

Sideways Stories From Wayside School

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In the book “Sideways Stories From Wayside School”, there is a school called Wayside School that was accidentally built sideways. There are a total of 30 stories in the book, each story being about a certain character. There are also 30 floors in the school. The first story is about Mrs. Gorf, a teacher that would turn someone into an apple if they did something that she didn’t like. After a week, all of the students were apples. This made Mrs. Gorf happy, but the students, or the apples, demanded her to turn them back into students. Mrs. Gorf, having no other choice, turned them back into students. She tried to turn them back into apples once again, only causing her to turn herself into an apple. Louis, the yard teacher, eventually eats Mrs. Gorf, or the apple, as he becomes very hungry. A teacher named Mrs. Jewls, who was thought to be a terribly nice teacher by the students, replaces Mrs. Gorf. She thinks that she is teaching a group of monkeys due to how cute she thinks the students are. She eventually realizes that the students are not monkeys. The next story is about Joe, a student who cannot count. Mrs. Jewls asks him one day to stay inside for recess and tries to get him to count correctly, in which his responses are either him counting to the correct number and in the wrong order or to the wrong number and in the right order. She tells Joe that one day, he will know how to count, in which the next day, he knows how to count. After that, we hear about a student named Sharie, who was either looking outside or falling asleep. One day, she fell asleep and fell out the window and was caught by Louis, the yard teacher, just in time. Later that day, however, she was unable to go to sleep. The next student is Todd, a student who always gets sent home early because he keeps talking in class despite being able to think before speaking. The next story is about Bebe Gunn, a student who can draw a lot of pictures in a few seconds with the help of her assistant, Calvin. When she realizes that the only thing about a picture that matters is how good it is, she decides to focus on making her pictures look good instead of being fast when drawing her pictures. Next is Calvin, a boy with a round face, who was told by Mrs. Jewls to give a note to Miss Zarves, a teacher who doesn’t exist. Calvin, not knowing what to do, decides to just tell Mrs. Jewls that he didn’t give the note to Miss Zarves. Mrs. Jewls, however, thanks Calvin for giving the note to Miss Zarves (which he didn’t do) and gives him a Tootsie Roll as a reward, which confuses Calvin. The next student is Myron, who is known as the class president. His job is to turn on and off the lights every day, which doesn’t seem like that much of a task to him. One day, however, he is late for school, and a person named Stephen replaces Myron as the new class president. Next is Maurecia, a student that originally only liked ice cream but became bored of it. To solve her problem, Mrs. Jewls decided to bring each student’s flavor ice cream, which made Maurecia like everyone. After Maurecia is Paul, a student who got in trouble for pulling Leslie’s two pigtails.

Next is Dana, a student who had mosquito bites all over her, but Mrs. Jewls was able to turn her mosquito bites into numbers by teaching arithmetic. The next story is about Jason, who got stuck on his chair during class, but was able to get off his chair with the help of Joy. After Jason is Rondi, a student who becomes confused as a result of the other students and teachers asking her

to show the front teeth that she doesn't have and them laughing about the jokes she didn't tell. The next story is about Sammy, who turned out to be a dead rat that had many jackets on him. After Sammy is Deedee, a student who liked recess and always wanted the green balls during recess. She isn't able to get any green balls during recess, but she finally gets one after tricking her classmates that she was a rat. That way, she would be on the playground first and she would be able to get a green ball first. Next is D.J., a person who always smiles because he states that there is no reason to smile, but there is a reason to be sad. The next story is about John, a student who can always understand things upside down. However, this changes after he stands on his head and falls over, as now he can understand things right side up. After John is Leslie, a student who wishes to cut her toes for money since she finds them useless, but she changes her mind after Louis can't promise her a certain money value for her toes. The next person is Miss Zarves, who doesn't exist. Next is Kathy, a student who doesn't like anyone and is somehow right for everything when she is, in reality, wrong.

The story after Kathy's is about Ron, who is a student that wants to play kickball, but no one will let him. After Louis persuades the others to play kickball with him and Ron, Ron and Louis lose to the other team. They continue to lose the next few games. Louis asks Ron why he wants to play kickball when he isn't good at it, in which Ron responds by punching Louis. After Ron is the three Erics- Eric Bacon, who is thought to be fat, which they called Fat-so, Eric Fry, who was known as "Butterfingers", and Eric Ovens, who was thought to be rude and had the nickname "Crabapple". Allison is the next student, who is known for being kind by helping other teachers. The next student is Dameon, who wasn't able to watch the movie about turtles that Mrs. Jewls made the others watch because he had to ask Louis if he wanted to watch the movie. As a result, when Mrs. Jewls asked the class to write something they learned about turtles, Dameon only knew that turtles are slow. After Dameon is Jenny, who came to school and noticed that nobody was there. She eventually realized that that day was a Saturday. The next story is about Terrence, who only likes to kick things, which causes other students to dislike him. As a result, Louis decides to kick Terrence over the fence. Next is Joy, who had forgotten her lunch and decided to eat Dameon's lunch. She then decided to put Dameon's lunch on other people's desks (Allison, Deedee, Jason, and Calvin's desks) so that she wouldn't take the blame for eating Dameon's lunch. After Joy is Nancy, who is a boy that was embarrassed of his name. As a result, he decided to switch names with a girl named Mac. When he told his classmates that his new name was Mac and that he traded his name with someone else, everyone else wanted to trade names. This created confusion on what each person's name was, until they managed to figure out who's name was who's. The second-to-last story is about Stephen, who, on the day of the Halloween party, dressed up as a goblin. However, no one else was dressed up as a Halloween character, so this embarrassed Stephen. However, the ghost of Mrs. Gorf appeared and said that Halloween would be celebrated the Friday before Halloween. Stephen was happy that he was right that he hugged Mrs. Gorf, which caused her to disappear. Everyone was happy that Stephen had saved everyone, but they still didn't like his costume. The final story is about Louis, who was the person that wrote the book. Because there was a blizzard on that day, Louis was afraid that everyone would have too much fun, so the students had to stay inside. Louis decided to tell a story instead. His story was about how there was a school that has every classroom on the same story. In that school, nothing has happened that has happened in this school, such as no one

turning into apples, no one selling their toes, and no one turning mosquito bites into numbers. Mrs. Jewls found the story very entertaining, but everyone else disliked the story.

There were a lot of things that I liked about this book. For example, I loved how creative each story was. There were a lot of fictional elements in the story, such as the students turning into apples, turning mosquito bites into numbers, and ice cream of the flavor of each person. I also liked how each story's elements continued on throughout the story. However, the book was only 126 pages long, as I wished that this book was a little longer because of how creative it is. I would recommend this book to ages 8-12 because of how fun and interesting this book is to read, but also how easy the book is to understand. I would definitely recommend this book to someone else.

Recommended Titles:

Holes by Louis Sachar

Small Steps by Louis Sachar

Sideways Arithmetic from Wayside School by Louis Sachar