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A Dog Called Homeless



Synopsis

Praised by Newbery Medal—œwinning author Katherine Applegate as "graceful" and "miraculous," this Schneider Family Book Award—œwinning novel tells how one girl's friendship with a homeless dog mends a family's heart. Cally Fisher knows she can see her dead mother, but the only other living soul who does is a mysterious wolfhound who always seems to be there when her mom appears. How can Cally convince anyone that her mom is still with the family, or persuade her dad that the huge silver-gray dog belongs with them? With beautiful, spare writing and adorable animals, *A Dog Called Homeless* is perfect for readers of favorite middle-grade novels starring dogs, such as *Because of Winn-Dixie* and *Shiloh*.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: 660 (What's this?)

Paperback: 224 pages

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Best Sellers Rank: #60,441 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #80 in *Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Death & Dying* #124 in *Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Special Needs* #265 in *Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Parents*

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

Customer Reviews

Gr 4-7-Cally Fisher hasn't spoken for 31 days. As she explains in the prologue, "Talking doesn't always make things happen, however much you want it to." She knows that talking won't bring her mother back to life or keep her dad from selling their home in exchange for a small apartment so what's the point in saying anything. But when her mother appears one day wearing a bright red raincoat and the only other soul that sees her is a big scraggly dog, the girl knows she must find a way to convince her father that the dog is the only thing connecting them to her mother. But her

father's growing depression continues to separate the family and Cally struggles to keep her mother from becoming a distant memory. When she meets Sam, who lives downstairs, the friendship that forms between the blind boy and silent girl manages to reunite a family, and each character benefits from the bond. Truly a lesson in the power of love and loss, this story shows that learning how to listen is more important than what's being said. This is a thought-provoking story that will speak to readers of all ages.-Cheryl Ashton, Amherst Public Library, OH
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Ever so gently, this fine debut effort explores the power of human kindness as Cally and her father find effective ways to cope with their loss. (Kirkus Reviews (starred review))

My 8 year old son was given this book to read by his teacher because she knows he LOVES all animals, but especially dogs. Once he started, he couldn't put the book down! What a joy it was to see a child (especially mine) so engrossed in a book!!!! At the dinner table he would talk about the characters, at the bustop, in the car, etc....and he kept telling me that I would love it, too! When he finally finished it, he asked me if we could actually "buy" the hardcover book because we had to give this one back to the library and he wanted to read it "a trllion more times! ...and I still hadn't read it yet," he said! So, we did...and I did!....and I have to tell you...its a great book! I was really impressed that it wasn't your typical 3 grade book, but touched on sooooo many senses for everyone! This author made you "feel" the book....not just read it! And I was so happy that my son "got it"...the message the book was sending! Whether it be the emotions of the main characters, understanding physical handicaps of others are just that.....they're still human, how animals are more than just 4 legged creatures....they are gifts to us, and to not judge people by their appearances...be it blindness, deafness, dirty ragged clothes, etc....everyone is special and has a purpose here on earth. Read this WITH your child...they'll thank you for it!

This book was read aloud to my my nine-year old son. He would read a few pages and then I took over for a few pages. We thought it was a sweet and tender story about loss and what a young heart needs to begin to move forward. It was not as action-packed as most books my son usually reads; it tended to lag a little for a BOY his AGE. Some of the subtle and poignant content was lost on him, but overall, I would say it was a pleasant read, would recommend to be read with adult because of heavy subject matter. Enjoy!

My 8 year old enjoyed this read.

Wonderful heartwarming story. I would recommend it to everyone. Hope to read more from this author. I would recommend this book to anyone who loves dogs and the Christmas holidays.

It was a year ago when her mother had died. Cally's dad wouldn't speak of her mother. Then one day, Cally wouldn't speak at all. How can a homeless man, a dog, and the love of a woman that would never die, heal a family and expand it beyond words? This is a beautiful story that will have you laughing and crying, and leave you very satisfied and grateful for having met this unexpected mix of characters. Fabulous!

About a little girl who lost her mother the year before and stops talking because no one will listen to her. The little girl meets a very large Irish Wolfhound who keeps showing up when she is in need. She and the Wolfhound become very good friends, but she has to find a way to make her father understand why she needs to keep him.

This book was just amazing I think you should read this book because it talks about how a little girls mother passes away and this dog comes around and is like a guardian angel I recommended this book to my friend she loved it. P.S. this book is a tear jerker

5 stars I think you did an amazing job on this book All brag and tell other people about your book for you

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