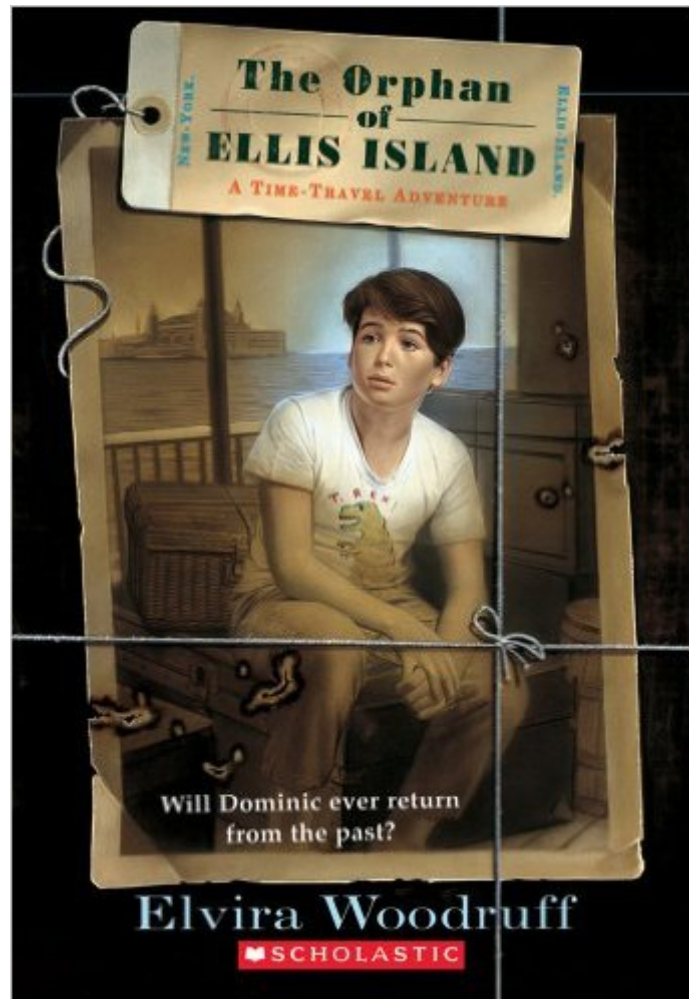


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# The Orphan Of Ellis Island (Time Travel Adventures)



## Synopsis

During a school trip to Ellis Island, Dominick Avaro, a ten-year-old foster child, travels back in time to 1908 Italy and accompanies two young emigrants to America.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 810L (What's this?)

Series: Time Travel Adventures

Paperback: 192 pages

Publisher: Scholastic Paperbacks; Reissue edition (1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0590482467

ISBN-13: 978-0590482462

Product Dimensions: 5.2 x 0.4 x 7.5 inches

Shipping Weight: 12.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (42 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #47,791 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #82 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > United States > 1900s](#) #115 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Orphans & Foster Homes](#) #135 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Fiction](#)

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

In the book, *The Orphan of Ellis Island* by Elvira Woodruff, Dominic Cantori, a fifth grader, has something he doesn't want to tell. Since Dominic is an orphan, he doesn't want anyone to know about his family. While on a class trip to the Museum of Ellis Island, a park ranger asks the kids about their families. Dominic runs away from the group and falls asleep in a nearby closet. When Dominic wakes up, the museum is deserted and dark. Dominic is scared and picks up the exhibit phones, hoping that this will pass the time and help him forget his fears. He just talks to the recorded voices of immigrants, the people from far away places. Suddenly, an old Italian immigrant joins in his conversation. Next thing he knows, Dominic goes back into the world of this old man, in the year 1908. Dominic meets three kids. Their names are Francesco, Salvatore, and Antonio Candiano. The three kids are orphan brothers and live in an Italian village in Avalletto, Italy. The kids do have shelter and a friend who is a priest named Father Tomasso. The Candiano brothers also have a goat

name Violetta. They pick lemons for money. These bothers accept Dominic as family. The novel is unlike any other novel. The genre is definitely different, with historical fiction and some fantasy making it an adventurous and exciting novel to read. Our group rates the book, *The Orphan of Ellis Island*, four out of five stars. we rate the book this because the climax is at the end of the book and the beginning of the book is not as interesting as the ending. It is a very good book that once you start, you will never be able to put down. BY: Rachel Fisher Chris Vilkas Gaje Darby Seth Keplinger

A class 'eld trip turns into the adventure of a lifetime when young Dominic Cantori, an orphan, visits Ellis Island. Uncomfortable with all of the discussion about ancestry during the 'eld trip, Dominic wanders off from the group, falls asleep in a utility closet, and soon 'nds himself swept away to another time and place. This time travel trip takes Dominic to Italy in 1908 where he befriends three orphaned brothers. He discovers the harsh conditions that compelled people to leave their homes and seek refuge in the United States. Dominic joins the brothers as they leave Italy and he experiences 'rst hand what it felt like to travel as a steerage passenger aboard a ship to America. Upon entering New York harbor he is elated to see the Statue of Liberty and soon discovers the challenges immigrants faced at Ellis Island. When Dominic returns to the present he has developed a deeper appreciation of the struggles of those long ago immigrants and welcomes the opportunity to be placed with a foster family that is eager to adopt a child like him.

While this book is strictly for younger audiences, it is a factual and easy read. Dominic Cantori is a foster child who has been through many foster homes in his life. He does not know who his parents are or where he is from. On a field trip to Ellis Island with his classmates, he hides in a janitor's closet so that the other children do not find out that he has no real family. He ends going to sleep in the closet and wakes up to an empty Ellis Island Museum. He ends up going back in time to 1908 and meets a few boys who end up being his friends. As I said, this book should be strictly for a younger audience. I say this because it is more than a little unrealistic and overdramatic. But it is okay. ~Atalanta

My granddaughter read this as part of Reading Olympics. As my grandparents came through Ellis Island, we were able to have a nice family history discussion based on her reading this book. She advised me I should read it, but she had taken it back to the school library. So I bought the book. Even though it's for children, I really enjoyed the book very much.

My daughter (age 10) came to appreciate this author after reading one of her books with her gifted class. When she's read it in the evenings I found myself entertained also. So, we purchased 2 other books by Elvira Woodruff, including this one, to read together.

This is a great book. This story takes place in two different time periods and places. The story starts and ends in present day New York City. However, the main story takes place in Italy in 1806. The amount of time that passes is about 2 weeks. The real action takes place in Italy. The mood of the story is exciting with adventure built in. I enjoyed reading the story and was happy at the end of the story. Dominic was mostly happy until the end because he was sad to leave Italy. I think the author chose this mood to keep people reading the book. The main characters are Dominic, Francesco, Salvatore, and Antonio. The supporting characters are Father Tomaso, and Signora Giasullo. Dominic is an orphan and is very shy, he is eleven years old and wears a t-rex t-shirt and khaki shorts. Francesco is eleven, he wears ripped shorts and a dirty t-shirt like his brothers, who are 7 and 9. Salvatore the 9 year old brother always wanted to be a cowboy but sadly never got to. Their major problem, as orphans, is not having any food. This problem was resolved by the boys leaving Italy. My favorite part was Dominic meeting the brothers. I would not change any part of this book. I would recommend this book to my friends.

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