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# Welcome Home, Jellybean (Aladdin Books)



## Synopsis

Neil Oxley's older sister, Geraldine, is coming home for the first time. After spending most of her life in institutions for the retarded, she is finally going to live with her family and adapt to the real world. Skillful juxtaposition of two seemingly incompatible elements--light humor and the serious theme of mental retardation . . . This is a notable piece.--School Library Journal.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

This was a great read! It is wonderful for children in grades 3-5.

good

Nice book, good price.

In the book, *Welcome Home, Jellybean* by Marlene Fanta Shyer, Shyer describes the struggles of a young twelve year old boy, Neil Oxley. Neil, has a thirteen year old sister who is a special needs child. His sister Geraldine, or Gerri, lives at the Green Valley Regional Training Canter. She just recently learned how to use the bathroom, so Neil's mom thought that it would be a good idea to bring her home. The Oxley family ended up having quite a bit of trouble with her. It actually all started the day that they brought Gerri home. Since they live on the sixth floor of the apartment, they needed to take the elevator. Of course Gerri had never taken an elevator in her life,

so she was hesitant. When she finally walked in, she noticed that everyone was pressing a button so wanting to follow along, Gerri pressed a button which just so happened to be a special button, the emergency button. The elevator stopped and of course, Gerri along with everyone else started freaking out. A couple months later, Neil's dad said that things were just too much for him and he left. Neil began to consider moving in with his dad, but ended up deciding to just stay at home with his mom and Gerri. Neil was feeling many mixed emotions. Things were already tough for him because he had moved from private school to a public school, so he didn't have any friends. Bringing Gerri home just made things harder for everyone. Almost a year after Gerri came home, things began to become a little more "normal". In this book, Shyer really puts a lot of description into the most suspenseful parts. This book is one of the best by far and is a must read.

This is a cool book! I read *Welcome Home Jellybean*. It was a very good book. It's about a family that goes to pick up their 14 year old daughter who lives at a training center for mentally challenged people. She comes home and lots of funny and bad things happen. My favorite part was when Gerri pushes a red button in an elevator. Read the book to find out all the exciting things that happen to Gerri and her family. by Marion

I had seen this book in my teacher's library and wanted to see what it was about, and a few days ago I got around to doing it. I had no idea it would be about a mentally challenged girl named Gerri who comes to live with her family after living in an institution all her life. This story is gripping and a little ways into the book, Gerri really touches you in the heart, and it seems like you just want to hug her (that's what she does to everybody). Sure, this story isn't some magical fantasy with adventure in every corner, but I love it anyway. I told some of my friends what it was about, and they were like, "Huh, sounds great." This story is great, told in the view of the little brother, you'll love the story, characters, and everything else about this book. Some humor, a serious tone, and Gerri will make you want to *Welcome Home, Jellybean*.

I am so thrilled to have found this book again! When I was in elementary school (more than 20 years ago) this was my favorite book to check out from the library. I bet that I checked it out 4 or 5 times every school year! I was fascinated with Geraldine and all of the things that she did. It was probably my first exposure to mentally challenged people. I am now a special education teacher in Texas and I guarantee that this book is part of the reason I chose this profession! I have wanted to locate this

book for several years and just haven't had the connections to do so. Now I can proudly display it in my classroom! This is a must read that I can't wait to read again after so many years!

I STRONGLY RECOMEND THIS BOOK TO ANYONE! IT SO SAD SO FUNNY AND SO TOUCHING THAT I'LL READ IT LIKE TWICE A MONTH AND STILL NOT GET TIRD OF IT. THE STORY IS ABOUT A 13 YEAR OLD BOY NAMED NEIL WHO'S SISTER 14 YEAR OLD GERRI IS MENTALLY CHALLENGED AND HAS STAYED AT AN INTITUION ALL HER LIFE AND IS FINALLY COMING HOME. BUT JUST GETTING HER FROM HER HOME, TO THE CAR, AND UP THE ELEVATOR WAS BIG TROUBLE AND THERE IS PLENTY MORE COMING. BUT GERRI IS SLOWLY LEARNING, AND SOMETIMES LEARNING FOR GERRI CAN BE A BIT TROUBLE. AND ALL OF IT IS MAKING NEIL STRUGGLE IN SCHOOL. SINCE GERRI HAS COME THE OXLEY FAMILY HAS CHANGED A WHOLE LOT! SOME GOOD...AND SOME BAD. MARLINE FANTA SHYER HAS DONE AN EXELLENT JOB THAT I'M SUPRISED THIS BOOK HASN'T GOT AN AWARD!! I LOVE HOW THE AUTHOR LEAVES CLUES AND AND HINTS AT THE END OF THE CHAPTERS MAKING YOU WANT TO READ MORE. THIS BOOK IS GREAT! I JUST WISH IT WAS A LONGER, THICKER BOOK, (LIKE THE HARRY POTTER SERISE)

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