



Whatever

William Bee

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It takes extreme measures to get a response out of the stubbornly indifferent Billy in a wry little tale that readers of all ages will surely relate to.

Billy can be very difficult to please. Show him something very tall or very small, and he'll say, "whatever." Let him play inside the bounciest castle, and he'll shrug and say, "whatever." Take him for a ride in the smokiest train or the speediest spaceship – it doesn't matter. Billy's reaction is always the same. What might the surly boy say if a hungry tiger came by and his nonchalant dad gave Billy a taste of his own medicine? William Bee's quirky illustrations give an amusing new spin to a familiar scenario that will have both children and adults laughing in recognition.

Whatever Details

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Author : William Bee

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From Reader Review Whatever for online ebook

Anna says

Rarely am I able to find a book that my son loves that does not contain dinosaurs. Without a dinosaur, this book won my son over instantly. After reading it four times in a row, he had it memorized. We love it.

Kate says

WHATEVER!

Beth says

Great crowd pleaser for reluctant school-age story time participants. Simple story, simple pictures, unexpected turn and then a snappy end. I laughed my tuccas off the first time I read it. I can't let go of this book.

Shaimaa Fatani says

WhatEVEEEEEEEEEEEEEERE !!!

I love it I love it I love it

Jon(athan) Nakapalau says

A little boy who is hard to please...this book will help children understand that parents really do try to make them happy - but happiness is a two way street.

Rachel says

This was a charming book because it didn't try to be any more than it was. It was refreshing to see a children's book so simply avoid a strict moral lesson and just exist. Sure, it wasn't the most educational or positive story. But I laughed.

Melanie says

A very humorous and readable tale of a young boy who is not impressed by much at all. When his father introduces him to a very hungry tiger he still refuses to show any interest. However when the tiger gobbles

him up he cries for his father's help. Unfortunately, his father shows little interest in aiding his son.

A great one for storytime!

Zoe Wood says

This is a simple book which teaches children that is they are rude to others, others may be rude to them when they are in need of help. A simple but enjoyable book.

Youth Services says

“Billy can be very difficult to please.” Well, that’s an understatement. In the picture book, *Whatever*, by William Bee, that’s all Billy ever says: “Whatever.” Billy’s dad spends the length of the book trying to get some sort of reaction out of Billy. He shows him something very tall, and something very small. He shows him the world’s smokiest train and the world’s curliest trumpet, and even flies with Billy to the edge of outer space. “Whatever,” Billy keeps saying. Then, Billy’s dad tries to scare him with the world’s hungriest tiger and, well... I won’t give away the ending. But even if you think you can guess what happens, I’m still sure the ending will make you smile. I love this book! I have to wonder if William Bee got his inspiration from Maurice Sendak’s *Pierre: A Cautionary Tale* (1962). I read *Pierre* a few months ago, after a friend of mine recalled reading it when he was young. I’d never heard of it, but was interested because of the author. For everything *Pierre*’s parents try to do to please him, all he will say is, “I don’t care!” And just like Billy, *Pierre* has a little encounter with a lion. Both of these books are great for a chuckle.

EE

Kristina Jean Lareau says

Ample white space, textured digital designs, and a straightforward story that packs a punch. It could be a commentary on the listlessness of today's youth--unimpressed by anything but their digital devices. It could be a commentary on parenting. Or it could be just a wonderfully clever picturebook that you should absolutely read.

I am going with the third option.

Jen says

At one of my libraries, I had some VERY fussy and demanding parents attend programs and try to dictate what I should and should not do.

Oh, how I loved reading this book aloud at storytime. The parents hated it!

Whatever :)

Erin says

“Billy can be very difficult to please.” Well, that’s an understatement. In this picture book, all that ever comes out of Billy’s mouth is, “Whatever.” Billy’s dad spends the length of the book trying to get some sort of reaction out of Billy. He shows him something very tall, and something very small. He shows him the world’s smokiest train and the world’s curliest trumpet, and even flies with Billy to the edge of outer space. “Whatever,” Billy keeps saying. Then, Billy’s dad tries to scare him with the world’s hungriest tiger and, well... I won’t give away the ending. But even if you think you can guess what happens, I’m sure the ending will still make you smile. I love this book! I also have to wonder if William Bee got his inspiration from Maurice Sendak’s *Pierre: A Cautionary Tale in Five Chapters and a Prologue*. I read *Pierre* when a friend of mine recalled reading it when he was young. I’d never heard of it, but was interested because of the author. Published in 1962, the library’s copy isn’t so pretty anymore, but the story hasn’t lost its charm. For everything *Pierre*’s parents try to do to please him, all he will say is, “I don’t care!” And just like Billy, *Pierre* has a little encounter with a lion. Both of these books are great for a chuckle.

N says

I shared this with a "close to becoming rowdy" bunch of emerging 6th graders yesterday and they were *so* into it. ... it was hilarious to hear them shout "**WHAT-ever!**" along with the story.

It's very much like Maurice Sendak's *Pierre*, but with a more blunt ending.

Flora says

Just as Sendak's *Pierre* "didn't care" back in the 70s, little Billy acts completely uninterested in the world. Not even train rides nor bouncy castles are enough for this kid, who responds , "whatever" to anything and everything. What do you think happens when Billy is presented to a hungry tiger? Gulp!

Borrows quite a bit from Sendak, but these great pictures and simplified storyline make it a good pick (and Flora gives it 4 stars, as you can see).

Rebecca Ann says

This is exactly the kind of book I'd read to my imaginary child, but could never read at storytime. Someone would freak out, but my gosh it is funny. Billy is a hard to please child who always says "whatever" until he sees the world's hungriest tiger and tries to say....I'm sure you can guess what becomes of Billy.
