



Ginger

Kate Klimo , Tim Jessell (Illustrations)

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Born in a puppy mill, Ginger the golden retriever looks back on her life and the various people who have "owned" her. Abruptly separated from her mother, littermates, and the wire cage that was her whole world, Ginger is shuttled from one harrowing situation to another until she finally escapes, living as an outlaw with a pack of wild dogs. But freedom doesn't feel so good once she becomes hungry and cold and sick. Will Ginger ever find a *forever* family to call her own? With realistic black-and-white illustrations by renowned illustrator Tim Jessel, and an appendix featuring information about puppy mills, breed rescue groups, animal shelters, choosing a pet, and the history of golden retrievers, dog-crazy early middle-grade readers will *beg* for more!

Ginger Details

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Author : Kate Klimo , Tim Jessell (Illustrations)

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From Reader Review Ginger for online ebook

Ron says

My niece (8 years old) recommended this book to me. It is the story of Ginger who is born in a puppy mill. She ends up going through several owners before she ends up at the right place for her. The section on the end on puppy mills was very interesting.

Kloe says

I thought that the book was very good.

Raniafatima says

very good book

Gideon says

if. I. had. ginger. I. think. he. would. be. a. perfect play. mate

Emily Traasdahl says

Dogs really are awesome

Miri Mandel says

I like this book because I really like dogs and it's fun to hear what the dog has to say instead of just the owner and it's fun to hear what the dog is thinking and you're like "oh! I didn't know!"

Marlee says

My daughter and I were both surprised by how sad this book started out. However, it was a lovely story, funny, silly, and hopeful. We also loved all of the information in the back, about golden retrievers and puppy mills and shelters.

Book Sp(1)ot says

Starting from Ginger's life as a puppy, with her littermates and mother and following her through all of her different residences and humans, Ginger (Dog Diaries #1) is told from Ginger's point of view. Seeing things through a puppy's eyes - and then a dog's as Ginger grows - is a unique way to look at things that we've likely either not looked twice at or never paid any attention to in the first place.

It's a great way to get the, sometimes heavy handed, message that Ginger has across. While it's definitely easier for readers to connect with Ginger with her telling the story than if it were told in the third person (or dog?), a few places felt like they were pushing a point just a bit more than necessary. A conversation one character has with a veterinarian, for example, seemed not very realistic but did make a point.

There is great information in Ginger on how to care for a puppy. As it's not the basic step-by-step how-to book, it may appeal to a different set of readers, as well. There are things in the novel that I think some adults even don't always consider when adding a new dog (a puppy, especially) to the family and it's great that they're included here.

The situation that the 'escape' in the synopsis refers to was a good point to have in the story - a good what 'not' to do. It's too bad there wasn't a what 'to' do either in the story or in the appendix (for reference, reassurance, etc).

Ginger and her story do well in telling what really owning a dog is like - that it takes responsibility, know how, patience, and forethought. Klimo's book isn't one that's going to glorify owning a dog and make everyone want to rush out and get a golden retriever, but it also shows the joys of having a pet, a true best friend.

While absolutely applaud Ginger for having the message that adoption of pets is better than from a breeder or, in Ginger's case, a puppy mill and pet store situation, but I felt it could have been done with a bit more grace, especially given the target age of the book. It seems possible to convince elementary readers that they should adopt their first/next dog without making them feel bad if the family pet they currently have was bought. It's possible the author and I just differ on how to get a message across.

Jessell's illustrations are fun and it's nice to be able to actually see Ginger at the different stages in her life. The black and white works very well within the book and the art contributes to the story.

(7/10)

Henry Cordova says

When i first read Ginger, I started to like the book. But when it read it again,The book grab my attention. My favorite part is when her old friend named Floppy-ears came back. Floppy-ear's new name was Buddy. They did the same thing they did when they were puppies. This book almost reminds me of our dog. except when he tries to find a new family. When I describe Ginger, She is a Golden Retriever. she is more like an outdoor dog. But she did not like the dark. She mostly pee all over the place and eating other people's shoes. Ginger was part of the stray dogs. she searches for food form trash cans. She was then taken to a barn full of animals. The place was suppose to be an adoption center. She had food and water. A family wanted to

adopted her. Then she was taken to a new home. The kids wanted to go to a river. Later, the boy fell and he was drowning. so ginger tried it save him, and she did. After that, They Went to a Lake, where they usually swim. They bring along Ginger as well. And by a few months, Buddy came to the family. I liked the book because it gave my attention on what is happening in the scene. I like dogs. I have a Golden Retriever as well. The coat was similar to Ginger's coat. She had a big adventure of find a better family and at the end, she finds a perfect family where they bring his old friend back.

Janet says

I would have preferred there be no mention of rubbing a puppy's nose in her excrement (as even though the author made it clear eventually that this was the wrong option, some seeds are best left unplanted altogether). I like that it highlights the tough road for puppy mill puppies and doesn't shy away from addressing some of the problems they face (like potty training them as they are used to eliminating inside and wherever). I enjoyed the reunion of Ginger and Fred (Floppy Ears). I thought it was wise that death was discussed and not ignored (like with the runt of the litter) and I was grateful for the resources on adoption and Golden Retriever rescue in the back. The author reiterated that dogs are a LOT of work and responsibility (and money) and that they should not be brought home on a whim and they are not meant to be the responsibility of a young child!! I was appreciative of that sentiment.

I know my 7 year old read the book enthusiastically. She was the one who recommended it to me and the one who pointed out the Rescue group information.

For adults this is a great Ted Talk to watch and check out Dr. Ian Dunbar's site (dogstardaily.com)

https://www.ted.com/talks/ian_dunbar_...

Read "The Other End of the Leash" by Dr. Patricia McConnell

<https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/1...>

Helen says

SPOILER ALERT!!!!!!!!!! :) This book was sad. Little Bit died. And her mother got taken from her and they were sent to pet shops. Puppy Mills are bad! Ginger got taken away from her brothers and sisters. She went through many homes but at the end she had a fur ever home and the girl next door got a golden retriever, and it was a boy and Ginger found out that he was her brother.

Mohammed Rayyan says

Good book

[Shai] The Bibliophage says

If you are dog lover just like me, you will appreciate this novel. I like how the author open the eyes of the readers to the miserable story of dogs, especially the mother (dam) dogs, in puppy mills. The lesson of not giving a puppy or pets as gifts during Christmas or Holidays and how it should be avoided were also mentioned.

kazually says

i really enjoyed reading the Horse Diaries and never knew there was a dog one lmao
really excited to read this series yay

watch me find a cat diaries now

Athena Nagel says

From what I have read of Kate Klimo's books - this book is very different from others that she has written. I love this book. What else can I say? First of all - everyone who knows me knows that I have a tough time walking away from any animal, particularly a dog in need. And my family is no help - they are just as emotional about it as me. At one point there were 7 forever dogs in my home! We are down to 5 and really need to not go any higher - but it is almost a daily struggle. Some animal is always pulling on my heartstrings. This book really just brings it all home. It is a valuable resource for anyone looking for a pet. We have owned dogs from puppy mills and rescued from the pound. Please seek out these resources before moving forward with your need to have a dog. This book is fiction but based on reality. I can tell you with 100% certainty - the best pets we have ever had have been rescued from some situation or another. You will see the happiness in their eyes. I am not sure how much that really reviews the book... But the book is a really good foundation for anyone looking for a pet and a great resource to teach young teens/older children to understand the process. I give this book a 5 out of 5 stars.

I received this book in exchange for an honest review
