



Dog Gone!

Mary Amato , Ward Jenkins (Illustrations)

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A funny, silly new series perfect for fans of Dav Pilkey and Tony Abbott. Mary Amato is a star of state master and children's choice lists and returns to the age category of her popular Riot Brothers chapter book series with this new venture.

When their parents steal a Hollywood star (a white poodle) to hold it for ransom, our young heroes leap into action. Too bad the spoiled star will not raise a paw to help.

Barks and howls will be the result of anyone reading Book Two of Good Crooks.

Dog Gone! Details

Date : Published February 25th 2014 by EgmontUSA (first published February 1st 2014)

ISBN : 9781606845103

Author : Mary Amato , Ward Jenkins (Illustrations)

Format : Paperback 128 pages

Genre : Childrens, Mystery, Adventure, Animals, Dogs, Chapter Books

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From Reader Review Dog Gone! for online ebook

Moon Shine Art Spot ~ Lisa says

This is the second book in this wonderfully crafted children's book.

Again the Crook twins (boy and girl) are trying to do a good deed and raise money , but here comes mom & dad to add their criminal element & turn the twin's good deed to a misadventure in crooked crookery.

Just like in the first book, the Crook parents step in and change their children's good intentions to a crime.

I received a free copy of this book in order to give an honest review. This book, like the first, is so hilarious and unforgettable.

I love the beginning when the son is choosing his "booty" for the day to go with his old woman costume. Crooks must always go out in disguise. These lovable twins and their good intentions gone awry are so side splitting funny. I can not wait for the illustrated copies to come out to share them with my son.

As in the first book, the children have to be creative and complete many challenges to get their good deeds accomplished in spite of their Crook parents. It is good that these twins are determined to do good deeds in spite of even their own parents not contributing.

Jen says

Once again, my kiddo loved this book. And that's what's important!

Tammy Haberer says

I love the extras in the back of the book: from dog riddles to fun dog facts, as well as, a page of puppets to copy for a puppet show of your own with your favorite characters.

Zww says

Funny and too short. Want to read more in the series. (age 8).

Carol says

Billy and Jillian Crook are still trying to do a good deed despite their criminal parents. This time around they bake cupcakes to raise money for their local dog shelter. Their parents twist their noble plans into a case of dognapping. So now they not only need to somehow get the money to the shelter, now they need to return a celebrity dog to its owner. And all of this without their parents finding out about their desire to live a crime-free life!

Aleece says

Billy and Jillian are off on their second adventure of doing good deeds while their parents are up to their old tricks. This time Billy and Jillian have a bake sale to raise money for a dog shelter, however their parents have another idea they are going to steal a prized dog and hold it for ransom. What are the twins going to do this time?

This was another quick read and enjoyable book that shows that doing good deeds is not only rewarding but fun as well. There are a lot of lessons to be learned throughout the book and the twins have to use their heads to outsmart their law breaking parents. There are a lot of parts with Billy and Poochie that make you laugh out loud and seeing what Billy and Jillian are going to do next leaves you at the edge of your seat wanting more.

I received this advanced copy from Egmont USA through Netgalley in exchange for my honest review.

Sharon Tyler says

Good Crooks Book Two: Dog Gone! is the second book in the Good Crooks children's series written by Mary Amato with illustrations by Ward Jenkins. If you have not read the first book in this early chapter book series then you need to know that Billy and Jillian crook are twins that despite their parent's efforts to raise them as crooks, really want to do good deeds. So the pair do their best to do good deeds without their parents noticing. In Dog Gone! the do-gooders are trying to raise money to give to the local dog shelter and somehow end up inspiring their parents to steal a dog. the dog in question turns out to be a Hollywood star with a remarkable talent for playing dead and no interest in helping the twins return her to her owners.

I got a kick out of Good Crooks Book Two: Dog Gone!, and the first book in the series. Billy and Jillian are fun characters that are as different from each other as they are from their parents. I really like that Jillian is a technology genius, and that her inventions are generally what allow the twins to save the day. It is good to see a girl in that position, rather than just being a know it all. Billy is still a bit flighty and silly, but I find that to be part of the series' charm.

Good Crooks Book Two: Dog Gone! is a book that I think readers making the transition into chapter books would really enjoy. There is adventure, some suspense, some silliness, and even some more serious moments. I really liked that underneath everything, the books are really about being true to yourself and doing good however you can.

The Brothers says

Dexter (8yo) read.

Stormi (BMReviewsohmy) says

Dog Gone is the second book in the Good Crooks series. Billy and Jillian are once again doing good deed the only way a good Crook can.

Billy wakes up and wants to do something good and with his sisters help they decide to have a bake sale and give their money to a local animal shelter. What starts out as their good deed turns south when they are sort of caught by their parents. Their parents think that they want a dog and Crooks don't buy dogs, they steal them.

Except they end up stealing a really expensive dog. So what can a good Crook do, but try and get the dog back to it's owner without their parents knowing they are doing good deeds.

Good Crooks has some very silly antics statements and antics that will having young readers loving these books. Even though I think they are for both girls and boys I can see boys especially like them because the little boy belches, etc. The sketches that are done by the illustrator are very good and I am sure they will turn into cute and funny illustrations in the finished project.

I recommend you getting this for your young readers as it will be great fun for you and your kids.

Adam says

This is a cute, funny series with a different than usual plot line. Billy and Jillian are two kids whose parents are crooks! Instead of teaching their children manners, these parents teach Billy and Jillian the fine art of thievery. However, the kids are not into stealing and would rather do good deeds. Billy is a silly character that earns lots of laughs, including potty humor. He has several disguises- including a grandmother costume that has 6 different granny 'bottoms' to the disguise. Jillian is smart and comes up with many inventions (like Franny K. Stein). In this story, the parents wind up stealing a Paris-Hilton-type pampered dog and it is up to the kids to return it. This book would be a great addition to any 3rd through 5th grade classroom!

Holden says

It was funny that a pooch likes bacon cheese burgers and that famous crooks want a poodle to be a new member of the crook family. The kids take the pooch back to where he belongs.

Mehsi says

Review for: Missing Monkey, Dog Gone, and Sniff a Skunk. I am combining them as they feature mostly the same elements.

A family full of crooks, or are there some good apples in the mix? Add to that some monkey business, a famous dog who can play dead like the best, and a skunk with a stinky problem.

So last night I couldn't sleep so I decided to check out some books I wanted to read, and this series was one of them. Due to me not being able to see the number on the cover + not really in the mood to get out of bed and grab my phone from the other room/or start my PC, I decided to just read it randomly. So book 1 > 2. Book 2 > 3. Book 3 > 1.

I can say that it wasn't that much of a problem to read the books out of order. You could still easily understand the story. Sure the whole "Are our parents really our parents?" thing was a bit confusing as in book 1 it wasn't mentioned, book 2 had a bit about it, and book 3 was about it fully.

Our MC's are the twins Billy and Jillian. Well, OK, the official MC is Billy, but Jillian is around so much I will see her as the MC as well. Billy is the not so smart twin, though he is an animal whisperer (it seems) + he has some awesome ideas. Jillian is the smart one, she invents things left and right and she is the one who generally makes the plans. I really liked both of them, they made a good team. I loved that they were eager to do good deeds and went to great lengths to do them. Even if it meant disguising themselves and fending off their no-good parents.

I loved how they kept foiling their parents plans, or making things right again. Like with the cake, or the zoo, or the dog.

Sure, they had to at times do stuff they didn't like, so that their parents wouldn't be too suspicious. Or they had to make up a lie when they were almost caught with doing a good deed.

Each book features an animal. The first book is about a monkey named Razzle (who was quite annoying and I didn't like him at all). The next book is about Poochie (a famous dog whose only good feature was playing dead. As Billy also said: *"I know what to get this dog for her birthday," I told Jillian.*

"What?" Jillian asked.

"A gravestone," I said. "Playing dead is the only thing she likes to do."). And the last book is about a skunk (who lost her family and is being bullied by squirrels. Our duo is trying to teach her to be more of a skunk).

I am quite curious what the next animal will be, or if the author will just throw out the theme entirely. :P

As I said at the beginning, this book also features the theme of: Are these our parents? And we see them search for answers. I am quite curious to see how this theme will end, I am guessing in the next book we will find out more, or maybe even see those real parents.

The book is also full of hilarious illustrations that made reading it even more fun.

All in all, I quite enjoyed this series and I will be waiting for the next book!

Review first posted at <https://twirlingbookprincess.com/>

Jtimko says

Twins Billy and Jillian are good kids despite their criminal parents' attempts to turn them into criminals also. In the second book of the series, the twins decide to raise money in order to help a local dog shelter. Dad takes it one step further and encourages them to steal a dog instead. Hilarious actions result from their attempts to return a famous TV star pooch in spite of their parents' interventions. Readers will enjoy this fast-paced, silly romp of an adventure. Fairly large type will encourage the new chapter book reader to try this volume. Simple black and white illustrations are generously sprinkled throughout the pages. Even though this is the second book in the series, the reader will be able to comprehend the characters and background information. This would be a great selection for the elementary patrons in your library. Recommended for grades 2-4.

Diane says

"Great ... Our parents kidnapped a couch potato."

In this second book, Billy and Jillian want to raise money for an animal shelter, but instead accidentally kidnap a poodle, even though they were trying not to. Moral of the story: don't have a bacon muffin in your pocket if you don't want a poodle to follow you around. To make matters worse, the dog they kidnap is the "richest and most famous dog in the country", the star of the The Poochie Smoochie Show. After their Mom and Dad find out about how famous the dog is, Billy and Jillian have to figure out how to return the dog to it's rightful owner before Mom and Dad ransom it off.

More silliness for young readers to enjoy. Jillian, the clever inventor, and Billy, bacon obsessed and always hungry make for a fun duo. "We are mad crazy do-gooders!" A nice cliff hanger ending will have the students asking for book 3. The stick puppet idea is one I'm going to use with my students.

Barb says

Fun and funny book. Wonderful characters and good overall lessons for kids.
