



# We Are Growing!

*Laurie Keller , Mo Willems*

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**We Are Growing!** Laurie Keller , Mo Willems

Walt and his friends are growing up! Everyone is the something-est. But . . . what about Walt? He is not the tallest, or the curliest, or the silliest. He is not the anything-est! As a BIG surprise inches closer, Walt discovers something special of his own!

## We Are Growing! Details

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Author : Laurie Keller , Mo Willems

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# From Reader Review We Are Growing! for online ebook

## **Laura Harrison says**

This new series is simply terrific. Elephant and Piggie do an intro then a variety of authors/illustrators take over for each book. Love it! And so will the children.

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## **Shiloah says**

Read to us by our Lamby (6).

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## **Sara Grochowski says**

The most fun I've ever had watching grass grow! ;)

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## **Heidi says**

I would never have guessed that a book about blades of grass could be so funny. Each of the blades of grass in this book are delighted to discover that as they grow they develop a unique characteristic that makes them the 'est'. Curliest, tallest, silliest, or pointiest, each blade of grass is pleased that he/she is the best at something. Such a simple story line and yet so very profound. Who doesn't like to be the best at something, adult or child? Yet Walt can't seem to find anything that he is the best at, at least not until he and the other blades of grass face off with a lawn mower and must deal with the consequences. A funny, and yet surprisingly thoughtful take on the human desire to be appreciated for being the best at something.

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## **Levi says**

Hilarious! If you like Elephant and Piggie, this is a great subset of their world!

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## **Jon(athan) Nakapalau says**

Each blade of grass grows and finds their unique quality that sets them apart - but what about Walt? Great book for children who are trying to retain their individuality even as they explore their role in a widening group.

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## **Niki (Daydream Reader) says**

I love this new series! I can't wait to share it with students in the fall! Kids are going to love it!!

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## **Elaine says**

This is great! Could've been rather gruesome. It's important to explain to children that they will not grow back.

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## **Heidi-Marie says**

This was scads better than the cookie one. Less busy in pictures so I could follow the story and speech bubbles more easily. Hilarious, too. I don't think I will ever mow the yard the same way again. This will be fun to read in storytime.

11/1/16-11/3/16 Used this at elementary school visits. Read it to one 1st and both Kindergarten classes. The first grade liked this a little better than K, but K still liked because it was very like E&P. Pointing out the mower coming was great in all 3. Their faces as they comprehended. \*sigh\*

2/21/18 Used in literacy moment. They looked for the all uppercase letter words and then chose one letter to write on the white board. Lots of newbies and not many wanted to try. But my regulars enjoyed. Were able to keep reading the book after only a few pages, so they were able to get the overall story and they enjoyed. Especially the dandelion.

2/25/18 Read for a bedtime with SS since SD said we'd already read it to her. (Maybe I read it to her last year and it's one of the many I forgot to record.)

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## **Beth says**

Love this new Elephant and Piggie approved series. :)

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## **Cindy Dobrez says**

From our Bookends Blog postfeaturing Elephant and Piggie Like Reading series:

If you think watching the grass grow is boring, think again. The bug-eyed grass blades of Laurie Keller's *We are Growing!* (2016) impart humor and drama where there was none before.

Although the blades start out at the same height, one has a growth spurt. The others are amazed and a kerfuffle ensues, but his boasting soon gets old, especially as his peers begin to grow taller. In short order, everyone is growing and bragging about their unique attributes. Alas, one stunted blade is left out of all the

boasting—until someone mows the lawn.

We Are Growing is the perfect story to cheer up a kid who hasn't lost his first tooth or reached another, similar milestone. Elephant and Piggie come up with their own reason to brag in the book's closing pages, one that might spur children to find a way to grow as readers.

Congrats on the 2017 Theodor Seuss Geisel Award!

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### **Niki Marion says**

I was really discombobulated by the framing narrative of Elephant and Piggie, like it wasn't enough that Mo Willems has his own brand of beginning readers but they also must include his characters introducing the story.

The actual story is about grass growing, and how each blade of grass is becoming a different superlative (tallest, curliest, etc). When one blade of grass (Walt--presumably named as a nod to knowing parents who read LEAVES OF GRASS) doesn't know what he is, he has an identity crisis. The lawn mower is a great equalizer, however, and shows how everyone can be similar while being the "-est" at something.

I'm disappointed by the presentation (framing technique) and the execution of this narrative, which I think could have been a bit more nuanced and a little less "everybody gets a trophy" while still introducing the topic of superlatives.

Not my favorite beginning reader.

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### **KC says**

I am the neatest too!

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### **La Tonya Jordan says**

Very good children's book about grass growing. It is told thru the eyes of a child elephant and pig. The grass starts growing and compares themselves to each other. Funny and enjoyable.

Quote:

I just grew. All by myself. Cool, huh?

We are ALL the SOMETHING-EST!

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### **Jana says**

This is a fun picture book written from the point of view of growing blades of grass. As they notice their own

growth, they begin comparing themselves to each other. They all celebrate their special qualities until the lawn mower comes around! Bold, humorous illustrations, along with simple text, will make this a popular book with young readers.

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