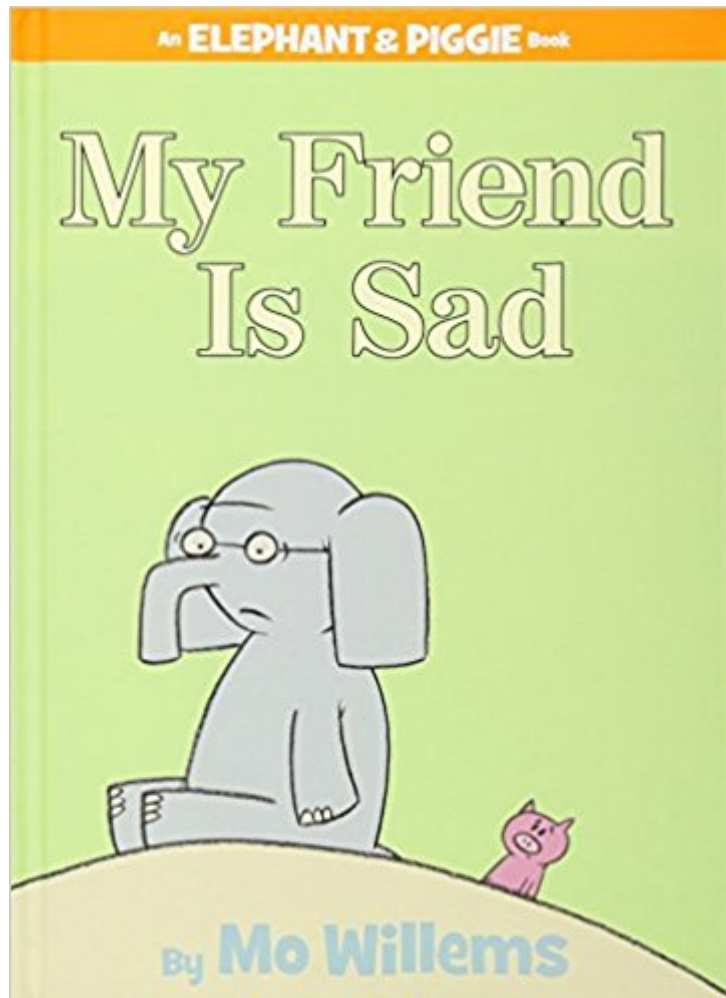




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# My Friend Is Sad (An Elephant And Piggie Book)



## 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: 6.9 x 0.5 x 9.4 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 86 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #2,147 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #5 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Elephants](#) #8 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Pigs](#) #42 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

Kindergarten-Grade 3  
In these two easy-to-read books, Willems introduces two best friends. Gerald is a slightly stodgy, bespectacled elephant with a stumpy, downturned trunk. Piggie is more daring and whimsical, and, like many friends, the two complement one another. In *My Friend Is Sad*, Piggie tries hard to cheer her dejected friend. She disguises herself as a cowboy, clown, and a robot, but Gerald doesn't recognize her and is sad because she isn't there to enjoy the fun. Without missing a beat, Piggie points out that he needs new glasses. In *Today I Will Fly*, Piggie announces her intention to do so to her skeptical pal. In the end, though, Gerald is making adventurous plans of his own. With just a few tweaks of his expressive lines, Willems creates engaging characters. The stories move briskly, with a minimal word count and touches of whimsy.

throughout. Fans of the author's previous books should check the endpapers for a cameo appearance of his familiar pigeon. These simple, humorous stories will sound just the right note for beginning readers. © Marilyn Taniguchi, Beverly Hills Public Library, CA Copyright © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

**\*Starred Review\*** Graphic-novel influences have reached into most areas of children's book publishing; here, they crop up in a classic genre--the friendship-duo easy reader--and chalk up yet another success for two-time Caldecott Honor winner Willems. The basic approach is familiar from Willems' previous books, especially *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus!* (2003). It's as if each page were one frame of a comic strip: characters zip in and out of white space, proffer speech-bubble remarks, and express emotion through spot-on body language. In *My Friend Is Sad*, upbeat, outgoing Piggie cavorts to cheer up depressed Elephant, whose doldrums are obvious from his furrowed brow and drooping, stovepipelike trunk. Not having recognized his costumed pal, the myopic elephant remains sad because Piggie missed out on the fun. Accessible, appealing, and full of authentic emotions about what makes friendships tick, this will put a contemporary shine on easy-reader collections and give Willems' many fans--whatever their age or reading level--two more characters to love. (Vying for their affections is that irrepressible pigeon, who, still utterly in character, finds his way onto the endpapers.) Jennifer Mattson Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved

My husband, my daughter (just turned two years old), and I absolutely LOVE the Elephant and Piggie books. They are our all time favorite set, and we read them every single night before bed time. If you are not familiar with the Elephant and Piggie books, here is what you need to know. 1.) Gerald (the elephant) is a boy and Piggie is a girl. They are both hilarious, and you and your child will grow to love them. 2.) The text is in speech bubbles throughout all the stories. These are easy reads, with few difficult vocabulary words for even the youngest readers. These are only a few words on most pages. I highly recommend previewing one or more books before purchasing. 3.) They are funny. Most books have a clever twist at the end that everyone gets a kick out of. 4.) They look terrific as a set. We own all of the books, and they look great lined up on our bookshelf. The book covers are very nice and sturdy. These are actually the ONLY books we've ever purchased new (all others were gifts or thrift store finds. We are penny pinchers, but these books are WORTH the dollars as they are terrific and look awesome). If you ARE familiar with the books, here's what you need to know about THIS book. 1.) Gerald is sad, and Piggie is trying his best to cheer him up.

His attempts to cheer him up are very funny. We add in a few lines to each character that Piggie becomes for extra toddler laughs.<sup>2</sup>) The take-away message of this book is that it is okay to miss your friends sometimes, and that good experiences are best when shared with people you care about. Definitely a great message for little ones. Bottom line -BUY ALL THE ELEPHANT AND PIGGIE BOOKS!

This is my girls favorite book series. They hit major moral life issues in a fun easy way to understand for little kids. They are a quick read all done in speech between the two main animals. They are fun engaging books.

Elephant and Piggie are hilarious! Always a winner in our house. My 7 year old collects these and reads the whole stack of them every night. Elephant and Piggie are really great characters who are certain to be classics. Always lots of giggles with these books.

My son's first books to read all the way through; Piggie & Gerald characters appeal perfectly to the young reader's sense of humor. Mo Willems is a genius children's book author; his quality of content and placement of words, made my child at the young age of three a very entertaining storyteller. A different style completely, but I say he would rank up there with Dr. Seuss as far as authors go.

These Elephant and Piggie book are really great. We have 'em all. My Friend is Sad would make you think it's a bit depressive, but it's really one of the sweeter Elephant and Piggie books. Gerald is sad and Piggie tries to cheer him up by putting on all kinds of costumes--Cowboy, Robot, Clown--each one making Gerald all the sadder. In the end it turns out that although Gerald loves Cowboys, Robots and Clowns he was sad because his best friend Piggie was not there to enjoy these things with him (Gerald does not realize that it is Piggie in each of the costumes). Highly recommend.

My nieces and nephews all love Elephant and Piggie. I have been buying the books for them over time and have almost all of them. So, this past Christmas, they bought me the Elephant and Piggie stuffed animals. I use them to act out the books like it's drawn. It makes the books even more fun, but beware bedtime reading now takes much longer. :)

My 6 year old loves Elephant and Piggie books. This is no exception.

Kids loved it.

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