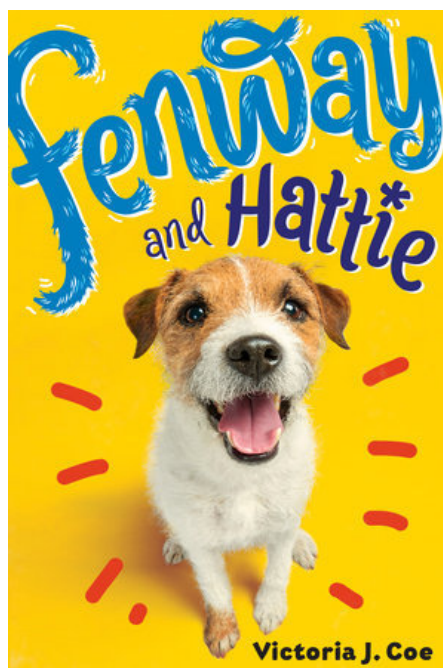




Fenway and Hattie

Victoria J. Coe

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* The 2017 Global Read Aloud selection for Early Readers *

Fenway is an excitable and endlessly energetic Jack Russell terrier. He lives in the city with Food Lady, Fetch Man, and—of course—his beloved short human and best-friend-in-the-world, Hattie.

But when his family moves to the suburbs, Fenway faces a world of changes. He's pretty pleased with the huge Dog Park behind his new home, but he's not so happy about the Evil Squirrels that taunt him from the trees, the super-slippery Wicked Floor in the Eating Room, and the changes that have come over Hattie lately. Rather than playing with Fenway, she seems more interested in her new short human friend, Angel, and learning to play baseball. His friends in the Dog Park next door say Hattie is outgrowing him, but that can't be right. And he's going to prove it!

Fenway and Hattie Details

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Author : Victoria J. Coe

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Genre : Childrens, Middle Grade, Animals, Dogs, Fiction, Fantasy, Humor

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From Reader Review Fenway and Hattie for online ebook

Monica Tesler says

I was fortunate to read an advance copy of FENWAY AND HATTIE by Victoria J. Coe, an all-around-adorable tale of Fenway the dog and his small human, Hattie. The book, told from Fenway's perspective, tells the story of the family's move from the city to the suburbs. This was an immersive read and entirely transporting—inside a dog's head! I was genuinely amazed how well the author captured the experience of a dog, from the short attention span, the physical signs of glee, the devotion to owners, and the priority list (treats!). I also enjoyed Hattie's story, told by dear Fenway, as she struggled to adjust post-move. The book has excellent world building elements (dog-specific language and dog-perspective places) and a strong cast of secondary characters, both human and canine.

I think kids and dog lovers of all ages will love getting lost in this sweet and funny book. I hope there are lots more stories about Fenway to come! A real treasure!

Kathy MacMillan says

This book could not be more adorable or engaging. We get to see the world through the eyes of Fenway, the super excitable Jack Russell Terrier, and he focuses on the important things: avoiding the Wicked Floor that is too slippery for him to walk on, making sure Food Lady and Fetch Man know he's got everything under control, and, most of all, keeping Hattie, his beloved short human, safe from marauding squirrels. Readers will be so ready to join Fenway for another adventure as soon as possible.

Bridget Hodder says

****I received an ARC of this book in return for an honest review****

A mad brilliant Middle Grade romp with depth and heart!

From looking at the cover, I thought FENWAY AND HATTIE would be clever, I thought it would be cute, I thought it would be funny...and it's all of those things...but it's more. Much more.

It's a closely observed commentary (observed by a hilarious Jack Russell terrier, mind you) on human relationships and the struggles of a girl to grow and change, while staying grounded within her child self.

No, seriously! I mean it! I cannot fathom how Victoria Coe pulls this off.

The deep POV of our narrator, the dog Fenway, is insightful and utterly seamless from beginning to end. And what an earnest, bright (though often clueless), and likeable dog Fenway is! He's on the job 100% of the time, protecting his humans and doing what's right...or what he thinks is right, which unfortunately is not the same thing most of the time. His owner, Hattie, is not the only one who needs to grow and change in this story. Fenway does, too.

The complex voice of Fenway as narrator is extraordinary. I alternated between laughing out loud, paragraph

after paragraph, and suddenly feeling a little stab in my heart as the well-meaning terrier's feelings are hurt again and again by things he simply is not equipped to understand. Take this bit, for example, when he thinks he's been rejected by Hattie:

"I drop down into the grass and lick my paw, like that's the part of me that hurts."

There is much rich emotional and perspective-taking material here to mine for parents and teachers who read this with children. The kids themselves won't even notice the themes they are absorbing as they tear through this delicious doggy treat of a book on their own.

But I'm taking the time here and now to notice, and to bow deeply to Victoria Coe. Well done.

Abby Cooper says

After wrestling the ARC away from my dog (who saw Fenway on the cover and immediately decided they'd be BFFs), I devoured this book from beginning to end in a matter of hours. I only stopped once to grab a treat, which I'm sure the main characters would heartily approve of.

This was such a sweet, funny, compelling story about a dog, Fenway, and his "short human", Hattie. Though the story is told from Fenway's (hilarious) point of view, the reader gets a strong sense of Hattie's personality/obstacles as well. The book is extremely entertaining while also tackling the serious topics of changing relationships and growing up.

Teachers, this book would tie in perfectly to social studies curriculum regarding cities and suburbs. FENWAY AND HATTIE lends itself very well to teaching several different topics.

I'm so excited for FENWAY AND HATTIE to be out in the world. I think kids, teachers, librarians (and dogs! We can't forget dogs!) will absolutely love it. Four paws up.

Traci Chee says

FENWAY AND HATTIE is one of those books I wish I could have read as a kid. My family has always had dogs, and we love to give them voices, and Coe has captured the dog-voice perfectly. Fenway is the perfect devious little dog, so sure in his worldview that when his family moves and he has to adjust to his new life, his misunderstandings are as hilarious as they are puppy-dog-eyes pitiful. It was a joy to spend time inside his perspective, battling with the Wicked Floor, chasing off Evil Squirrels, standing up to the Big Brown Truck, and of course thinking the most of his short human, Hattie. The most surprising and delightful of all? I also feel like I gained insight into my own dog's experience of moving to a new place, discovering her new surroundings and her new role in them. FENWAY is a gift for all dog-lovers!

Ruth Lehrer says

I was lucky enough to get an ARC of this book. Ever wonder what on earth was going through your dog's head? This is the book for you. The hyperactive voice of a young terrier with strong opinions and fierce

loyalties who speaks for himself. Look out squirrels, this 2016 middle grade book will be a favorite among dog lovers of all ages. I can't wait for the audiobook. (Woof!)

Ashley Blake says

This book is beyond adorable. So voice-y and funny. I laughed and absolutely fell in love with this very determined dog. (And--*whispers*--I am not really a dog person.)

Brooks Benjamin says

I received an ARF--sorry, ARC of Fenway and Hattie in exchange for an honest review.

I'll be honest. I didn't read this. My human read it to me. He came into the sit-down-and-eat-pizza room one day and said, "LeeLoo, come here. I have . . . blah, blah, nothing about food, blah, blah." But the thing he was holding had a picture of my cousin on it so I jumped up on the couch to see what it was.

It smelled weird. But that's okay because apparently, the thing was actually a letter from Fenway. And it was all about how he had to move to a new place. I wasn't scared until Fenway had to battle the Wicked Floor because we have one, too, and it's awful. And then Fenway met some new dogs (also my cousins), but they were kind of mean. I felt so bad for Fenway, but I knew he'd come up with a plan. Fenway's smart. He knows things. My human wanted to stop reading so he could go pee about halfway through, but I didn't let him. I had to know what was going to happen to Fenway and *his* human! I mean, who stops in the middle of an important letter to go pee in a bowl? When my human finished the letter I was so happy. I tried to get him to read it again to me, but he wouldn't. So I told him we needed to write back to Fenway but he kept saying, "It's a bark, not a letter." Sometimes I worry about him.

I have to give this five loud WOOFs because it had everything I want in a letter. Happy Fenway, scared Fenway, adventurous Fenway, and all sorts of fun characters and moments. It's the perfect letter for any of Fenway's cousins and it's also the perfect letter for their humans, too.

Just make sure you go walk yours before they start reading it.

Melanie says

It can be hard to find light yet heartfelt books for younger readers, but FENWAY AND HATTIE is exactly that kind of book. This is the story of a dog and his Small Human, told from Fenway the dog's point of view. In short, Fenway is a riot. His voice will capture your young reader and invite them to view their everyday world in a whole new way. I found myself laughing out loud again and again as Fenway showed me that life from a dog's view is very different indeed! Highly recommend for readers moving up from chapter books (like Magic Treehouse) and looking for a fun, approachable read, and also for pet owners of ALL ages. I can't wait to read more of Fenway's stories in the future!!!

Heidi Heilig says

I read this adorable book over Thanksgiving and there is nothing, nothing NOTHING more wonderful than reading a great MG book on a long family weekend. I'm so serious: I know the holidays are hard for some & I wish anyone going through a rough time had FENWAY to protect them & cheer them up.

FENWAY AND HATTIE is such a joy. The greatest thing about this book is that it's very funny in a really heartfelt way. The voice (the book is written in First Person Dog POV) of the book has an amazing honest humor to it. But this book is not all laughs--it's also a close look at friendship and learning to deal with change in a grown-up way through the eyes of an eager, energetic and very professional puppy.

Anyone who's ever moved to a new place, feared losing friends and having to make new ones, or been challenged by having to learn new tricks could use a companion and example like FENWAY & HATTIE to guide them on a journey (and to show them how to stand up to--and on--a Wicked Floor!)

Lee Malone says

What a great, fun read! As a dog owner myself, I laughed out several times at the oh-so-accurate descriptions of dog thoughts and behavior as Fenway grapples with the harsh reality of his family's move to the suburbs. Absolutely enjoyable, with some life lessons for young readers to boot.

(I received an ARC of this book in exchange for an honest review)

Kali Wallace says

TRUE CONFESSION: I am not a dog person. I am a cat person.

But this book is so ridiculously adorable and funny I might be rethinking my entire life's philosophy. Fenway is the sweetest, bravest, most charming little canine protector a small human could have, and Hattie is a wonderful little girl just trying to grow up and adjust to changes in her life, and squirrels are, in fact, 100% pure evil. I laughed out loud several times and "awwwwww"ed out loud several times more. I won't ever be able to look at dogs walking happily down the street the same again, not now that I know what they're thinking. (Spoiler alert: Food. And evil. They are thinking about food and evil.)

Highly recommended for dog-lovers and squirrel-haters and small and large humans alike.

S.M. Parker says

If you've seen the cover for Victoria J. Coe's novel FENWAY & HATTIE then you can pretty much assume you are in for some cute. And Coe delivers. This middle grade novel is narrated by the very energetic Fenway, a Jack Russel terrier. And the people in his life? Well, there's his bestie: Hattie, of course. And Fetch Man (hilarious) & Food Lady (hilariouser). There's a whole cast of great characters, named from Fenway's perspective: Big Brown Truck, Perfectly Sitting Dog, Evil Squirrel.

I basically smiled the entire time I read this adorable tale of Fenway and his “short human”. As an educator, I kept thinking that this would be such an amazing book for reluctant readers—and certainly for any child who has bonded with their own dog, or a child who begs their parents for a dog daily. FENWAY & HATTIE crafts an incredible sweet message about love and devotion, and all the work it takes to protect your “best buddies”.

(I received this ARC in exchange for an honest review)

Jennifer says

This book! My heart!

I was lucky enough to get an early read of Victoria J. Coe's FENWAY AND HATTIE and was it ever a delight! FENWAY AND HATTIE is the story of a very spirited (read: a little wild) dog and his short human, Hattie! Fenway loves his life in the city but then the family moves to the suburbs. WHOA! Fenway is thrown for a complete loop.

I completely loved seeing the world from Fenway's perspective. It's honestly like the author had a glimpse into the brain of a dog. I am a total dog lover and have two in my family so I could SO relate to both Fenway and Hattie's point of views.

I just know that kids are going to devour this book. So full of heart and humor, this is absolutely perfect for your elementary library, classroom or your family.

I can't wait for everyone to meet Fenway - to laugh along with his antics, to cheer on his successes, and to love the sweet little dog that he is.

Jenn Bishop says

As a pet owner (or parent to a fur child, if you will), there's a small amount of time each day that I spend pondering my cat. I wonder what goes on in her little head — what's that internal narrative as I pet her or put down her food dish. When she suddenly decides she wants to be petted or curls up next to me, what's she thinking? I know I'm not alone in wishing I could get inside her mind. If only I could peek in on her furry little thoughts.

Okay, okay, my musing is actually leading somewhere! Victoria J. Coe's debut middle grade novel, Fenway and Hattie, does exactly what I wish I could do, except for a spirited Jack Russell terrier named Fenway (instead of my cat). Fenway is facing some big changes in his furry little life, all of which Coe captures through Fenway's distinct POV. Yep, all of this book is written as if we are in Fenway's mind. An impressive feat, mind you —Jack Russell terriers are quite excitable!

Along with his family — ahem, the Food Lady, Fetch Man, and his short human, Hattie — Fenway makes a move from the big city to the suburbs. Of course, Fenway never explicitly states that he moves. The reader will intuit the real actions of the story through the lens of Fenway. For many young readers, this may be one of the first times they're reading a book where they have to do some of the legwork. The thing is, they'll have a leg up on Fenway most of the time, and this advantage only adds to the fun of reading this book. At

times, it's heartbreaking experiencing the gap between how Fenway understands what's going on, and we readers, as humans, can comprehend of the situation. Whether it's the impending move that takes Fenway by surprise, Hattie's friendship with the girl next door, or the discovery of a game humans play with a baseball that is not (oh the horrors!) fetch, we're limited to Fenway's perspective. Fenway fears he's losing Hattie — as the dogs in the Dog Park next door (i.e. his neighbors) have warned will happen — and my heart ached for him as he dealt with thlilly with the bookis prospect.

I'm so excited for this book to come out next winter. From my experience as a children's librarian, I see this book really connecting with a lot of kids. It sure connected with me. And hey, my cat even sort of liked it. It's hard to tell. If only I could peek into her brain . . .
