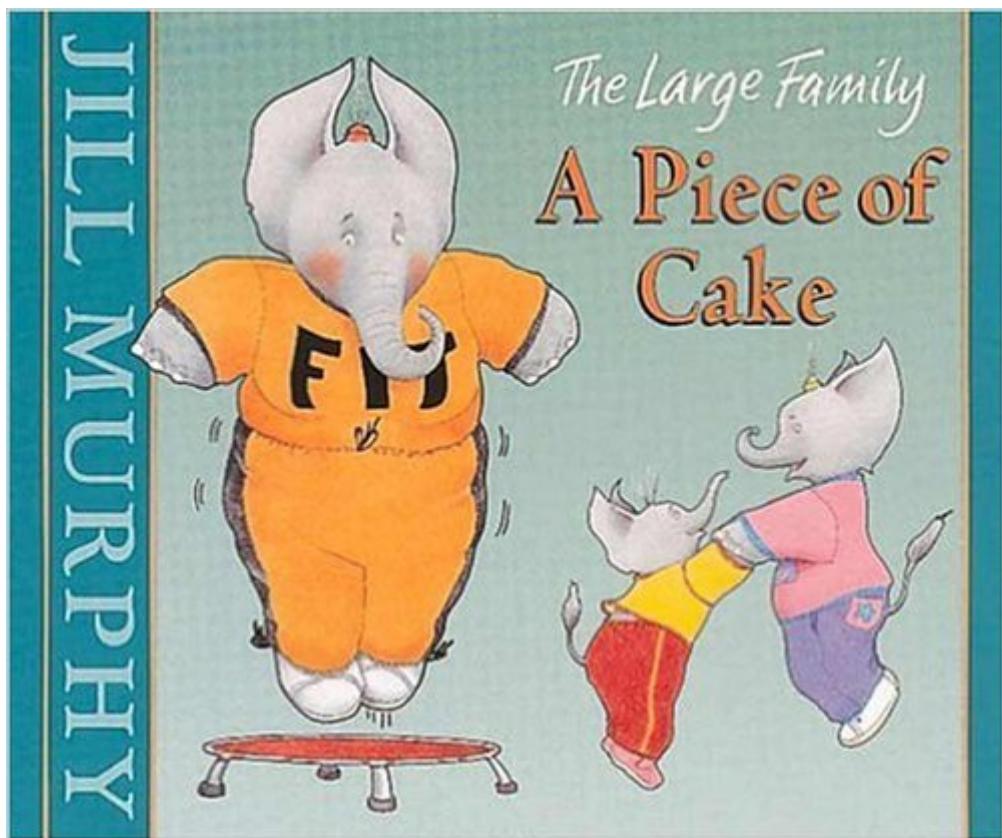


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# A Piece Of Cake



## **Synopsis**

This time the elephantine family is plagued by pounds, and Mrs. Large is determined to lead them on the quest for fitness. The creator of FIVE MINUTES' PEACE, A QUIET NIGHT IN, and ALL IN ONE PIECE tells another story that parents will enjoy as much as their children will.

## **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 380L (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Candlewick; Reprint edition (March 5, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 076360111X

ISBN-13: 978-0763601119

Product Dimensions: 8.7 x 0.1 x 7.1 inches

Shipping Weight: 4 ounces

Average Customer Review: 3.0 out of 5 starsÂ  [See all reviewsÂ \(8 customer reviews\)](#)

Best Sellers Rank: #3,378,043 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #104 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Health > Weight #34991 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Humor #43130 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## **Customer Reviews**

When Mama Elephant put the family on a diet, their will power remains strong until Grammy sends a cake. With the jogging before breakfast and the jogging after school there isn't much time to think about food, the Elephant family is sure to lose weight, right? Wrong! Maybe Elephants are meant to be fat! The illustrations are very good. Each has terrific detail and facial expression. A warning is due for this book however because of the focus on weight loss. I'm not so sure the book goes about the issue as sensitively as it should. The first words of the text are "I'm Fat." Although Mama stresses the Elephant family should "get fit," not lose weight, the focus is still on being fat. Knowing the damage being called fat can cause, this book should be read in an educated manner if you choose to read it to your child. After reading it, try to have a short discussion of the healthy foods the Elephant family could eat instead of cake.

This is by far the worst book ever. I got it for a quarter and did not bother looking through it before I

was about to read it to my three-year old. All I had to do, though, was look at the first line and realize that I would never read it to my child. The first line is the mother elephant telling her children that she is fat. Then they eat healthy foods and exercise, but they feel terrible. Yeah kids, eat vegetables, exercise, keep yourselves healthy, that will make you feel terrible. Then they give up their diet and eat cake. They feel better after that. What a great message! I cannot say enough TERRIBLE things about this book. I Freecycle, reuse, give away everything, but this book is going straight to the garbage. I wouldn't want any child to read this garbage.

Read this book to your children if you want to introduce the concept of being fat and needing to lose weight, but at the same time giving them the idea that healthy eating and exercise is horrible and boring. Not to mention that ultimately you don't need willpower, you can just give up on a goal at the slightest temptation, and it's fun and funny to sneak around and steal cake you don't have permission to eat. We got the book as a gift. We read it once to our 3 year old, and were unanimous that it had to go. We felt bad about donating it to the school fundraising bookstand. Hopefully the person who buys it gives it a read first.

This book is delightfully funny, both with the text and the pictures. The mother is described at one point by the baby as having wobbly bits. The only down side with this book is that it sort of sends a mixed message regarding weight. They do all the right things and don't lose weight. The Fats end up deciding elephants are meant to be fat. Confusing. Overall though, the story and the pictures make up for this mixed message.

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