



I am Going!

Mo Willems

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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.

I am Going! Details

Date : Published January 26th 2010 by Hyperion Books for Children

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Author : Mo Willems

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Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Humor, Fiction

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Barron says

A true psychodramatic masterpiece of angst and longing. At moments, one has the feeling that Willems has captured our fundamental emotional conditions at their essence--while still deftly gesturing toward the finitude of individual experience and the gravity of simple misunderstanding.

Polly says

My second favorite E&P book, after "There is a Bird on Your Head", and like that book, this is a fabulous book to read aloud to almost anyone--although only if the reader is up to the dramatic opportunities. That entire page of "Whys" need serious acting ability!

Melissa Wike says

This book reminds me of my friends and I.

Soplada says

Am going... to STUDY! wanna go with me?

Laura says

This was hilarious - I loved the interaction between the two characters and how one was level-headed and the other was just completely over-dramatic and paranoid. This series always makes me laugh and I enjoy looking for the sneaky little pigeon that Mo puts in all his books. I'd totally recommend this book.

*Taken from my book reviews blog: <http://reviewsatmse.blogspot.com/2010...>

Benjamin Hugh says

“I am going” is a short story for kids written by Mo Willems. I read this book and recorded myself for the third language challenge in english. It was really childish book but I actually enjoyed reading it :). It is funny how the elephant is acting dramatic and worried but on the other hand the piggy is really calm and chill. Piggy was calm because he was leaving for lunch but the elephant thought piggy was leaving permanently which intimidated him. This was a nice short book that represented friendship and misunderstanding between friends. Even though this book was created towards kids; I think it can entertain all ages.

Colette says

Now it is Gerald's turn to over react to Piggie leaving. Love these two characters and how much kids love reading their books.

Matt says

Another great Elephant and Piggie book that had Neo laughing at the antics of these two. When Piggie announces that she is leaving, Gerald has a hard time accepting this. He pleads with her to stay, as he will have no one else to play alongside him. He bargains, hoping that Piggie might be able to wait a day, a month, or even a year. Gerald cannot stomach time without Piggie and begins to self-destruct, crying and unable to fathom how he will survive. When Piggie points something out, the entire discussion turns and Gerald finds a new way to survive. Neo enjoys this series and, while we are on holidays, we will be able to tap into the wonders of this series while also introducing it to grandparents and cousins.

Heather says

We just discovered the Elephant & Piggie series at the library and have checked out every one they have. They are a bit easy for my 7-year-old to read on his own, but he loves that they are easy enough that he can sit and read them to his younger brother without any adult help. The 5-yr-old thinks they are hilarious and has memorized several books. The two youngest act out the story lines during their play time.

My older boys (both 11) will read these on their own. Even I think they're hilarious. The illustrations are trademark Mo Willems and I am constantly amazed that he can create so much emotion with just a few lines. When Gerald the elephant is worried or scared, he LOOKS worried or scared. And of course, the Pigeon always makes an appearance on the back inside cover of every book, which my boys hunt for.

Great for beginning readers but also great for a fun story time read. Highly recommended.

Friend of Pixie (F.O.P.) says

Caused several belly laughs. Gerald, the elephant, is the more needy and worried of the two friends. Piggy is rather matter-of-fact and sensible. When Piggie announces "I am going," Gerald launches into a full worry, trying to get piggie to stay. At one point, the whole page is Gerald asking, "Why, why, why, why, why..." Logan laughed and said, "Even *I'm* not that whiney!" This series is always a winner.

UPDATE: we checked this out again as Logan didn't remember reading it. I'm driving us home from the library and from the back seat, he begins to read it aloud to me! I was acting all calm and cool, but inside I was jumping up and down and cheering! He loves these books and Willems is a master at repeating words and building on them without it seeming at all forced or awkward. And they're funny, which is so motivating. And the amazing array of expressions on Piggie's and Gerald's faces make it easy for new

readers to read with expression. I knew Logan was getting close to breaking the code and it was such a celebration when he did. We went out for an ice cream sundae.

Connie says

I love Mo Willems. I really, really do.

And you know what? I love Elephant and Piggie. These books work on so many levels. First and foremost, they work well in their job, which is "easy reader". They ARE easy to read... but not too easy. And while the illustrations do illustrate the plot (and very funny, I might add), they don't give away the plot. Children have to actually read the words to know what the book says instead of guessing from the context of the pictures. And best of all, the books are SO funny and SO over the top that even the most reluctant reader has to ham it up when reading, they can't help it! So when reading, kids are avoiding that terrible, horrible drone-of-boredom so many of them cultivate.

These books also function well as read alouds because they're so funny. Try reading Dick and Jane aloud. You can't do it. (If you're going to buy reprints of Dick and Jane, do so, but don't read them to your kid. They don't work for that.)

And, really, they're funny for grown-ups too. Don't tell my nieces, but I buy these books for ME, even if I store them on THEIR bookcase!

So, this particular book, I am Going!. Everybody reading the title knows that Piggie is not really going away for good. Gerald will still have somebody to skip and play pingpong in a funny hat with. But Gerald reacts in an incredibly melodramatic fashion (we all saw THAT coming too) until he finds out: Piggie is GOING to have LUNCH. (Punchline: They eat together. "Just like yesterday!")

Best part? Has to be Gerald's forlorn pleas that Piggie should go "next month" or "next year", said while holding a Piggie-themed calendar.

Jessica says

I bought this book for my oldest son in particular. It's good, as all the Elephant and Piggie books are. But it resonates with our family in particular because my oldest child, from about ages 2-6, could not leave a friend's house or have a friend leave our house without extreme amounts of drama. He was always convinced that he would never see that friend again. The histrionics were variously embarrassing or hilarious, and could go on for up to an hour. He still needs to know, practically to the minute, when he will see a friend again before he will say goodbye, and just last week was convinced that one of his friends had moved in the night without telling us since he hadn't seen him in a few days. So seeing Gerald's near-hysteria when Piggie announces that she is going was both delightful and almost too close to home, and we have used this book as a sort of instructional manual for my son. It is one of his favorites, and I think secretly comforting to him, as it is proof that sometimes friends leave, but not for long.

midnightfaerie says

Another wonderful Willems book that kept both my 5 yr old and twin 3 yr olds fascinated. Not enough words to be even a reading level 1 book, Willems still has a way about him to bring the reader into his wonderful world. These books are ones my whole family loves. And a fellow friend on GR recently told me that the pigeon was hidden in each book and we now love to look for him too! Fun for all and a great addition to any children's library!

Pooja says

What are you looking at? I'm going to eat this anyway!

This series never ceases to amaze the kid inside me!

Archit Ojha says

Oh YES I AM GOING.

DID YOU HEAR THAT.

Mo, oh classic Mo. When will I grow up if you continue writing such enticing reads!
