



See You Around, Sam!

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Sam Krupnik decides to run away to Alaska when his mother won't let him wear his new plastic fangs in the house. Sam stops at neighbors' houses to say goodbye and is given so much gear and information, he wonders if he's made the right choice.

See You Around, Sam! Details

Date : Published March 9th 1998 by Yearling (first published 1996)

ISBN : 9780440414001

Author : Lois Lowry , Diane deGroat

Format : Paperback 128 pages

Genre : Fiction, Childrens, Young Adult, Middle Grade, Chapter Books, Juvenile

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June says

I read this with my son for a book report and liked the concept behind the book and found the characters to be quite likeable (if seeming to good to be true).

Kristin Fisher says

The boy in this story, Sam, is four-years-old and begins to dislike his mother because she does not want him to wear fangs in the house. Sam decides that he is going to run away to Alaska so he can wear his fangs whenever and wherever. Before leaving Sam visits all of his neighbors, as he doesn't know how to get to Alaska. This sounds like something a typical four-year-old would do. Get mad at his mom, run away, and then end up back home. From this story, children can learn that wanting to run away isn't all that it is cracked up to be.

Melissa Namba says

this was as cute as I remember it being. Sam wants to run away from home, but he gets tricked by the neighborhood into realizing that he doesn't want to. they overload his bag and point out the logistical nightmares.

Emily says

Sam decides to run away to Alaska because his mother won't let him wear plastic fangs in the house. Everyone in the neighborhood conspires to change his mind. I don't know why, but this book wasn't as fun as the previous books about Sam. He seemed less like a precocious genius and more like an ordinary little boy. I suppose as Sam grows up, he'll continue to be even less remarkable.

Allanna says

I've always liked the Anastasia Krupnik books ... including the ones about her little brother, Sam.

In this book, Sam decides to run away.

But before he goes, he has to get prepared and say good-bye to his neighborhood friends.

And, oh, I wish I had a neighborhood where I knew everyone.
I should work on that.

Rachel Inbar says

Having read The Giver, I expected a book that would draw me in and make me want to read more. I found this book to be the opposite. I kept looking for an excuse not to read it. There were a few good parts, but overall, I found the book boring and disappointing. I think it would have done well as a book for young children, in a 32-page format with a sentence or two per page. Nothing more was needed in order to tell the (not so interesting) story.

Cindy says

I rated every book that I read during childhood 5 stars.
Why? Well because that was a time in my life when I loved every single thing I read. And because they bring back fond memories. Ah, the joys of being young!

Julie says

I'm not giving this any stars because I haven't read the whole thing yet. So far, this series has been a huge hit with my 4 year old son named Sam. But two chapters in, he asked me to stop reading this book..... he was very VERY upset that the Sam in the book was running away from home. So, be warned if you have a sensitive little one, this may not be a good choice for family reading.

Aubree Bowling says

This is a sweet, funny book about a little boy contemplating running away and the wise way his mother handles it with the help of all the adults in their neighborhood. I read it to my 8 and 7 year olds. one caveat to think about, tension. My 8 year old son is on the Autism Spectrum. He is extremely sensitive to stories and books with tension. In the case of this book, Sam thinks about the negatives of running away as he slowly comes to realize he doesn't really want to go. But a lot of the things Sam considers are sad, like missing holidays with his family, or scary, like the wild animals that live in Alaska (the place he want to run to.) My son felt very strong empathy for Sam and would often become frustrated as we read and would beg me to skip to the final chapter to find out if it was a happy ending, or he would become so stressed out he would leave the room and ask later for a recap of what happened in the parts he missed. As soon as we finished reading it, however, he was enthusiastic about the book and asked that I load it onto his kindle so he could re-read it. So once he knew the outcome wasn't a lonely 4 year old in Alaska watching for bears and missing Thanksgiving, he was eager to read it again for the funny and charming parts of the story he wasn't able to enjoy the first time around.

Jamijones says

sam wants to have things because he see other people with the things and so he can think he is as cool as the others

george says

Sam is quite excited when he gets home from nursery school. You see, he traded his etch-a-sketch for a cool pair of fangs. But his mother hates fangs, has fangphobia even; so Sam is not allowed to wear fangs in the house. Fine, says Sam, he'll just run away. So he packs his necessities and heads for the door and his mother doesn't even try to stop him! He decides that his destination will be Alaska, but before he goes he decides to visit Gertrude Stein one last time for some cookies. But he doesn't get to hit the road as soon as he'd planned. There are all sorts of stops to make and somehow his bag gets weighed down more and more. And the more he thinks about it, the more Alaska doesn't really seem like the best idea...

Sam's adventures are almost as funny as Anastasia's. This one had me laughing out loud like many of the Anastasia books. Lowry certainly has a unique gift for getting the voice of children and this book is no exception. Funny stuff.

Liz says

Actually finished this a while ago, but now able to update goodreads. Another cute story featuring Sam, this time attempting his first "running away from home" experience. Category: realistic juvie fiction. Sam's parents are pretty cool and laid back. I am nowhere close to being that way. I wonder if I would feel different if we live in a neighborhood where I also knew the neighbors? But now, my kids are so much older than Sam in this book.

Katie Fitzgerald says

This review also appears on my blog, Read-at-Home Mom.

When Sam comes home from nursery school wearing plastic fangs given to him by a classmate, his mother confesses her "fang-phobia" and insists that he not wear them in her sight. Astounded by this injustice, Sam decides to run away from home, but not before stopping in to see all his favorite neighbors.

Running away is a pretty common theme in children's books, and it is a threat most kids make at some point. What is so clever about this book, though, is the way it can be read on two levels. Readers who are Sam's age may fully believe he plans to run away, while those as old as Anastasia or older will recognize the ploys the adults use to keep him close to home while encouraging him to stay. (Lotta on Troublemaker Street does a similar thing, but See You Around, Sam really perfects it.) Sam's growing realization that fangs are actually not that comfortable and his slow change of heart about his desire to leave home are so true to life, and parent readers will undoubtedly recognize some of Sam's traits and behaviors as similar to those exhibited by their own kids.

This book is really the ideal chapter book to read as a family, especially when a child is four or five years old. Lowry really understands how the preschool mind works, but she makes sure to also provide a few knowing nods toward the parents as well, which makes the reading experience a true pleasure for all ages.

This is definitely the best of the Sam books. I hope this series will also be given new covers so these

wonderful books will catch the eyes of a new audience.

Lorie says

This is a paperback edition originally published as a hardback in 1996. The story centers around Sam, little brother of Anastasia who has her own set of stories. After an unfortunate incident at nursery school, Sam's mother forbids him from wearing his fake fangs in the house so he does the only thing he can think of... run away.

Sam is never in danger as the kindly neighbors look out for him after his mother secretly calls them to watch out for him. The book maybe from a simpler time when everyone really knows their neighbors and Sam's mother lets him work it out himself instead of solving the problem for him. New chapter book readers will enjoy Sam's story. I would recommend this book for purchase by any school or public library looking to refresh their beginning chapter book collection. This book was provided by the publisher for professional review by SWON Libraries.

Karla Fuerte says

In this relate able book we have a young boy named Sam. Sam loves fangs; but Sam's mother does not like fangs and thinks that they make Sam look disgusting. So Sam decides to run away to Alaska where "fanged" walruses lie around and he will be accepted. He packs some things in his Harvard gym bag and starts walking down the street. As he walks along he says goodbyes, and given somethings and his gym bag begins to get heavier. He rethinks if he wants to run away. I think it is a great book for kids. Because I know that when you are young you always say you want to run away. Even though you realize in the end that you don't actually want to run away. It is also and easy chapter book for younger kids to begin to read.
