

The Relatives Came

By Cynthia Rylant



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The relatives' station wagon: it smelled like a real car, looked like a rainbow, and was roomy enough for a crowd.

Lucky! Because a big crowd in all shapes and sizes piled into that old wagon at four o'clock one summer morning and piled out of it the next day at their relatives' place on the north side of the mountains. All in good moods.

The visitors settled in everywhere throughout the house, laughing and making music and hugging everyone from the kitchen to the front room. And they stayed for weeks.

Cynthia Rylant's words and Stephen Gammell's pictures take warm delight in the time the relatives came -- when two sides of a family made one roomy middle.



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The Relatives Came By Cynthia Rylant Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Kindergarten-Grade 3 The title of Rylant's exuberant tale is an understatement, for when "those relatives" came, they came en masse and they came for an extended stay. Their anticipation at seeing kin during their long, long drive and finally hugging them "against their wrinkled Virginia clothes" set the tone for this welcome family reunion, a visit that never wears thin. The relatives are depicted as a support system to help a fatherless family with all the things that need to be done in and around their house. In down-to-earth language that harbors strong emotion, Rylant recounts the festive celebration of the relatives' stayand the ensuing sadness when they depart. The relatives in question are a large rural brood, depicted, in Gammell's joyous color pencil drawings, as running the gamut from porcine to scrawny, old to young and rowdy to silent. In pictures of this group hugging, eating and sleeping, the unspoken closeness of the unnamed relatives can be felt. These softly colored pictures, which capture the spirit of the brief text, are large enough for sharing in groupsa use of this warm book that seems particularly appropriate. David Gale, "School Library Journal"

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About the Author

Cynthia Rylant is the author of numerous distinguished novels and picture books for young readers. In addition to her beginning-reader series: Henry and Mudge, Poppleton, and Mr. Putter and Tabby, as well as her Cobble Street Cousins early-chapter series, she is also the author of the Newbery Medal-winning *Missing May*, the Newbery Honor Book *A Fine White Dust*, and two Caldecott Honor-winning picture books.

Stephen Gammell is the beloved illustrator of more than fifty books for children, including *Song and Dance Man* by Karen Ackerman, which received the Caldecott Medal, and two Caldecott Honor Books, *The Relatives Came* by Cynthia Rylant and *Where the Buffaloes Begin* by Olaf Baker. Mr. Gammell lives with his wife, Linda, in St. Paul, Minnesota, where he changes his socks regularly.

From AudioFile

[Editor's Note: The following is a combined review with LILLY'S PURPLE PLASTIC PURSE, PICKLES FROM PITTSBURGH, CHATO'S KITCHEN, and PETE'S A PIZZA.]--Special relationships between characters are the stuff of engaging stories. Each character becomes a vivid part of the listener's imagination. In THE RELATIVES CAME, the annual summer trip is fondly remembered. Similar car trips, greetings, spreads of food and conversation, and bulging houses will spring to mind. The relaxed pace of this recording provides the time to savor these memories. In PICKLES TO PITTSBURGH, Judi Barrett revisits the wonderful world of Chewandswallow, featuring immense foodstuffs, and from this world distinct characters emerge. Listeners will appreciate the interplay of Grandpa's adventure with Kate's dream and the relationships of the fantastic foods. In PETE'S A PIZZA, Pete is in a terrible state, and it is his father who has the wisdom to humor him back to his usual self by making Pete into a pizza pie. The giggles of Pete and the listeners increase as Pete is kneaded, stretched, spread, baked, and (almost) sliced. Food is also center stage in CHATO'S KITCHEN. In hospitable fashion, Chato invites his new neighbors to dinner. Dreaming of a mouse feast, Chato and his cat buddy think up and stir up a delicious meal with Spanish flavor, only to be greeted at the door by the mice and their special guest. The twist in the anticipated outcome and the deep richness of Chato's voice are memorable. While special treats baked for school are a part of the story, it is the interaction of Lilly with her teacher that is central and poignant in LILLY'S PURPLE PLASTIC PURSE. Their days have ups and downs in typical childlike mode as only Kevin Henkes can portray. Will Lilly weather the humiliation when Mr. Slinger takes (just for the day) her prized new possession? In this

recording Lilly is enjoyably squeaky, and Mr. Slinger is kindly authoritative and wise. Background voices are used effectively to interject the "bubble stories" from the text. While listening to this collection of stories is a distinct pleasure, the illustrations help to make the experience memorable. Listen, look, and enjoy! A.R. © AudioFile 2002, Portland, Maine-- *Copyright* © *AudioFile, Portland, Maine*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

April Wages:

Do you one of people who can't read satisfying if the sentence chained inside straightway, hold on guys that aren't like that. This The Relatives Came book is readable by you who hate the perfect word style. You will find the information here are arrange for enjoyable studying experience without leaving possibly decrease the knowledge that want to deliver to you. The writer regarding The Relatives Came content conveys thinking easily to understand by lots of people. The printed and e-book are not different in the articles but it just different available as it. So, do you nonetheless thinking The Relatives Came is not loveable to be your top record reading book?

Tracy Gardiner:

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Edna Dixon:

A lot of people always spent their own free time to vacation or even go to the outside with them family or their friend. Do you know? Many a lot of people spent many people free time just watching TV, or perhaps playing video games all day long. In order to try to find a new activity that is look different you can read a new book. It is really fun to suit your needs. If you enjoy the book that you just read you can spent all day long to reading a publication. The book The Relatives Came it is rather good to read. There are a lot of people that recommended this book. These people were enjoying reading this book. Should you did not have enough space bringing this book you can buy the actual e-book. You can m0ore quickly to read this book from the smart phone. The price is not too expensive but this book provides high quality.

Tia Rosario:

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