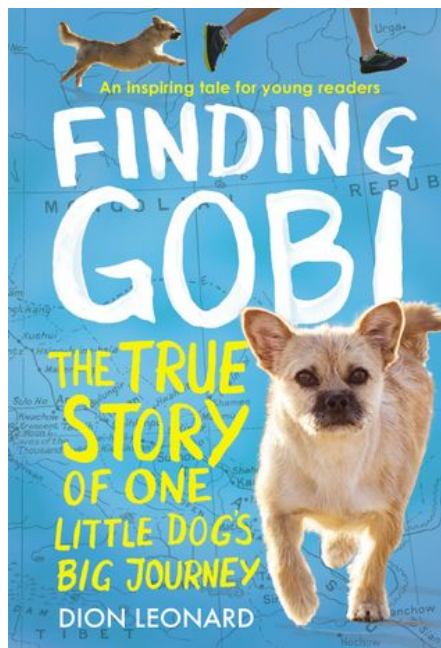




Finding Gobi: The True Story of One Little Dog's Big Journey

Dion Leonard

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Finding Gobi: The True Story of One Little Dog's Big Journey Dion Leonard

Bring home the incredible true story of a friendship so strong that it crosses the globe! You will love the inspiring tale of Gobi, a lost dog who kept pace with an ultramarathon runner, Dion Leonard, across a vast desert. Follow their unlikely friendship through the challenges of an 80-mile race and Dion's struggle to bring Gobi home for good.

Finding Gobi: The True Story of One Little Dog's Big Journey is the incredible true story of Dion Leonard, an athlete who was befriended by a stray dog while running an ultramarathon through the Gobi Desert. Named for the desert in which he found her, Gobi became Dion's closest companion for 77 miles of the 155-mile race across China. The scrappy little pup ran mile after mile alongside Dion, through treacherous conditions and across raging rivers. He let her sleep in his tent and share his food, and eventually, his focus shifted from winning to the newfound friendship he and Gobi shared.

They crossed the finish line together—not first, but together—and Dion decided to bring Gobi home to Scotland. Just before they were about to leave, however, Gobi disappeared, setting off a worldwide search for the stray. In a town of more than 3 million people, the search seemed hopeless, but this tale of friendship will surprise and delight you as you find out what happens!

Join the almost too-good-to-be-true story of hope, friendship, and beating incredible odds in *Finding Gobi: The True Story of One Little Dog's Big Journey* by Dion Leonard.

Finding Gobi: The True Story of One Little Dog's Big Journey Details

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Author : Dion Leonard

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Genre : Nonfiction, Animals, Adventure, Dogs, Family

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From Reader Review Finding Gobi: The True Story of One Little Dog's Big Journey for online ebook

Cassandra says

I received a complimentary copy.

I think that no matter what age, if you enjoy a story of friendship and trust, an especially dogs, you will feel a mix of emotions with this book. At some points I was really cheering for Gobi! I think that by reading this outloud, my whole family got to get in on the adventure and so this became a great read. Well even if you have to read it alone, this is still a nice adventure with an enjoyable turn around throughout.

?Tara Sheehan? says

Based on a true story, this detailed novel will captivate readers with a heartwarming story about a man, a dog and the desert.

Gobi won over Dion Leonard's heart as he was running a multi-day marathon in the Gobi Desert and the story of how Gobi then became a part of Dion's journey to the finish line and his family won over the world.

Leonard does a great job of creating a story that makes you feel as if you are running alongside him in the desert. The passages where it seems to come from Gobi's point of view are cute and add a unique dimension to the story. The anecdotes of the runners helping each other and Gobi makes for some good lessons to remember and put into practice in your own life. You can't help but cheer on Gobi's determination to stay with the runners, feel glad when they finished the race so well and want to prance about with Gobi to celebrate.

This is one of those stories people will love reading because it's so positive and upbeat with a real world happy ending and in this world where so much of our news and personal stories seem to end in heartache we need Gobi to inspire more of us.

Susan says

Dion Leonard is an ultramarathon runner (what are ultramarathons, you ask? They are long races -- longer than the typical 26-mile marathon). He runs a race in China, and along the way, he notices that a little dog has begun running with him.

Dion and the dog develop a friendship, and he decides he'd like to take the dog home to Scotland with him. He names the dog Gobi, after the Gobi desert that was part of the landscape they'd traveled together during the race.

But getting an animal out of China and into Scotland is a nightmare. There are forms to fill out, procedures to be done. And to make matters worse, Gobi disappears and gets lost during the process. It's even hinted that Gobi may actually have been used for ransom. Let's just say that after reading this book, as well as another I recently finished, China is not a place I have any desire to visit anytime soon.

In the end (spoiler alert!), Gobi and Dion are reunited and all is well. It's nice to have an animal book that ends happily rather than with the pet dying. And this book is based on a true story, which is always a plus for me.

The book is geared toward elementary and middle school age kids. It contains some photos, too. I enjoyed the book and would recommend it for the young reader on your list who likes animals!

Dr. Janet Lapp says

Whether his writing style or the simplicity of the story I couldn't put this book down until I know that Gobi would be ok. Wish he had developed Gobi more early on, didn't feel attached to him. But I did to the author's honesty of the pain of his early life, how it served him now and why Gobi was able to heal him. There were a few simple statements toward the end when I felt a strong emotion connection to the author, as he described his wife's waiting for him to finish a race. Sweet little book, inspiring and unbelievable races, wonderful message.

Ms. Yingling says

34460612Leonard, Dion. Finding Gobi: Young Reader's Edition: The True Story of One Little Dog's Big Journey
Published August 29th 2017 by Thomas Nelson

While running a 155 mile, multistage ultramarathon in the Gobi desert, Dion Leonard was repeatedly accompanied by a small dog who would run right along with him despite temperatures of over 120 degrees! At first, Leonard mainly ignored the dog, concentrating instead on being able to finish the race and place well, since he was back after recovering from an injury. After a while, however, the dog's devotion wins him over, and he finds himself curled up with the dog at night, feeding her his precious food, and carrying her over streams. When the conditions are particularly brutal, he does leave her with race organizers. His friends suggest he name her, and she ends up with the handle Gobi. Gobi's enthusiasm at seeing him motivates Leonard to run even when he suffers greatly from the heat, and he finishes second in the race. Gobi becomes an international phenomenon. Not wanting to leave the dog behind, he starts investigating how he could bring the dog to his home in Edinburgh, Scotland. With the help of his wife, and international animal rescue operation, and a network of Chinese citizens, Leonard spends quite a bit of time and money to clear the path for Gobi to come home with him. Delightful pictures of the two can be found on Twitter @findinggobi, and a movie of the book is in the works.

Strengths: The first part of the book has a lot of fantastic details about running, and the second half is concerned with finding Gobi after she has run away from her caretakers. I appreciated that Leonard discusses how most Chinese do not want to keep dogs as pets, but very clearly shows how this is a cultural difference that we should respect. The book moves quickly, and even though we know there will be a happy ending, the process of getting Gobi "home" is very interesting.

Weaknesses: Sometimes the prose seems a bit overly simplistic. I'm curious to see the adult version. There is even a picture book!

What I really think: Definitely purchasing. Dogs AND running. What a fantastic combination!

Nikita Mittu says

Originally posted on The Common Shelf.

Dion Leonard came across a scruffy stray pup while running a 155- mile race, part of it through the Gobi Desert. When the little dog seemed to attach herself to Dion and run with him for 80 miles in the scorching heat, he named her Gobi. The first part of this book describes the race, events that occurred, meeting Gobi and deciding to take her home to Edinburgh. The second part of the story is the difficulties Dion encountered trying to get Gobi home.

Writing Style

The writing style was pure and simple. Since it is a middle-grade book, it was easy to read and I finished the it in one sitting. The writing was detailed and the circumstances were well explained. There is an adult version and an illustrated edition of the book too, which I would love to read. Leonard does a great job of creating a story that makes you feel as if you are running alongside him in the desert. The snippets from Gobi's point of view were beautifully written and added an extra dimension to the story.

Loyalty, Commitment and DOGS

This book is all about the love shared between Gobi and Dion, about the support received from various people all around the world, of humanity, of friendship, of commitment and determination. Dion faced various obstacles in order to bring Gobi back home. The cultural differences were respectfully portrayed, and the determination to bring Gobi back was commendable.

I absolutely adored this book and it is a definite recommendation to all the animal lovers and readers. And it is BASED ON A TRUE STORY.

Title : Finding Gobi : True Story of one Little Dog's Big Journey

Author : Dion Leonard

Publisher : HarperCollins

Publication: 2017

Language : English

Pages : 183

Rating : 3.5/5

Disclaimer: Thanks to HarperCollins India for a copy. All opinions are my own.

Carol Turner says

Loved this version with Gobi's voice. A very lovely & inspiring book for all ages.

Sarahelisabeth says

I read this book with one of my children. We enjoyed this story of a dog's devotion to her owner and the owner's devotion to the dog. Dion Leonard overcame amazing difficulties to bring a dog which had befriended him during a long distance race home to Scotland.

Melanie Maloney says

This book is technically written for young readers but everyone will love Dion and Gobi's heart warming tale. Dion, an ultra marathon runner found this sweet little furball while doing an ultra in China. They were meant to be together. If you love dogs, read it!

Carla Johnson-Hicks says

After reading the picture book version of Gobi, the little dog with the big heart, I wanted to read this version. Dion Leonard came across Gobi while running a grueling 72 mile race, part of it through the Gobi Desert. When the little dog seemed to attach herself to Dion and run with her, he named her Gobi. The first part of this book describes the race, events that occurred, meeting Gobi and deciding to take her home to Edinburgh. The second part of the story is the difficulties Dion encountered trying to get Gobi home. Between the red tape, finding Gobi when she went missing and the culture of the area in China and their attitude toward dogs, it seemed like it was going to be an impossible task.

I enjoyed both parts of this book. The camaraderie the runners shared even though they were competing against each other was heartwarming. The dangerous situations and how they were solved were very interesting. In the second part, I felt Dion's pain when he could not bring Gobi home with him. When he found out Gobi was missing, I felt like crying along with him. I am an animal lover, but what Dion and his wife went through is amazing. The people he met that helped him along the way restores my belief in the goodness of others. This is a good book to read if you are an animal lover, a runner or sports enthusiast or just someone who wants to feel good about other people. A great book for a school or public library. The publisher generously provided me with a copy of this book via Netgalley.

Erin DoveRosey says

This is such an uplifting story.

I fell in love with it when I read about it in the news and I then followed it online. I LOVED the adult version and truly enjoyed this as well. I especially liked reading the dog's thoughts. And yes, I even ordered the child's book!

Roshni Kanchan says

Simple story, simple writing. Special because it is a true story.

Barbara says

Just started and I can tell two things already; it's going to be a great story, and it's going to make me cry. That's what dog stories always do.

Great story! It is very exciting, wondering how everything will work out. If you are a dog lover you will certainly want to read this heart warming story of a very special friendship between a man and a little dog.

Jane Shambler says

OMG this story is awesome, brilliant and so heart wrenching it will have you in tears of both joy and sadness.

This story is about Dion who runs in an endurance race through the Gobi desert. Here a little dog he named Gobi joined him on the run voluntarily and stayed with him throughout the race. He decides he is going to bring Gobi from China to live with him in Scotland.

So we begin the journey of bring Gobi home. However, it doesn't quite go as smoothly as they thought. The book takes you on the journey of Dion and Gobi and the relationship they established.

I can't recommend this enough. If you love dogs and need an uplifting story with twists and turns but a happy ending then give this a go. Enjoy!

ARC provided by publisher via NetGalley

Misty says

For those of you following my blog you might remember that I recently reviewed another book about Gobi. That one was a children's book after finding out how cute that book was I wanted to read the true story of Gobi. I have to say that it was an emotional story that truly showed the amazing bond that can happen between a human and a dog. The book made me want to go right out and adopt my own Gobi!
