



Alphonse, There's Mud on the Ceiling!

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5

Living in a flat on the seventh floor, the extremely lively Natalie and brother Alphonse make use of every item in, and all the space within their home in their play, until their long-suffering Dad calls a halt to their mayhem creating (which includes the mud in the title). His 'NATALIEALPHONSE, that is not a good game for indoors!' is countered by Natalie's complaint that there's nowhere else they can play and moreover her pal Elfrida is going to sleep in a tent in the garden of her house. Natalie's going to live in the park she tells her Dad and flounces out ' alone.

In a bush in the park she finds a hole and some other things including a squirrel she names Squilliam; but before long Alphonse appears on the scene, accompanied by Dad. An amnesty is soon called and back home once again, the two terrors prove that being wild in the jungle can take place anywhere, even a tiny balcony seven floors up, just so long as you have plenty of sticks and some other paraphernalia to hand.

Daisy Hurst has already demonstrated her observational brilliance in her two previous Natalie and Alphonse books; she does so again with this one: it's priceless and doubtless will make adult readers aloud chuckle as they share it with little humans.

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