



## Itsy Mitsy Runs Away

*Elanna Allen*

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## **Itsy Mitsy Runs Away Elanna Allen**

NO ONE likes bedtime, and Itsy Mitsy has had quite enough. So tonight's the night she's running away to the perfect place where there are no more bedtimes ever (not even one). But running away isn't as easy as it seems. There's a lot to pack: Mitsy's friendliest dinosaur Mister Roar; a snack for Mister Roar; her dog, Pupcake, to keep the bedtime beasties away from said snack; the list goes on and on. But with a helpful Dad who makes sure Mitsy doesn't leave anything behind--especially not him--Mitsy might want to run away tomorrow night, too.

## **Itsy Mitsy Runs Away Details**

Date : Published May 3rd 2011 by Atheneum Books for Young Readers

ISBN : 9781442406711

Author : Elanna Allen

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## **From Reader Review Itsy Mitsy Runs Away for online ebook**

### **Bookworm's Nemesis says**

3.5 stars

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### **Skari says**

I loved this book so much I looked to see what else the author had done, I was disappointed to see there isn't a whole series of Itsy Mitsy books.

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### **Melanie says**

Really enjoyed this book...from the clever story idea of a threatening to run away and her father's responses, to the illustrations.

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### **Christen says**

Itsy Mitsy does not like bedtime. So, she decides to run away – and her father helps her pack! He humorously reminds her of the things she will need, until she's packed him right up with the house. Her stuffed animals and toys take on a life of their own, crawling out of her suitcase and wagon, spinning a larger than life cumulative tale that is a delight to read over again. Colorful illustrations humorously embellish the tale as the tiny girl carries away piles of items that are twice her size – including the house! Allen's work with Nickelodeon and Playhouse Disney is evident in Mitsy's nighttime monsters, which children will recognize and relate to.

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### **Jaime Sanborn says**

Itsy Mitsy is the CUTEST storybook child ever drawn. If *CindyLou Who and Max, King of All Wild Things* grew up and had a child together- Itsy Mitsy would be her.

This palm-sized, dinosaur-costumed, rebel has decided that bedtime is NOT for her and that she must run away. However, her broken-hearted father can't bear to let her go without at least helping her pack! She needs all the right gear to protect her from the *Bedtime Beasties!* (These Beasties look very similar to some well-known monsters that live on a famous street known for its sunny days!)

As the story begins to layer itself, the prose forms a pattern that little ones will enjoy. They will also love this tiny little heroine with super-human strength and spunky independence as she prepares to run away.

With lime green and orange as the dominating colors on the palest blue backdrop, Allen's characters pop off the page. This is a beautiful book that is super fun to read!

Recommended for ages 3-7.

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### **Dornel Cerro says**

Itsy Mitsy is a spunky little girl “who really, really, for real (I’m not even joking) …” does not like bedtime. When she decides to run away, her clever dad reminds her of all the things she’ll need. First her suitcase and then her wagon are overflowing with all the paraphernalia of childhood. How’s she going to light the lamp to keep away the beasties? Large, colorful and humorous illustrations against pale backgrounds bring focus to the characters and a ghostliness to the beasties. Using a House that Jack Built type narrative, this would make a perfect storytime addition. Highly recommended.

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### **Melissa says**

OK, yes, the illustrations are really assured, and I love the color, and even the curlicues all around Mitsy's speech bubbles. And yes, the single dad is great.

Four things: the House-that-Jack-Built parts don't really rhyme or scan, though it's clear they're supposed to be set aside from the rest of the text; I am suspicious of books for children that make jokes at the child character's expense (ie, we know the dad isn't REALLY helping); parents who taunt their children--no matter how unflappable--with scary things (the DARK! the MONSTERS!) give me the willies; and last but not least, Mitsy is ready to provide herself with meals, protection, a roof over her head without missing a beat, but she snaps at mowing the lawn? I know it's supposed to be absurd, but we've already DONE absurd when she picks up the house. (Yes, yes, I'm overthinking this, but the emotional arc of the story doesn't carry me and I'm trying to figure out why.)

I need to go find my copy of A Baby Sister for Frances.

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### **Tasha says**

Itsy Mitsy is a little girl who hates bedtime. So much that she decides to run away. Her Dad reminds her that she will need to pack, starting with a friend to make sure she's not alone. Mitsy packs her toy dinosaur, Mister Roar. Then Dad reminds Mitsy that she will need food for her dinosaur. So she packs a snack for him. Dad remarks that Mister Roar is not the only one who likes bananas, in fact they could attract the Bedtime Beasties! So Mitsy packs Puptart, her ferocious toy dog. She packs a lamp for light on her way, but can't get the outlet out of the wall for power. So she does the only thing she can...She packs the entire house. Now what to do with her Dad?

This very funny picture book does not take the expected story line at all. Children will be amazed when Mitzi just keeps on packing, all the way to packing her house. The sudden change to a book that is fantasy not reality, makes for a great twist that will take readers by complete surprise. The writing is witty and gracefully written. It reads aloud beautifully.

Allen's art is a large part of the success of the book. Mitzi is depicted in her shiny green alligator/monster suit with orange goggles. The home around them done in blues and greys fades nicely to the background, but offers details. Then the fantastic parts of the story are done in wild yellows and greens, adding to the twist of the tale.

A very funny, successful bedtime romp that takes readers on an unexpected journey. Appropriate for ages 4-6.

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### **Garren says**

One of those books where the parent is positively portrayed in a way that supports imagination rather than harsh restriction.

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### **Ellen says**

adorable bedtime story

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### **Abigail says**

A young girl with a distaste for bedtime decides to run away, rather than submit to being tucked in. Her father, wise in his ways, encourages her to take more and more with her, from her favorite dinosaur, to scare away night-time monsters, to a snack for said dinosaur. Eventually, having taken everything and the house with her, the girl is tired out, and falls asleep...

Itsy Mitsy Runs Away is the third picture-book I have read from author/illustrator Elanna Allen, and of the three, it is the one that I enjoyed most. The tale here is structured in a cumulative way, like the classic *"The House That Jack Built,"* and would make for an entertaining read-aloud, I believe. Itsy Mitsy felt a little bratty (a common characteristic of Allen's heroines, it seems), but I appreciated the way her father encouraged her in her make-believe (I presume?) games. The artwork is colorful and cute, with a cartoon style that makes a lot of sense, given its creator's background in animation. Recommended to anyone looking for fun bedtime fare.

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### **Frankie Gray says**

This one has been a bedtime staple for about six weeks now. Mitsy is the little girl who runs away with her favorite dinosaur, Mr. Roar, and her dog, Puptart, because she hates bedtime. Mitsy's dad pretends to support her independence, but as the pages turn we see it's a long con to get Mitsy to bring him along. You can look at it as a manipulative parent, or a silly game played by a loving father. I'll take the latter. By the end of the book, as Dad tucks Mitsy in, she seems to be in on the joke when she suggests they run away again tomorrow.

This is Frankie's favorite book to-date, and the one with the most words and narrative. She has 90 percent of it memorized, but prefers to listen. I skim over the part about Mitsy hating bedtime because Frankie (almost 2) loves bedtime and I'm afraid of anything that could jeopardize that fact. I mean, the kid voluntarily hops down off the couch with her blanket, hustles to crawl into bed and giggles as she tells us goodnight. That won't last forever, but I'll make darn sure it's not my fault that it ends.

-Frankie's dad

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### **Lynn Davidson says**

This is a funny cumulative story about a little girl who didn't like bedtime so she decided to run away. The problem was there were so many things she couldn't go without.

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### **Megan says**

Cute with repetitive themes that would be good for littler kids, this lovely book is also a bit funny for adults too.

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