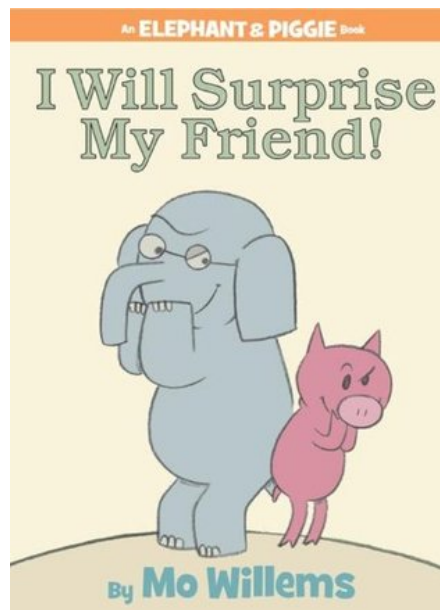




I Will Surprise My Friend!

Mo Willems

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I Will Surprise My Friend! Mo Willems

Gerald is careful. Piggie is not.

Piggie cannot help smiling. Gerald can.

Gerald worries so that Piggie does not have to.

Gerald and Piggie are best friends.

In *I Will Surprise My Friend!*, Gerald and Piggie want to play a game and surprise each other-but the biggest surprise is the one they least expect.

I Will Surprise My Friend! Details

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Author : Mo Willems

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Genre : Childrens, Picture Books, Humor, Fiction, Animals, Funny, Juvenile, Storytime, Kids, Fantasy

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From Reader Review I Will Surprise My Friend! for online ebook

Archit Ojha says

Couldn't contain my pleasure at revisiting this great children's book series.

Ritu, you read this first book of the series for us, and your recital was magical.

You are goldmine for Audio book editions!

I Will Surprise My Friend! has descriptive illustrations at each page showcasing the activities of the characters.

Nice and easy 4 stars!

Casandria says

Hilarious!!!

Huda says

OOh!! this one is a FAVORITE!!

it's when Elephant and Piggie decide to surprise each other XD

Lisa says

It was very cute.

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!

Connie says

Early readers can be such a pain. They have to be easy to read, so they include a lot of very short, repetititive sentences. I bet you can quote Dick and Jane here: See Spot. See Spot run. Run, Spot, run! Run,

run, run! Short, easy to read, lots of practice with those three words... and boring as HECK. Who wants to read that more than once?

Or they do the same thing, but with rhyming: See the cat. The cat is fat. The fat cat sat. Sat on the mat. The fat cat sat on the mat. See the rat!

Ye gods. Now your kid will always be able to read -at words, but they'll read them all in a dreadful monotone, ill-suited for anything other than the phone book. Gotta indoctrinate them young to think reading is dull and boring!

Well, there is hope. Elephant and Piggie! This series does everything right.

First of all, the text is all dialog. Exciting, funny dialog with LOTS AND LOTS OF EXCLAMATION POINTS!!!! Ever see a first grader write? EVERY! SENTENCE! NEEDS! AN! EXCLAMATION! POINT!!!! YES IT DOES! You can't help but ham it up when you read, no matter HOW much you hate reading.

And when there is repetition - as there needs to be, to help children practice - it's natural. Piggie will say something, and then Elephant will repeat it in a disbelieving way. Or Elephant will say something and Piggie will repeat it to agree with him. (Doesn't happen much in this one.)

Secondly, the pictures are active and engaging and funny and dramatic. Not much distracting detail, either. But while the pictures are so active and engaging and funny and dramatic, they provide a LITTLE bit of help to the shaky reader... but not so much that they think they can look at the picture and not bother with those troublesome words.

Thirdly, the books are just interesting. When you're learning something now, you have to do it more than once. It's good for kids to re-read the same books over and over again... and I'm sure it saves the teacher money on stocking her classroom shelves! But what child, honestly, wants to read a beginning reader again? It's boring! They read it once, are you happy? Now they want to get to the good stuff!

I promise you, kids will want to read these books over and over again. I don't know through educational experience, no... but I know through watching my own two nieces. I know through looking at adults eagerly picking up these books to read. Adults! There's just something about them.

My favorite part of this book? Has to be comparing Gerald's visions of what might have happened to Piggie (gotten lost and fallen off a cliff, gotten snatched by a huge bird, gotten eaten by a monster) with Piggie's visions of what might have happened to Gerald (gone to eat lunch).

Kitty14 says

So funny! I loved it!

Pooja says

Gerald and Piggie are my favorite team in children's books.

Their love for each other, the care, their friendship and the smile they bring to me and my husband's countenance while reading them together is unforgettable and irreplaceable.

In I will surprise my Friend, they come with their unique style of making us laugh and their friendship is so pure and true.

I want my children to have friends like Gerald and Piggie are. They are just so good.

AleJandra says

Lindo y divertido, como siempre con Mo Willems.

Octavo libro que leo de esta serie y apenas me entero que piggie es hembra.

AMY says

So funny! Cute story about Piggy and Elephant trying to surprise each other. Neat twist near the end of the story. I laughed out loud. Highly recommended Gr. K-1.

elissa says

I LOVE MO WILLEMS!! I hope he keeps writing these things for a good long time. The only reason that this gets 4 1/2 stars rather than 5 from me is that it wasn't that funny at all when I read it to myself. When my younger son and I performed it dramatically, it became uproariously funny! My co-worker, Anina, and I did a dramatic reading of this at storytime. Adults and kids all laughed, but I think they also thought we were a little weird (which doesn't bother me at all, and didn't seem to bother Anina either). It was very silly, but A LOT of fun!

Samantha says

This is the best Elephant and Piggie book, hands down. I also am realizing that I might secretly be the Elephant.

Matt says

Another wonderful *Elephant and Piggie* book has this duo finding new and exciting ways entertain one another. Piggie and Gerald each want to surprise the other. They spend some time plotting out their ideas and try to catch the other unawares. However, when becoming so tunnel-visioned, it is easy to lose sight of the larger picture and sometimes things get turned around. Neo laughed, as he loves surprises and leaping out from doorways. He admits that sometimes it is fun to surprise others, but when it is done to you, it can have

the opposite effect. I'll try not to lurk in shadows and pop out at the most inconvenient times, though planning for it can be fun.

Elisha Condie says

Man, we love Mo Willems. He can infuse so much emotion into such simple drawings - the facial expressions of Piggie & Gerald just *kill* me and the kids when we are reading these. There is so much humor even with minimal dialogue and drawings. It's awesome.

Seriously, Mo Willems, who are you? Can we be best friends?

Leslie Brevard says

Pre-K- Kindergarten

Willems uses repetition on each page with the elephant and the pig doing different activities. There is a lot of negative space on each page and with the end pages there are squirrels in the front of the book and also the back of the book. There are very few words on each page as well as lots of repetition with the text. This book will capture the attention of many younger readers because they will feel successful when being able to read this book. The book seems long, but only because there are so few words so once a smaller child finishes the book they will feel as though they have accomplished something big. Children can relate to this book because I am sure there is a time in all children's lives where they were scared because they were either lost or all alone. I think that children can find this book as a way to help deal with some of those emotions.

Language Arts/ Social Emotional

I would ask the children to tell me why the two friends were worried and why we should not hide from our friends.
