



A Pup Called Trouble

Bobbie Pyron

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Fans of classic animal stories like *Pax* and *A Dog's Way Home* will howl over the heartwarming adventures of a coyote pup lost in New York City.

Brimming with curiosity, Trouble can't wait to explore the world beyond Singing Creek. So one morning the coyote pup stows away in the back of a truck and ends up lost in the heart of New York City. While Trouble misses his siblings, he quickly makes friends in Central Park's Ramble: a prankster crow, a timid opossum, and a poetic poodle.

Before long, he goes from howling for home to wondering if he could make a life in the city forever. But when word gets out that a coyote is running wild on city streets, Trouble must choose between the risks of being caught and the dangers of a long journey home.

Inspired by true stories, this accessible read from the award-winning author of *A Dog's Way Home* will resonate with anyone who's ever felt torn between the longing for adventure and the call of home. An appendix with real accounts of wild animals trapped in the city adds to the fun!

A Pup Called Trouble Details

Date : Published February 13th 2018 by Katherine Tegen Books

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Author : Bobbie Pyron

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From Reader Review A Pup Called Trouble for online ebook

Lisa K says

I received an advance copy of this book from the author for my online book group, #bookrelays. Trouble is an adventurous coyote pup whose curiosity gets him into loads of trouble. Students will love the fast-paced action and funny characters who befriend Trouble as finds himself in NYC. I'm happy to add this book to my classroom "survivor" series for literature circles! The author's notes and curriculum connections will be a sure hit with teachers, too.

Julie Kirchner says

This is going to be a huge hit with my animal loving students. Told from the perspective of a coyote who is curious and ends up out of her element in NYC, Trouble is desperate to get home to her family. Will her new city friends be able to help her get home or will her mischievous nature cause her to end up in the zoo or worse? A lovely story about family and love told through the eyes of misunderstood wildlife and their domestic friends.

Carol Baldwin says

A Pup Called Trouble (Kathy Tegan Books, 2018) by Bobbie Pyron is an engaging story that 3-5th grade students or older reluctant readers will enjoy. Based on true stories of coyotes who live in New York's Central Park, the book is told mostly through the point of view of the aptly named coyote, Trouble. Pyron, who makes her home in the Utah mountains, spent four days roaming around Manhattan imaging how the city would smell, sound, and look to a lost coyote pup. Those four days became the backbone for this story.

Although the child reader may not recognize herself in the story, Trouble's desire to experience what his parents have forbidden is very child-like. Pyron sets up this identification at the beginning of the book when Trouble's parents take him to see a tractor for the first time. Whereas his siblings fear the loud noise it makes, Trouble responds:

"It sounds huge," Trouble exclaimed. "It sounds exciting! Can we go see?" (p. 16)

After he sees Makers (humans) for the first time, he bombards his mother, [Trouble] raced in circles of excitement. "Can we see more tomorrow?" (p. 21-22)
"No, she snapped. "Nothing good comes from Makers."
Swift shivered with fright. Pounced moved closer to his father, and Star trembled.
Trouble's eyes glowed with dreamy curiosity. (p. 21-22)

Inevitably, the pup's curiosity gets him into trouble. The reader sees and feels what happens when Trouble hides inside a truck. "...a loud, low growl rumbled to life beneath Trouble's feet. It grew louder and louder, shaking the floor and the walls and the ceiling of the shelter. Then, to Trouble's horror, the Beast lurched to

life."(p.30).

He finds himself in a "stone forest [which] rose so high it cut the wide blue expanse to wedges and slivers of white (p. 33). His senses are accosted by strange scents, sounds, and sights--not the least of which is the Makers "looking intently at a small something [they] held in their hands." At one point he is surrounded by Makers of all sizes. "Trouble leaped to his feet, spun in circles looking for the cover of forest, trees, bushes, anything where he could hide. Nothing. Everything was hard. Solid. Unforgiving." (p. 33)

Although Trouble admits that he's lost in this strange world, his curiosity drives him further and further from the truck that brought him to the city. When a crow named Mischief spies Trouble and takes an interest in him, there are great opportunities for fun and games as the two ride a subway, scare New Yorkers, and cause general mayhem.

Mischief introduces him to other animals living in Central Park and Trouble falls in love with a poodle named Minette. As a result of these friendships, Trouble begins to lose his homesickness and begins to start liking his new life. His friends are alarmed and arrange for him to visit the "Place of the Once Wild." At the city zoo Trouble's eyes are opened to see what he risks losing.

Ultimately, it is the fact that his friends band together to save him from the consequences of his poor decision that helps Trouble return home. The "good friends help friends stay out of trouble" moral-of-the-story is subtly and sweetly woven into a book that boys and girls will both enjoy.

Lyn says

Really cute little story! This would be great for kids starting to read some chapter books on their own, or to read with your kid! It's simple, but not obnoxiously so that you'd hate reading it with your kids. It's a really sweet book with tons of important lessons that I really enjoyed reading.

Note: I received this book for free through Goodreads Giveaways.

Denise says

Thank you Harper Children for this book. I absolutely believe 10 - 12 years old children will thoroughly enjoy this book. For those children aged 8/9 would also enjoy having this book read to them, especially if the narrator is good with affecting different voices for the various characters, human and otherwise, contained in the book. I plan on sharing this book with younger family members.

Jana says

An advanced copy of this middle grade novel was provided to my #BookRelays group by the author. I really enjoyed this animal adventure story. The young coyote pup, Trouble (so named because of his habit of letting his unbridled enthusiasm and curiosity get him into trouble), learns some invaluable "lessons in friendship, bravery, love, forgiveness, belonging, and home." The awesome storytelling and wonderful themes reminded me a bit of *The Incredible Journey* by Sheila Burnford.

As a young, rambunctious coyote pup, Trouble has a difficult time obeying his mother, and staying away from the Makers (humans). Curiosity leads him to climb into the back of a produce truck on a nearby farm, and soon Trouble finds himself in the heart of New York City. Now there's disaster waiting around every corner, and all Trouble wants to do is figure out how to get back home! In order to survive and find his way back to his family, Trouble makes friends with an unlikely assortment of wild animals: a crow, an opossum, a fox, and an owl.

Carol says

Animal Stories like *Pax* and *A Dog's Way Home* will howl over the heartwarming adventures of the coyote pup lost in New York City. Brimming with curiosity, strong, Trouble can't wait to explore the world beyond Singing Creek. So one morning the Coyote pup stows away in the back of a truck and ends up lost in the heart of New York City. While Trouble misses his siblings, he quickly makes friends in Central Park's Ramble: a prankster crow, a timid opossum, and a poetic poodle. Before long, he goes from howling for home to wondering to if he could make a life in the city forever. When the word gets out that a coyote is running wild on city streets, Trouble must choose between the risks of being caught and the dangers of a long journey home. Inspired by true stories, this accessible listen from the award-winning author of *A Dog's Way Home* will resonate with anyone who's ever felt torn between the longing for adventure and the need for the love of our family.

During the four days I spent in Manhattan, I explored the city. I'd never seen buildings so tall. I was both amazed and distressed by the way they cut the endless sky into thin slivers. The sounds and smells of the city overwhelmed my senses, and yet, I was always curious about what was just around that next corner. As I explored the city, that young coyote was my shadow. I saw everything through its eyes: the stone canyons of skyscrapers, the people with their cell phones, the beauty of Central Park. By the time I got back on the plane to return to the mountains, I had the story that would become *A PUP NAMED TROUBLE* nestled in my heart.

I wrote two other children's novels—*THE DOGS OF WINTER* and *LUCKY STRIKE*—over the next six years, but I never forgot about that coyote in New York City. In my other life, I'm a librarian. I love doing research. During those years, I read everything I could about urban coyotes. I learned that coyotes had made themselves quite at home in cities from Atlanta to Portland. I read with curiosity and deepening admiration the extent of their adaptability. When it came time to work on a new book, I knew exactly what I would write about.

In Bobbie Pyron's new book, *A PUP CALLED TROUBLE* (HarperCollins/Katherine Tegen Books, Feb. 2018), a young coyote with an abundance of curiosity finds himself whisked away from his home in the wilds of New Jersey and, like Dorothy in *THE WIZARD OF OZ*, plunked down in a world he could never imagine.

Her great, good hope is that readers of *A PUP CALLED TROUBLE* will come to appreciate that no matter where they live, whether in the mountains or the city, they have wild neighbors. And sharing their community with these critters is a privilege, not a threat or nuisance. Whether it's a red-tailed hawk soaring above skyscrapers, an opossum ambling through the garden, or a coyote trotting along a street on a winter night, they can fill us with awe and wonder. Something we could all use a little more of. Excellent Book. Highly Recommend.

Margie says

We're not talking dogs here. Trouble is a wild coyote who has quite a bit of curiosity which of course lands him in "trouble". On one of his exploits from his family and the area he knows as home, he finds himself in New York City and eventually, to Central Park. He is befriended by several other wild creatures who live in the park and they look out for and protect each other. Among them are a crow, an opossum, an owl and a fox, along with a real dog. He is being hunted by an animal control officer and has been sighted a few times which puts him in great danger. His friends are able to come up with a plan to get him out of the park, the city and on his way home to his family. Based on real occurrences of wild animals living in cities, young readers will thoroughly enjoy the adventures of Trouble and his friends.

Margie says

Canines, as their human companions can affirm, have a super sense of smell. Their noses tend to assist them in avoiding dilemmas but can, when combined with curiosity, get them in less than desirable situations. Emergency trips to the veterinarian to remove porcupine quills and more than normal cans of tomato juice in home pantries to combat skunk odor are evidence of inquisitiveness gone wrong.

This desire to know beyond their normal day-to-day realm is not confined to dogs but is found in their relatives living in the wild. *A Pup Called Trouble* (Katherine Tegen Books, an imprint of HarperCollinsPublishers, February 13, 2018), a new novel written by Bobbie Pyron, follows a coyote youngster that has an extra dose of curiosity coursing through his body. He may have been the last of his siblings to be named but his antics and over-zealous desire for adventure spell trouble.

My full recommendation: <http://librariansquest.blogspot.com/2...>

Ctmurrays says

Good read aloud to my 5 year old. Well written, liked the descriptions of common human items that are described instead of stated, since it is from the perspective of the animals (staring at squares in their hands). Fun for her to try to guess what was being described.

Sarah says

I received this through Edelweiss in exchange for an honest review.

Coyote pup, Trouble, was born for, what else but, trouble. When this young pup gets too curious and gets separated from his family. He must learn to survive in the big city of New York. Trouble makes friends along the way, who all want to help him find his way back home.

Kid friendly read with talking animals.

Ms. Yingling says

E ARC provided by Edelweiss Plus

Trouble is a coyote born into a loving and supportive family out in the country. He is more mischievous than his brothers and sisters, but loves tussling with them and investigating the world around him. When he sneaks into a produce truck from a nearby farm that is heading into the city, he soon finds himself in a different sort of wild-- New York City! Coyotes are rare in the city, so he alarms a variety of people who see him, especially after he manages to get into an office building. Trouble manages to make a home for himself and makes friends, including Mischief, a crow, and Rosebud, an opossum. He even makes friends with a little girl, Amelia, who comes to the park. Even though he has managed to carve out a comfortable existence in the city, Trouble misses his family, and with the help of his friends, manages to get back to them.

Strengths: Like Hill's Lucky, Lorentz' Dogs of the Drowned City, and Hunter's Warriors books, this is a fast-paced story of an animal out of its element. Trouble is an engaging character, the inclusion of Amelia will make this easy for tweens to relate to, and the cover is adorable and will make sure that this book is never on the shelf! Also, put me in mind a little of Selden's A Cricket in Times Square.

Weaknesses: Coyotes. A bit evil. They will carry off small dogs, so Sylvie does not approve.

What I really think: Pyron's work (The Dogs of Winter and A Dog's Way Home), is very popular in my library, so I will have to purchase!

Lora says

My seven year old picked this out at the library for me to read out loud to him. He loves foxes, coyotes, and wolves, so this seemed like a good book for him. I thought it would be a more typical book for this genre, but it surprised me! It was a really enjoyable read, with the addition that the author had researched interesting true stories of wildlife in cities throughout the country and took those accounts and made a fictional story out of them. For example, to get away from the animal control trying to get him, the coyote named Trouble was led by a crow that befriended him to ride a subway train to a different area of New York City. This was based a true example of a coyote and crow riding a train in Seattle. The characters are good and the lesson is shared that no matter where you find yourself, home is really where your heart is. I recommend this for a family read.

Kaylee says

I loved this book so much! It was a really good book and so interesting. I liked how the animals that he met in the city helped him do things that he couldn't do by himself. I cried multiple times, sometimes sad, and sometimes happy.

Rachel says

A nice, simple book. Very good for children, and with the potential to become a childhood favorite, I think. (Of course, that's just because it's similar to the books that are my childhood favorites.)
