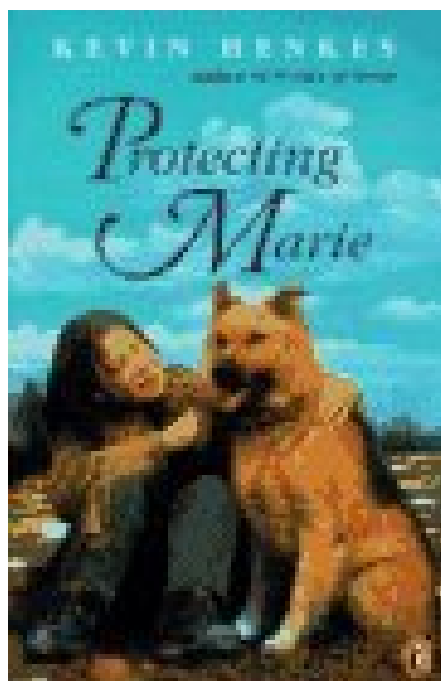




Protecting Marie

Kevin Henkes

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Relates twelve-year-old Fanny's love-hate relationship with her father, a temperamental artist, who has given Fanny a new dog.

Protecting Marie Details

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Author : Kevin Henkes

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From Reader Review Protecting Marie for online ebook

Kati Gegg says

Best book

I would say that this is one of the best books I've read in a while. Almost every chapter makes you want to read more and I ended up reading this book hours at a time.

Lucy Horne says

I have never lived in a troubled family with an untrustworthy father, but reading Protecting Marie by Kevin Henkes made me feel like I did.

Fanny had always wanted a dog, and for a short while, she had one. The little black lab mix, Nellie, was everything Fanny wanted. But, Nellie kept wandering into Fanny's father, Henry's studio while he painted, and, because of the disruption, chewing, and barking, Henry decided to give her away to a farm family. Fanny hated her father for that.

When Henry missed his own sixtieth birthday party, Fanny's mother, Ellen, began to turn away from him. When Henry finally called home, he said he was sorry and that he'd bring home dinner, but Ellen and Fanny were still furious. But, Henry came home with Burger King, and Dinner, an older German shepherd mix. Fanny realizes that she was protecting Dinner like she was protecting Marie, a flimsy paper doll, from being thrown away as a result of the dreaded Stupid Hunts she hated so much as a little kid.

Other features in the book are a person in a red cap who wants to take Dinner away, terrible studio disruptions, and only one kind of Christmas cookie.

If you want to find out what happens to Fanny and Dinner in this fantastic book, you'll have to read Protecting Marie.

Caroline says

This was a good book, and enjoyable to read.

Domenica says

it's a good book.i've read it before.

Leah says

This realistic story of a girl and her love for her dog utterly transported me. Suffering from anxiety that governs her waking and sleeping life, she arranges her life in anticipation of her father's temperamental moods, and still manages to talk herself into standing up for herself and finding safety in the world. It is a hopeful book that depicts how difficult life can be for our children when we are too oblivious or self-absorbed to notice their complex social lives. I'm not sure how much of the subtext I would have noticed if

I'd read it in my pre-teen years, but as a parent, the emotions were stark. I ache for this character while cheering her on.

~Joe Jonas lvr~ Karishma says

AH-MAZING BOOK WITH FEELINGS OF FANNY JUST UNBELIEVABLE

Judine Brey says

While I enjoyed the numerous references to Madison, which helped me visualize the scenes, the plot felt a bit thin. I know Fanny's dog, Dinner, is supposed to be her coming of age tale, but it didn't always ring true.

Nora says

A quick and touching read. The main character Fanny is growing up, and dealing with the imperfections of her parents. In this case, the dad is as immature as the child.... sound familiar? It was frustrating to read, but certainly nothing unusual. A sweet story that girls will love. PS- I love the new paperback cover with the black and white photo-- finally, a publisher that read the story!

Morgan (= says

I truly thought this was an exceptional book-in fact, I enjoyed it so much that I gave it 5 out of 5 stars.

The book was about a girl, Fanny, who had wanted a dog her entire life. She doesn't get along with her Dad who is 60 years old, an artist, very private, aloof, and struggling with his age at this time. Years before, Fanny had requested a puppy and gotten one but her father had refused to deal with it chewing his furninshings, peeing on the floor, and generally becoming a distraction. Her father gives the puppy away when she's away at school and breaks fanny's heart. Two years later, fanny's father adopts dinner, a trained three year old. Fanny is in the process of becoming attached to dinner and mending a broken relationship with her father.

Moima says

This book is one of my all time favorites. I absolutely love it. It's an easy read, but still it brings tears to my eyes.

Autumn says

I had read another Kevin Henkes book last year, and decided to pick this one up based on the dog-theme.

The book reminded me what it was like to be a child and to feel powerless- the main character is 12 year old Fanny, who basically has a good home life with a mother and a father- but her father is imperfect. He's a moody artist who is often difficult to deal with. When she was younger, her father gifted her with a puppy- she had always wanted a dog and was thrilled. After a while, the puppy proved to be too much and her father gave the dog away. You feel this heartbreak deeply as a reader, and for many it may bring up old childhood memories. Fanny still wants a dog badly, so her father brings home Dinner, an older dog who is loveable, well-trained and who quickly becomes Fanny's best friend.

I appreciated so many things about this book, mainly how sensitively Henkes writes about a difficult topic- learning to forgive and understand a parent who is imperfect. I hated Fanny's dad through much of the book, but eventually as Fanny learns to forgive him, and he begins to compromise, as a reader you see that even parents are imperfect and require patience and understanding.

Probably best for tweens, younger teens and some adults.

Monkey says

This book was pretty good. It is very easy to read. I read it in 2 days. The title seemed strange but you will have to read the book to find out why.

Rishmi says

I liked it cuz it was about dogs!

Peacegal says

It was only well over midway through *Protecting Marie* that I realized that I had read this book as a young teenager, and I had loved it then as well. This is an excellent book, convincingly written, that will resound with young and old readers alike. Through Fanny, the twelve-year-old main character, I recalled vividly how powerless it felt to be a kid and how powerful parents could seem, especially if you had one that was strict and moody and sometimes a little unpredictable. In fact, the relationships between the characters in this book reminded me more than a little of the relationship between my own parents, as well as my own childhood relationship to my mother and father individually.

Protecting Marie also works well because it is a touching and realistic dog story. When her stern father one day impulsively surprises Fanny with a puppy, she is elated. However, the puppy's rambunctious behavior is more than the man can stand, and Fanny is forced to say goodbye to her pet—given away via a newspaper ad. The loss of a beloved animal is one of the worst experiences of childhood—even more painful, I think, if the pet is given away by a parent. However, later Dad brings home yet another dog—an already-trained adult this time. Can Fanny trust her father or is her setting her up for heartbreak once again? A fine young adult novel.

Angie says

The cover doesn't quite match the story, but the story is very well-worded. Reading this book as an adult, I can all the places where the family dynamics aren't all that healthy, but it's subtle enough that maybe someone younger wouldn't see what's going on but still recognize some of the behaviors as familiar. Ultimately, an enjoyable book that doesn't end in heartbreak like I thought it would.
