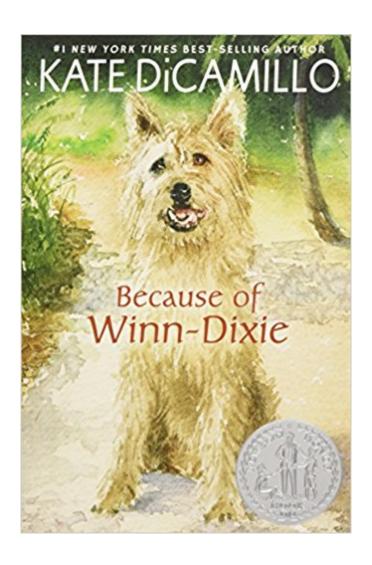


## The book was found

# **Because Of Winn-Dixie**





## Synopsis

A classic tale by Newbery Medalist Kate DiCamillo, America's beloved storyteller. One summerâ ™s day, ten-year-old India Opal Buloni goes down to the local supermarket for some groceries â " and comes home with a dog. But Winn-Dixie is no ordinary dog. Itâ ™s because of Winn-Dixie that Opal begins to make friends. And itâ ™s because of Winn-Dixie that she finally dares to ask her father about her mother, who left when Opal was three. In fact, as Opal admits, just about everything that happens that summer is because of Winn-Dixie. Featuring a new cover illustration by E. B. Lewis.

### **Book Information**

Lexile Measure: 670 (What's this?)

Paperback: 208 pages

Publisher: Candlewick; Reprint edition (December 8, 2015)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0763680869

ISBN-13: 978-0763680862

Product Dimensions: 5.1 x 0.5 x 7.6 inches

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

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 2,863 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #526 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #7 in Books > Children's Books >

Animals > Dogs #12 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship,

Social Skills & School Life > Emotions & Feelings #15 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up

& Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Friendship

Age Range: 9 - 12 years

Grade Level: 4 - 7

#### Customer Reviews

Because of Winn-Dixie, a big, ugly, happy dog, 10-year-old Opal learns 10 things about her long-gone mother from her preacher father. Because of Winn-Dixie, Opal makes new friends among the somewhat unusual residents of her new hometown, Naomi, Florida. Because of Winn-Dixie, Opal begins to find her place in the world and let go of some of the sadness left by her mother's abandonment seven years earlier. With her newly adopted, goofy pooch at her side, Opal explores her bittersweet world and learns to listen to other people's lives. This warm and winning book hosts an unforgettable cast of characters, including a librarian who fought off a bear with a copy of War and Peace, an ex-con pet-store clerk who plays sweet music to his animal charges, and the

neighborhood "witch," a nearly blind woman who sees with her heart. Part Frankie (The Member of the Wedding), part Scout (To Kill a Mockingbird), Opal brings her own unique and wonderful voice to a story of friendship, loneliness, and acceptance. Opal's down-home charm and dead-on honesty will earn her friends and fans far beyond the confines of Naomi, Florida. (Ages 9 and older) -- Emilie Coulter -- This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

Through the love she gains from her new pet, a girl gains the courage to ask her father about the mother who abandoned them. "In this exquisitely crafted first novel [a Newbery Honor book], each chapter possesses an arc of its own and reads almost like a short story in its completeness," said PW in our Best Books of 2000 citation. Ages 8-up. Copyright 2001 Cahners Business Information, Inc. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

We love Kate DiCamillo books. Our first ones were the Mercy Watson books and Leroy Ninker... I remember back when the movie came out (which I haven't seen), not realizing it was based on a book. The book reviews were so good, we knew we had to try it, and did not disappoint. The story is told in first person by the protagonist, Opal. She's just moved Florida with her dad (whom she refers to as "the preacher" more than "my dad" when talking about him). Her mom isn't in the picture, and although we don't know her present situation, her absence is poignantly addressed, and we do learn some things about her. Opal and the preacher live in a trailer park, and he has set up his new church in an erstwhile convenience store. Opal's pretty lonely in her new town and is finding it hard to make friends. The book begins with her finding a mutt who's causing a ruckus in a Winn-Dixie. Not wanting the dog to get in trouble by the store manager, she pretends he is hers, claims that his name is the same as the store's, and brings him home and convinces her dad to keep him. Different things involving Winn-Dixie spark new opportunities and friendships for Opal.I found Opal to be likeable and realistic. I loved how DiCamillo developed this character's emotions over time. My almost-8-year-old son really liked the book. We read it together as a bedtime story, 1-3 chapters a night. I really liked the ending, but my husband and son weren't satisfied and felt like the story was meant to continue. Unlike some age-appropriate chapter books, this was one I could get into.

I absolutely enjoyed this short read. Although I'm an adult, there is so much to glean from the mail character Edward, a rabbit. This book touches the heart, taking one on a journey as one experiences every adventure along with Edward. What a cunning way to get human beings to look into the deep recesses of the heart! As Edward was lost, then found, then lost again, buried under

mounds of garbage then considered priceless at the end, I couldn't help but to think of my own human journey. Indeed I must be priceless too and a good candidate for hope. I would recommend this book to anyone wanting a light, yet hopeful read!

Just as in "Because of Winn-Dixie" and "Despereaux", Kate DiCamillo achieves a remarkable piece of children's literature with "The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane". Breathtaking in its simplicity, imagination, and strength of emotion, this book is a joy to read- this is the work of a master wordsmith at the top of her game (though "Winn-Dixie" remains my favorite). "Edward" can be quite saddening at times (which may be distressing to younger children), but the bleakness is by no means overwhelming, and the payoff is enormous... it's all part of the miraculous journey. This is the rare book that is truly suitable for nearly any age, provided you enjoy imaginative fiction. Adults can read through it an afternoon, and it will only take middle graders slightly longer. As an adult, I find that reading one of Kate's books is almost like digesting a collection of poetry- it doesn't take particularly long, but it makes me think for an extended period of time, infused as it is with powerful, beautifully crafted language, and surprisingly deep themes that are worked into tales that at first seem simplistic. And like a good poem, her books are works that I often return to for additional reflection and enjoyment. "The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane" receives my highest possible recommendation.

We got this book a few days ago and my son didn't think much of it because he thought it looks boring and without pictures. (it does have a few pictures in every chapter) but when night story time came I explain him a bit about what the book was about and read to him he was so interested and paid attention to the story. I first saw and learn about this exquisite book on a Korean drama series and I was so impressed by the beautiful and mysterious cover, the pictures (drawings) in the book are like watching a painting at the museum. so I research online to find this book when I didn't know the author or title unfortunately. My son loves the book he envisions the story in his mind. It's a lovely book very smart with lots of unknown words that my son is learning. I feel like is going to be hard when we finish the book.

I think that Kate DiCamillo is perhaps the finest children's author writing today, although to call her a children's author does her a disservice, as it is likely adults who will be most moved by this slight novel. On the surface, it's a simple tale about a toy rabbit who is lost and eventually learns to love, but underneath it is so much more- an exquisitely crafted book about love and loss and life. It's such

a delight to read Ms. DiCamillo's carefully chosen words and realize how much better her writing is compared to the last 20 children's books I've read. I sent it to my sister, who said it restored her faith in reading. This is the type of book that adults appreciate more than children - there's not a lot of action in it. My daughter enjoyed it but it did not become one of her favorites (that would be the Percy Jackson books.) I would say the target audience is 3rd grade up. I think it's important to give children examples of excellent writing to read, I know I read many books when I was young that I did not perhaps fully appreciate, but that still made a profound influence on me. There are so many mediocre but enjoyable books out there, take the time to read one that is beautiful and profound.

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