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My Father's Dragon



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Synopsis

My Father's Dragon is a children's novel by Ruth Stiles Gannett about a young boy, Elmer Elevator, who runs away to Wild Island to rescue a baby Dragon. The narrative mode is unusual, in that the narrator refers to the protagonist only as "my father", giving the impression that this is a true story that happened long ago. The illustrations within the book are black and white done with a grease crayon on a grained paper, done by Ruth Chrisman Gannett, who also illustrated other children's books such as *My Mother Is the Most Beautiful Woman in the World*, *Paco Goes to the Fair*, *Miss Hickory*, *Hipo the Hippo*, and adult books such as *Tortilla Flat* by John Steinbeck.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 380 customer reviews

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Customer Reviews

My Father's Dragon--a favorite of young readers since the 1940s and a Newbery honor book--captures the nonsensical logic of childhood in an amusingly deadpan fashion. The story begins when Elmer Elevator (the narrator's father as a boy) runs away with an old alley cat to rescue a flying baby dragon being exploited on a faraway island. With the help of two dozen pink lollipops, rubber bands, chewing gum, and a fine-toothed comb, Elmer disarms the fiercest of beasts on Wild Island. The quirky, comical adventure ends with a heroic denouement: the freeing of the dragon. Abundant black-and-white lithographs by Ruth Chrisman Gannett (the author's stepmother) add an evocative, lighthearted mood to an already enchanting story. Author Ruth Stiles Gannett's stand-alone sequel, *Elmer and the Dragon*, and her third volume, *The Dragons of Blueland* both received starred reviews in *School Library Journal* and are as fresh and original as her first. (Ages 4 to 8) --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

When Elmer Elevator hears about the plight of an overworked and underappreciated baby flying dragon, he stows away on a ship and travels to Wild Island to rescue the dragon. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

This is not the official printing of the book and it is not the same size as the two others in the series that I ordered so I could not give this as a gift. Disappointed that it is not clearly marked unofficial/re-print.

Very disappointing cover and sad to find out that this isn't a traditional published book at all. It's a scanned copy for the cover and is printed when you order it. The story appears to be all there but I haven't read it yet. I did read the review of a previous gentleman that offered caution to the buyer as to the version they select- I guess I just selected a disappointing one.

My 3 year old S wasn't quite ready when we first started but by the end I think he enjoyed it and was fine that there were no pictures. We might try the next in the series.

This cute story is written in a conversational style - as if someone were relating a family story. A good beginning readers chapter book. Fun Story and sweet illustrations. The main character Elmer uses his wits to get out of predicaments without anyone getting hurt, but learning a lesson. Recommend reading all 3 books in this series.

In general, this book is great. However, the hardback version is not laid out properly so the pictures are tiny and not necessarily on the right page. There are also pictures on less pages than there should be, which my 4 year old was unhappy about. Love the book, but get the paperback version (I returned the hardback version and got the paperback and I highly recommend that one!)

I checked this book out from the library a couple years ago and read it aloud to my 5 & 7 y/o daughters. I credit this book to hooking my 5 y/o into reading. I am a book lover and have been reading to my kids since they were very tiny. My 5 y/o never sat longer than a couple pages before she was up and running and flipping around the room. "My Father's Dragon" was the first book she sat through and begged me to keep reading. Now that she can read well on her own I bought this book for her and stuck it in her Easter basket. She was so excited she started reading it right away. This is a fun book! I highly recommend it.

Delightfully illustrated, go along with Elmer Elevator as he travels to the island of Tangerina and Wild Island in order to save a dragon that is being cruelly treated. How does he know all this? Well, the cat told him of course! Yes, in this truly wonderful story all the animals talk. As you read the story, remember the items that Elmer packed in his knapsack before leaving as they will have an important use later on in the story as he comes in contact with a mouse, wild boars, tigers, a rhinoceros, lions, a gorilla and monkeys. Our kids absolutely LOVED this as a read aloud. It is a chapter book but only 87 pages so not a long and overwhelming read. Full of action so plenty to keep even the youngest one gripped.

A fun, entertaining read aloud for all ages to enjoy. An oldie but so worth while. Running out of words to say to make the required amount before submitting ...

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