



Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear

By Lindsay Mattick

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A #1 New York Times Bestseller and Winner of the 2016 Caldecott Medal

Before Winnie-the-Pooh, there was a real bear named Winnie. And she was a girl!

In 1914, Harry Colebourn, a veterinarian on his way to tend horses in World War I, followed his heart and rescued a baby bear. He named her Winnie, after his hometown of Winnipeg, and he took the bear to war.

Harry Colebourn's real-life great-granddaughter tells the true story of a remarkable friendship and an even more remarkable journey--from the fields of Canada to a convoy across the ocean to an army base in England...

And finally to the London Zoo, where Winnie made another new friend: a real boy named Christopher Robin.

Here is the remarkable true story of the bear who inspired Winnie-the-Pooh.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

K-Gr 3—This sweet tale of the black bear that inspired the legendary children's book character Winnie-the-Pooh will resonate with readers. In the framing story, a mother tells her son, Cole, a bedtime tale about how veterinarian Harry Colebourn, a young Canadian soldier on his way to train and fight in Europe during World War I, stumbled upon a baby black bear that he bought off a trapper at a train depot. Colebourn named the bear Winnie, short for Winnipeg, a gentle reminder of his hometown, and took the bear with him to England. Winnie quickly became the mascot of his unit. But when the time came to ship out to France for combat, Colebourn left his beloved pet in the capable hands of the London Zoo. Later, Milne and his son, Christopher Robin, visited the London Zoo and Christopher Robin took an immediate shine to Winnie, developing an unusually strong bond with the animal and even playing with her in her enclosure. The boy imagined all sorts of adventures for Winnie, which became the basis for the now-famous stories written by Milne. Washes of muted colors convey a cozy cheeriness that imbues the book with warmth and comfort, while occasional interjections from young Cole add to the fun. Blackall's characters are rosy-cheeked and expressive, while Winnie is curious and whimsical. A perfect melding of beautiful art with soulful, imaginative writing, this lovely story, penned by Colebourn's great-great granddaughter, is ideal for sharing aloud or poring over individually. VERDICT Children everywhere will enjoy this tale for years. A must-have.—Jody Kopple, Shady Hill School, Cambridge, MA

Review

A New York Times Notable Children's Book of the Year

* "The sum total is as captivating as it is informative, transforming a personal family story into something universally resonant." *Horn Book*, **starred review**

* "Little ones who love Milne's classic stories will be enchanted by this heartening account of the bear's real-life origins." *Booklist*, **starred review**

* "A perfect melding of beautiful art with soulful, imaginative writing, this lovely story, penned by Colebourn's great-great granddaughter, is ideal for sharing aloud or poring over individually." *School Library Journal*, **starred review**

* "The book strikes a lovely, understated tone of wonder and family pride...[Sophie Blackall] proves that she's equally imaginative at chronicling straight-on reality too."

Publishers Weekly, **starred review**

"Gorgeously illustrated...[a] delightful telling" *New York Times Book Review*

"[An] inspiring text...Blackall's breathtaking watercolor illustrations demand to be examined up close, and Winnie's face is as expressive as the humans'." *School Library Connection*

About the Author

Lindsay Mattick, great-granddaughter of Harry Colebourn, has shared Winnie's story around the world. She lives with her family in Toronto, Canada.

Sophie Blackall's work has appeared in the bestselling Ivy and Bean series, award-winning picture books, a global pro-vaccination campaign, and on a renowned NYC subway poster. She lives in Brooklyn with her family.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Sandra Hughes:

Do you have favorite book? For those who have, what is your favorite's book? Book is very important thing for us to learn everything in the world. Each book has different aim or goal; it means that e-book has different type. Some people experience enjoy to spend their time to read a book. These are reading whatever they consider because their hobby is usually reading a book. Think about the person who don't like studying a book? Sometime, man feel need book if they found difficult problem or maybe exercise. Well, probably you will want this Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear.

Daniel Evans:

With other case, little men and women like to read book Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear. You can choose the best book if you want reading a book. Provided that we know about how is important any book Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear. You can add information and of course you can around the world with a book. Absolutely right, simply because from book you can know everything! From your country until foreign or abroad you can be known. About simple issue until wonderful thing you could know that. In this era, we are able to open a book or perhaps searching by internet product. It is called e-book. You need to use it when you feel bored to go to the library. Let's study.

Larhonda Kennedy:

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Grace Smith:

Why? Because this Finding Winnie: The True Story of the World's Most Famous Bear is an unordinary book

that the inside of the reserve waiting for you to snap this but latter it will jolt you with the secret the idea inside. Reading this book close to it was fantastic author who all write the book in such awesome way makes the content interior easier to understand, entertaining way but still convey the meaning thoroughly. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this any more or you going to regret it. This book will give you a lot of benefits than the other book have such as help improving your ability and your critical thinking way. So , still want to hold off having that book? If I had been you I will go to the e-book store hurriedly.

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