

Maybe I Do Care About Children: A Book Review of *Nothing to See Here* by Kevin Wilson

How a book made me feel fortunate about not having children, but changed my point of view on maybe not all children are terrible.

I am not a fan of children. When I was younger, I thought my greatest goal in life would be to become a mother, but alas, I am much happier as a childless, 21-year old college student. This isn't to say that children are terrible, but I am—let's say—less prone to tolerating them now than when I was younger.

However, the book that I just finished may or may not have made me change my point of view on children. That is, having normal children.

Nothing to See Here, written by Kevin Wilson, follows Lillian, a late-20s worn-out loner who finds herself living with her mother, until her former boarding school roommate, Madison, a woman born into privilege and money who married a politician of the same status, writes a letter to her asking for help caring for her two stepchildren. Lillian thinks it can't be too hard, caring for twins of a wealthy family.

But there's a catch: the children can spontaneously combust when agitated or frustrated. Considering caring for two children who can catch on fire or moving back in with her distanced mother, Lillian chooses the first option, and the wild ride begins.

As much as I love spoilers, I will not say any but instead push you to read the novel if you have not. I ended up reading it in three days as I loved it so much. Wilson's writing, while it does have foul words, is full of excitement and funny premises along the way. I never expected myself to laugh and feel sorrow while reading just one book.

The story of the fire twins, Roland and Bessie, are heartfelt and at the same time heartbreaking. It made me feel actual sympathy? For two wealthy children? Which, I obviously never expected to happen, but I didn't mind it. These children, while fictional, are kids that I would definitely not mind being a nanny for.

If I was to rate the novel, I would give it a solid 4.5/5 rating. I never thought a book that revolved around parenthood and children that spontaneously combust would receive such a high rating from me, but it did. If you have not read it, I truly do highly recommend it!