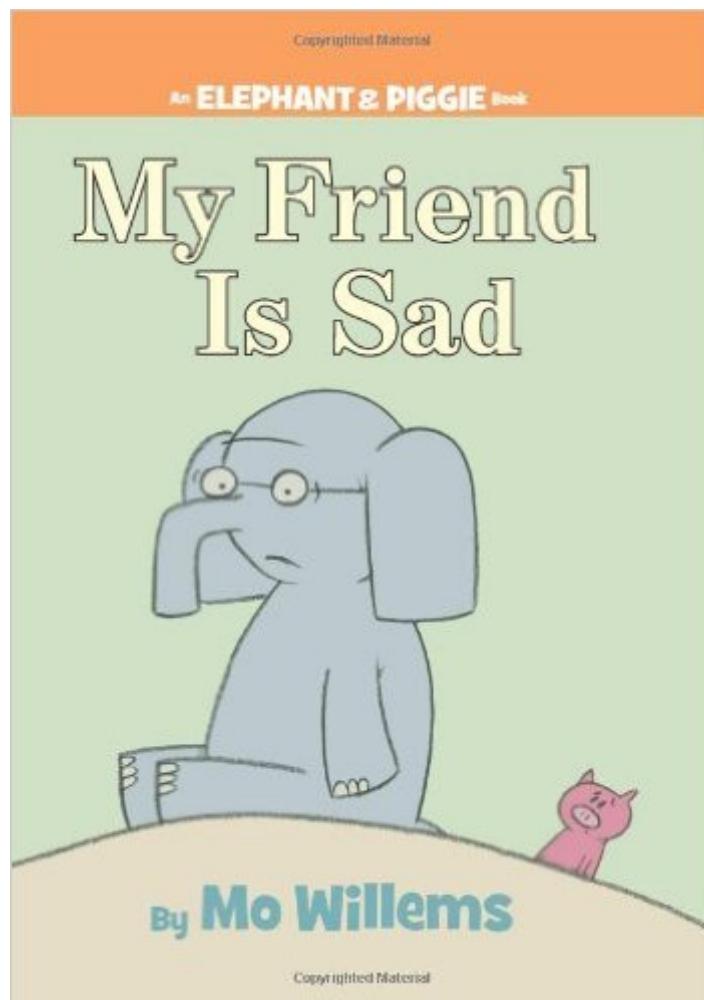


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My Friend Is Sad (An Elephant And Piggie Book)



Synopsis

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 *My Friend is Sad*, elephant Gerald is down in the dumps. Piggie is determined to cheer him up by dressing as a cowboy, a clown, and even a robot! But what does it take to make a sad elephant happy? The answer will make even pessimistic elephants smile.

Book Information

Series: An Elephant and Piggie Book

Hardcover: 64 pages

Publisher: Disney-Hyperion; 1 edition (March 13, 2007)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1423102975

ISBN-13: 978-1423102977

Product Dimensions: 6.8 x 0.4 x 9.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 11.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars Â See all reviews Â (67 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #7,820 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #29 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Elephants #43 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Pigs #138 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Emotions & Feelings

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - Kindergarten

Customer Reviews

Mo Willems is a master illustrator and storyteller. He's also somewhat of an illusionist. I'll explain. Out of the simplest elements: Just two characters, a minimal plot, a few words per page, and uncluttered illustrations that must average over 80% "white space" (i.e., the un-illustrated parts of the page), Willems constructs amazingly rich scenes that surprise us with their enormous humor, subtle understanding, and underlying complexity. Here, Gerard the elephant tells his pal Piggie that he feels sad. Elephant's labeling of this emotion begins with a frown, and then an apparently surprised recognition that he feels blue. Piggie looks out at the reader with concern, stating, "My friend is sad." Later, we see that Elephant seems frightened of his feelings. Piggie declares confidently, "I will make him happy." These six pages of relative gravity set the scene for the

entertaining frivolity that follows. Piggie pulls out all the stops to cheer up his friend: He wears a 10 (at least!) gallon hat, "Yeehawing" about on a pretend horse, he juggles 5 balls in the air, and wears a faux high tech costume that Gerard figures out is a robot. Piggie is thoughtful, Gerard loves cowboys, clowns, and robots, and he cheers up temporarily. However, each time, his delighted surprise doesn't last, and he is sad again. Piggie, for all his careful planning and attention to detail feels like he has failed his friend. We soon learn, however, that Piggie's disguises were perhaps a little TOO successful...! Willems, you see, performs a neat little trick here, midway through the book; a clever twist for which we're totally unprepared. Elephant may have been sad, but apparently he's even sadder that Piggy missed all the things which cheered him up....

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