



## Waggit's Tale

*Peter Howe , Omar Rayyan (Illustrations)*

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He is nameless.

He is homeless.

He is friendless.

He is lost.

Until he is found . . . by a team of mutts who shelter him and teach him how to survive the wilds of the city park.

And so he becomes Waggit, the best hunter and tracker in the pack, and the dog with the most powerfully wagging tail. Waggit grows to love his team, especially its leader, Tazar, and his best friend, an old dog named Lowdown.

But life in the park is dangerous and uncertain. In winter, food and warmth are scarce. Another team of wild dogs is a constant menace. And always, there is the fear of capture by park rangers. Waggit can't help feeling that something is missing . . . something warm and cozy and . . . human. Then one day everything changes and Waggit must face a new threat and a new choice.

Peter Howe's tale of an abandoned puppy's search for a home is an exciting mix of humor, adventure, and suspense. Most of all, it is a story of how love can turn strangers into family.

## Waggit's Tale Details

Date : Published July 1st 2008 by HarperCollins

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Author : Peter Howe , Omar Rayyan (Illustrations)

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# From Reader Review Waggit's Tale for online ebook

## Arely L says

In the story Waggit's tale a dog named Waggit is abandoned and has no family/ friends. Until Tazar the leader of a pack finds him under a bridge. All the dogs had a story, of how they ended up in the park as a stray. This book is emotional if you love dogs and can also have hint action. The strengths of this book could be the detail, emotion, and how they compare the trouble of a reel stray dog could have. This book shows a lot of friendship and compassion. I would recommend this book for kids and adults of all sorts of ages. I feel that Waggit's tale by: Peter Howe is a great book and everyone should have a chance to read this extraordinary book.

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## Jora says

Waggit's Tale is about a large white dog and his adventures, fears, triumphs, and just everything about him and his world. I liked the descriptions, and the large amount of dogs, but the words the dogs used to describe things confused me. There is a very helpful glossary, which I wish I had known about sooner. I would recommend this to tweens who like dogs.

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## Rita Wang says

Quite good

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## Madison says

Waggits tale was a very well thought-out book with a very good plot. It was mainly about how a dog named Waggit got lost from his owner and a group of other dogs found him and let him join in and they were like family and they taught Waggit how to fight and survive against other dogs but something unbelievable happens so you will just have to wait and find out yourself. I liked this book because I thought the plot was cute because Waggit found another home and they taught him the ways. I also liked this book because it showed different point of views from the different dogs and the author made the theme happy and sad at times so I liked the variety of themes. One dislike I have on the book is that at the beginning I thought the plot was going very slow and almost too predictable but in the middle and end it was amazing. I recommend reading Waggits tale if you want to read a fun and cute book with unpredictable endings.

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## Denise says

The book was a poor attempt at personification. The author uses the simplest of phrasing, and a great deal of it, which causes the action to drag. The author invents new words such as Uprights (humans), Ruzelas (policemen), and Longlegs (horses) which may be confusing, at best, for young readers. Because of the

agonizingly slow pace and strange phraseology, it's nearly impossible to use as a read-aloud.

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### **Laurie says**

I highly recommend this wonderful story of a homeless dog. This could be the next Charlotte's Web!!!!

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### **MaryAnn says**

Parade Magazine in the Sunday paper listed this book as suggested reads for young readers for the summer.

I thought it was neat story with lots of situations explored and resolved.

I would wonder about how young a reader might enjoy it as there is a point where Waggit has to decide to hunt and kill small creatures for survival. Although the telling is discreet as possible, Waggit kills a rabbit. But what a great discussion opportunity - what things does one have to decide to do that one really does not want to but.....

As Waggit is adopted by a dog pack, there are the also good opportunities to talk about when do you do what is good for the group and when do you do what is good for you. What about when the two interests are not mutual?

There are also great points when Waggit is getting older and how he knows this. How he deals with disagreeing with the authority but follows without losing himself.

I could go on but as it might be clear by now, I thought this was a great book.

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### **Gina says**

If you have an adopted dog or known an adopted dog, or just love animals you have to read this book. Wonderful!!!!!!

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### **Mike Benliyan says**

This book was a very informative and different book. It was written in the perspective of a dog! They referred to humans as the two legged ones and we were the ones spoiling their world. They had a whole system, territories, and rules. Humans, especially the dog pound workers, are their most hated enemy. The main character, Waggit, is a dog that has been left by his human family and adopted by a clan of dogs. He is faced by many challenges and has to overcome his fear of being alone to survive. I recommend this book to people who like adventure and who want to see the world in a different perspective.

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## Bailey says

THIS BOOK WAS AMAZING!

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## Sandy\_E2 says

This book is an emotional book that follows the journey of an abandoned dog. This book is amazing, with tons of experiences and watching Waggit change over time yet remain the pet he once was was really cool. The ending was so sweet and sad but also happy at the same time. You can really connect with Waggit and all the characters, and that was really impressive of the author. Would definitely recommend this book.

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## Faith says

Waggit has been abandoned by his master and has been rescued by a kind team of dogs. He learns to survive in the park and becomes a good hunter, but unexpected things happen making life in the park more difficult.

Reasons why I like this book-

Reason 1- I couldn't stop reading.

Reason 2- There are many dogs in the story.

Reason 3- I could imagine what was happening.

Reason 4- I could feel all the emotions that the dogs were feeling.

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## Chelsea says

**Gosh, I feel like a real jerk rating this one star.** I've had this book on my tbr since I joined Goodreads, so when I noticed the whole series on one of my rare trips to the library I decided to grab it.

I'm sure my younger self would have enjoyed this more; it's very much the sort of stuff I read when I was eight or nine. The problem was that the writing feels just about on par with how I wrote at nine years old. **I honestly wouldn't recommend this to kids based on how poor the writing is.**

Premise wise it's basically about a bunch of dogs that live in a park in a weirdly cult-like system and don't do much except hate on humans and look for food and get in fights with other groups once in a while. There are some underlying themes about the way humans treat animals that I did enjoy, though.

In a way this series is like the Survivors books, at least plot wise. The Erin Hunter books have their flaws, especially their later books, but never the writing. I've grown up reading it and the balance between

detail/description and dialogue/character development has always been pretty great.

Now the writing in this book? Yikes. **It ticks of pretty much every aspect of bad writing that there is.**

It's so basic and simplistic; a child could have written in this much detail. **Everything is told, nothing is shown** (i.e. the writing would say things like "so-and-so wanted to do this", "so-and-so was in love with so-and-so" but never really show it). **It's told in a very distant third person** where it's hard to connect with characters. The dialogue feels forced and again characters just *tell* you everything that is going on.

The names for things/people/places were absolutely ridiculous. I know this isn't the only series to have animals make up names for stuff, but this was a whole different level. **You shouldn't need a two page glossary in a middle grade book!**

The names for the dogs were awful as well: Magica, Alicia, Gordo... At one point this dog refers to another dog as "a loner" and they're like "we should name her Alona!" Um, no?

**I also had issues with events feeling unrealistic;** the entire dog pound situation is cliché and contrived. There's the cliché dog catcher who hates his job, the headstrong rescuer lady who says "phooey" and is completely perfect... Also Waggit at one point escapes an apartment building, finds his way back, uses an elevator, and manages to find his specific apartment with no trouble.

**I will say that I do like the positive message it sent about rescue.** If children do pick this up at least they will be receiving a good message.

Because I checked out all three books from my library I'm going to try to finish them, though I likely will not be doing full reviews for them.

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### **John Parker says**

Waggit belongs in the top shelf of "dog lit." It's not Sounder, or Old Yeller, and it's not as juvenile as Clifford, but it is a special book.

Waggit is special because the story is told from the dog's point of view, and told well. Howe's masterful style will engage young and reluctant readers; it is both suspenseful and predictable.

In a sense, Howe presents an alternate reality based on a dog's world, but that world turns out to be larger and more complex than a dog's one-day-at-a-time view.

While many "dog" books are exclusively enjoyed by boys this will not be the case with Waggit's Tale. Readers seven and beyond will enjoy this fun book. Add it to your classroom, media center, or library shelves with confidence that it will be read again and again.

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### **Sophia Garza says**

This is amazing Book!!!!

