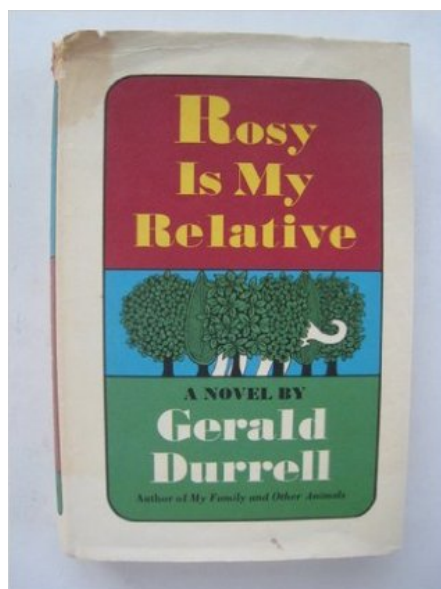




Rosy Is My Relative

Gerald Durrell

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Rosy Is My Relative Gerald Durrell

Rosy, the elephant bequeathed to young Adrian Rookwhistle by a reprobate relative, turned out to be a handful: not alone because of her size but also because of her fondness for strong drink. To Adrian she represented the chance to get away from a City shop and a suburban lodging by exploiting her theatrical talent and experience. To Rosy their progress towards the gayer South Coast resorts offered undreamed-of opportunities for drink and destruction. So the Monkspepper Hunt is driven to delirium and Lady Fenneltree's stately home reduced to a shambles. In due course the always efficient local constabulary caught up with the pair, whose ensuing trial was a like a triumph of the law and of the author's comic genius. The verdict was--but the story has to be read to be believed, if then. Even though the author does maintain that it is entirely credible, indeed that this, his first novel, is 'an almost true story'.

Rosy Is My Relative Details

Date : Published May 21st 1968 by Viking Books (first published 1968)

ISBN : 9780670608492

Author : Gerald Durrell

Format : Hardcover 239 pages

Genre : Fiction, Animals, Humor

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From Reader Review Rosy Is My Relative for online ebook

June says

Adrian inherits his Uncle's Elephant, with resulting adventures. Had me laughing out loud.

Mpreeti says

If ever you are down in the dumps and want to get away from it all, just pick up this instant pep_me-up book. Whether this is a true life story or fancied imagination just climb on the roguish Rosy and hold on tight as she trots here way into drunken shenanigans in this Laugh Riot. And if you think your drunk relative is funny then read Rosy for size.

Alert: have a wad and more of tissues on you coz Rosy will have you wailing with laughter.

Frieda Hopkins says

I had watched the PBS series "Durrells in Corfu" and enjoyed it, so I was intrigued enough to pick up this book. I don't think I have ever laughed so much while reading a book. Picturing some of the situations Rosy gets herself into was too much. There is also a short biography of the author, with photos, at the end. I recommend this book to all. I will be reading more by Gerald Durrell.

Nicholas Jasper says

The author claims that the events in this book happened are pretty close to what actually happened. I have read his book aloud to others more than I have read it to myself. This is one of the most fun book to read that I have ever found. Only Dickens came up with more strange and fascinating characters and he took a dozen books and 10,000 pages to do it.

Lorelei says

A fun romp. Adrian inherits an elephant, but what is he to do with an elephant in his rooms in the city? He decides to walk his elephant to the coast, where he hopes he can sell her to a circus. Hijinks, hilarity and romance ensue. I particularly enjoyed the last part with his lawyer and in the courtroom.

Elizabeth Asha says

The best book that I read as a child

Joan says

This was laugh out loud hilarious! I've read it a number of times. The narrator inherits an elephant to his dismay. Rosy, the elephant, among other interesting traits, has a distinct fondness for alcohol, and had the response you'd expect to the drink. How do you deal with a drunkard elephant? Read this and find out!
4/20/17 It is worth adding that the trial scene, even if likely 100+ years ago, seem as though they could still be possible today in many ways! The defense attorney's comments have a real bite to them.

Robin says

This is a charming story that the author claims is mostly true. A young Brit inherits an elephant (Rosy) from an uncle and he attempts to take her to the shore, where he's convinced there are any number of circuses that will take her off his hands. He gets into one scrape after another and finally is charged in court for (mainly her) misdeeds. This is a book you could read to your children or your grandmother.

Mainly though I want to express my appreciation for the string of librarians who did NOT "withdraw" this book and toss it on the book sale table. It pains me that so many good books disappear when they haven't been checked out for a while. This book (which I requested from my local library) has an interesting history. Published in 1968, it was first at the Library of Congress. As it was a duplicate, it was sent on (in unknown order) to: Griffiss AFB in Rome NY (now closed), Sacred Heart College (Belmont NC), Ashford University (Clinton, Iowa), and Mount St. Clare College (Clinton Iowa) - from which I obtained it.

Bodwisebooks says

Fantastic, one of my favourite books, often I return to this book to re-read, as I find it very funny! A brilliant story and full of humour and a book that you read but can see the characters in your head while reading. It is a pity that Gerald Durrell didn't get to write more novels, but he did write many stories of his adventures while collecting animals from around the world. Of which I have many of them, and they all have his sense of humour. Brilliant!

Denise Cowling says

Enjoyed this book a lot. Made me laugh so much.

Joanne says

Very fun light read

Delightful story - funny and diverting. Extremely refreshing (no sex, murders, vampires or swearing...) and well-written. Highly recommend. A very colorful tale...

Veronika says

Příběh plný báječného, originálního a nenásilného humoru. Ostatně stejně jako ostatní Durrellovo dílo. Doufám že jednou také zdědím slona. :)

Trounin says

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(c) Trounin

Melanie Griffin says

A charming book! Just the antidote to real life. I laughed out loud repeatedly -- Durrell creates the most eccentric characters and paints vivid images that really come alive. I was right there as Rosy the elephant repeatedly left devastation and chaos in her considerable wake.
This would be an awesome book to read aloud with kids. Just the names of the characters invoke silliness: Mistrs Filagree, Clattercup & Pucklehammer and of course Lord and Lady Fenneltree. The plot is all quite predictable and happily so. Such fun!

Robert says

Durrell's first novel is not too bad. A man inherits an elephant and they go on a road trip. At times it is sweet sometimes it drags a bit but it is ok.

Alma says

This is a very funny little book published in 1968 about the adventures of a shy young Englishman who inherits an elephant with a taste for liquor. It was probably written for about 6th to 8th graders, but I found it delightful, too. This is a plug for visiting your local library. I picked up this book from the discard/sale shelves because it had a cute picture on the cover (my copy was a published-in-the-UK version). What a pleasant surprise!

Ramya says

One of my absolute favourite books as a child was Gerald Durrell's "My Family and Other Animals". I'd reread it every year - or maybe even more often than that - and it never failed to amuse me and make me laugh out loud. I thought I loved the book so much because it was so hilarious - I realized only when I was much older that my love for the book was because it transported me to a time and place that was unfamiliar and yet seemed idyllic, and almost magical, even though it was autobiographical and set in an actual place.

So when I saw this much-thumbed copy of Gerald Durrell's first novel at a second-hand store, I picked it up without so much as glancing at the blurb. I'd read anything by Durrell.

In "Rosy Is My Relative", Adrian Rookwhistle unexpectedly finds himself bequeathed an elephant (with a penchant for gin) by his uncle. Adrian decided to get away from the city and take Rosy to the coast - fun, frolic and adventures follow.

While this is a charming premise, with potential for much hilarity, the novel itself falls short. The plot is tedious, the humour is forced, and the characters are uninteresting, except for Rosy. I had to force myself to read the novel - mainly because it was short but also because I felt guilty about abandoning the novel by an author whose other works I loved.

Keep in mind that this is a children's book (I was unaware of that until I started reading); and this is also Durrell's first novel. He has improved significantly as a writer and as a humorist since then; and his non-fiction work is significantly more interesting. With these two caveats, I think this can be a light, enjoyable read for those who have the appropriate expectations from this book.

Would I still pick up another old copy of Gerald Durrell's works without even glancing at the blurb. For the man who helped me escape to a magical Greek island when my everyday life seemed too mundane, absolutely yes!

Barbara says

What other fantastical adventures might Adrian have with his elephant Rosy? None, as they have certainly all been covered. Combine an elephant with alcohol and mayhem is certain to ensue. The bonus to reading such an old-fashioned book is the peek into previous cultural norms.

Rishi Prakash says

Gerald is at his best again. This is another memorable book which made me think how much fun it will be to have an elephant as a pet!

Imagine what will happen if we get an elephant in inheritance! This is how this book starts and builds with every page. The story is filled with memorable moments(funny as well as touching) and memorable

characters(unique in every which way). Certainly there is no shortage of adventure around as the story progresses! No lack of laughs, either - this is one of those books which you have to avoid reading in public unless you want to make a spectacle of yourself howling with laughter with people around you!

And do keep in mind that the risk of trying for an elephant as a Pet is real high after you read it!!

Avinash says

I wrote my review when the rest of my family was commenting on this book, but goodreads decided not to save it, so im writing it again.

My bestest memories of this book are not of reading it upside down on my bed and dying of laughter. they are of having choice portions of the book read out to me by ambica.
i dont know if she remembers, but i really really looked forward to the book reading sessions (which also included wodehouse), and died much more pleasurable deaths during them.
