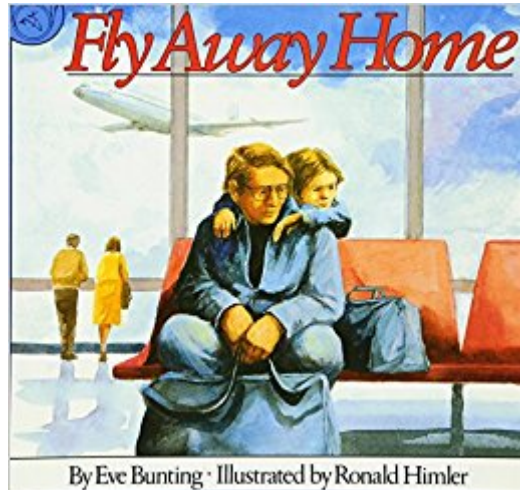




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# Fly Away Home



## Synopsis

A homeless boy who lives in an airport with his father, moving from terminal to terminal trying not to be noticed, is given hope when a trapped bird finally finds its freedom.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 450L (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: HMH Books for Young Readers; Reissue edition (March 22, 1993)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0395664152

ISBN-13: 978-0395664155

Product Dimensions: 8.8 x 0.2 x 8.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.5 out of 5 stars 71 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #26,738 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #16 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Homelessness & Poverty](#) #90 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Boys & Men](#) #317 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Emotions & Feelings](#)

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

In this timely and touching work, Bunting and Himler present a naturalistic look at the plight of the homeless--their tale of a boy and his father living in a busy airport is all the more disturbing for its lack of a pat resolution. Ages 5-8. Copyright 1993 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Kindergarten-Grade 3-- "My dad and I live in an airport . . . the airport is better than the streets." As they did in *The Wall* (Clarion, 1990), Bunting and Himler successfully present a difficult subject in picture book format. A small child narrates the facts of his homeless existence--sleeping sitting up, washing in the restroom, and above all, avoiding being noticed. The brief text runs through all his emotions from a matter-of-fact acceptance to a fierce longing that makes him angry at those who have homes. Using subdued watercolors, Himler conveys the vast, impersonal spaces through which father and son move. He often places them at the back or edge of the pictures, underscoring

their need to go unnoticed. This is a serious story but not an overpoweringly grim one. There is a reassuring togetherness between father and son and although there isn't an easy, happy ending, it does conclude on a poignant yet believable note of hope. Both illustrator and author focus on giving the child's-eye view of the problem, and their skill makes this a first-rate picture book that deserves a place in all collections. --Karen James, Louisville Free Public Library, KYCopyright 1991 Reed Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to the School & Library Binding edition.

"Fly Away Home" is the story of a young boy and his father living in an airport, doing their best to evade detection since the homeless aren't allowed to live there. Our main character wishes for brighter days, but does his part to make sure they remain safe, while learning a few lessons of his own. "Fly Away Home" is the perfect book for a read aloud. It's rigorous, powerful, and beautifully illustrated. When reading this book to my students, we focused on inferencing and I taught them the word empathy. To understand this book, it's important to empathize with the main character, even if we aren't homeless ourselves. The language is appropriate for 5th grade students. Students will enjoy this book's hidden meanings, flow, and cliff hanger ending. My students were eager to know what happened to the main character, if he ever found a home, but that's what imaginations are for.

Though this book has caught flack from some reviewers for being "scary" or "unrealistic" or "depressing," it is a really good story. The story is about a father and son who live in the airport because they are homeless and they try to blend in with the travelers so that no one will notice them and that they never actually get on a plane. True that this book isn't peppy in subject matter like most children's books, but it's a great story to showcase to children that there are many who are less fortunate than them and that homelessness is unfortunately a reality in society. If you are one of those parents who want to pretend that the world is a totally happy place with no issues, then this is not a book you should share with your child. However, if you are like me and want to show your children that unfortunately, there are epidemics in society, like homelessness, and that they need to be aware that there are people who are less fortunate and we should try to help them in any way we can, like donating money, clothes, or time, then this is great book to share. Be prepared for some tough questions though from kids as they try to comprehend why this happens to people. The book is well written from the child's point of view and has beautiful watercolor illustrations.

A very thought-provoking book about a homeless family. The storyline invites children to discuss situations they may or may not be aware of in their community. For elementary ages 6 and up

I absolutely love this book! One of my assignment required me to write an analysis on a children's book addressing personal issues that students may face. This story is about a young boy and his father living in an airport terminal. The author tactfully addresses this issue in a manner that does not blame or make the characters feel embarrassed for their living situation. The story is told mainly through the eyes of the young boy who freely expresses hurt and expectation for something more someday soon.

The book "Fly Away Home," by Eve Bunting, is a very emotional book about a boy and his dad who live in an airport terminal. They make sure not to get noticed by the authorities. Throughout the book he mentions something that another family does wrong to get noticed and how it is important not to do these things. One family got noticed by being loud, one lady was noticed by being dirty, and another way to get noticed is by sitting together with other people who lived in the airport. They had to be on a tight schedule and know which places they stayed at. If they stayed at one place too long then they will be noticed. They would wash up in the bathrooms and sleep sitting up. His father would go on the bus to his job as a janitor and he would have to stay with the medina's which was another friendly family who stayed at the airport. The dad and son save their money to eventually get a place again like before his mother died. There is a very sad and emotional ending. This book is very good to use in any grade level as a read aloud. I was read this book in college and really enjoyed it, so it can be used on any level. You can really tie in a lot of different subjects to this book. This book can be a warm up for a lesson on culture, just as an example. This is useful when trying to find a picture book for a certain lesson. This book can be used as a warm up activity before the actual lesson to get the students excited and interested about the lesson.

Amazing book to help teach compassion. My 5th grade class really enjoyed it.

Arrived as described. Pleased with my purchase.

I have enjoyed every Eve Bunting book I've ever read. I read them to my grandchildren who enjoy them and ask enough questions that I know they are learning something from each book!

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