with your family, being told your hotel is full, but finding the first room you step into is empty. It also happens to be the elevator.

This book is about the Wilson family who comes into a hotel and can only find the elevator the only empty room left in the hotel. The family begins to make home the moment it enters. And are always surprised as to what floor they will go to next without touching a single button. They meet a wide range of people who they welcome into their home and offer them food and entertainment. Without going too much into the story. I personally loved the story. I thought it was very cute and different compared to other books elementary students can be reading. I think this book would work best as a read aloud and then possibly use it for a writing prompt of some kind.

It is completely silly, so check your serious side at the front cover.

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**Rebecca McNutt says**

This book has numerous intriguing characters and its unique originality really makes it stand out as a cut above the rest as far as middle-grade fiction goes.

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**♥Mrs.Aly Cullen♥ says**

This book was ok, i liked how ignorant the family was to live in an elevator. ;-)

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