



Friends

By Eric Carle

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Friends By Eric Carle

From the creator of the all-time classic **VERY HUNGRY CATERPILLAR** comes a sweetly resonant story about the power of friendship.

When a best friend moves away, it can be painful for the child who is left behind. But the spunky boy in this upbeat story makes up his mind to find his missing playmate. Young readers will cheer on the boy as he braves currents, climbs mountains, and dashes through rain before, finally, reuniting with his friend. A story alive with love and perseverance, brightened with vibrant art and Eric Carle's trademark fostering of imagination.

This deeply personal story for Eric is dedicated to his longtime wife, Bobbie, and it is their bond that inspired the book. For anyone who has ever scaled mountains to be with the one he loves, or for anyone who has simply known the love and joy of a great friendship, this book will strike a resonant chord.

“This story of love and determination is illustrated with Carle’s extraordinary signature artwork. For anyone who would cross rivers and scale mountains for a beloved friend, this warmhearted story will create an emotional response. Young readers will learn the value of friendship and its many challenges.” —*School Library Journal*

“Often dynamic and quite beautiful, these colorful illustrations of the river, the meadow, and so on are abstract in style and show up well from a distance. A picture-book tribute to the strength of childhood friendships.” —*Booklist*

“The images are beautiful and evocative.” —*Publishers Weekly*

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Friends By Eric Carle Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

PreS-Gr 2—A boy describes his devoted affection for a friend with whom he plays, dances, and shares secrets. Then she moves away, and he is all alone. He misses her terribly and vows to find her. Readers will cheer his bravery as he crosses a swift river, climbs over a steep mountain, and travels through a dewy meadow and shadowy forest to find her. Ultimately, he stumbles across a flower garden. With a bouquet in hand, he finds his friend, reunites with her and (playfully) marries her. Both are humorously shown in oversize adult apparel, holding hands. The concluding page shows a scanned photograph, taken in 1932, of the author and a long-lost friend at age three. This story of love and determination is illustrated with Carle's extraordinary signature artwork. Layers of tissue paper and acrylic paint create a unique blend of colorful images. For anyone who would cross rivers and scale mountains for a beloved friend, this warmhearted story will create an emotional response. Young readers will learn the value of friendship and its many challenges.—Krista Welz, The North Bergen Public Library, NJ ©(c) Copyright 2013. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

From [Booklist](#)

A boy's best friend moves away, but he is determined to find her. After swimming across a wide river, he falls asleep under the stars. He walks across a broad meadow and through the rain. He falls asleep and dreams of floating on a cloud. Awakening in a deep forest, the frightened boy runs until he reaches a garden, where he gathers flowers and gives them to . . . his friend. They play together. They get married. It's an odd, dreamlike story for a picture book, yet the artwork is strong and unmistakably Carle's, created with painted tissue papers, usually as collage elements. The children appear only in the book's beginning and ending sections; in between, seven double-page spreads illustrate the story of the boy's travels, without any human figures. Often dynamic and quite beautiful, these colorful illustrations of the river, the meadow, and so on are abstract in style and show up well from a distance. A picture-book tribute to the strength of childhood friendships. Preschool-Kindergarten. --Carolyn Phelan

Review

Praise for *Friends*:

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Users Review

From reader reviews:

Doreen Harry:

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