



If I Had a Raptor

George O'Connor

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A spunky and imaginative little girl dreams of the best pet ever — a fuzzy baby raptor to snuggle.

Our heroine can't think of anything better than bringing home a baby raptor — all teensy and tiny, fluffy and funny. It would cuddle and play, stalk birds and dust bunnies, and curl up on laps. In short, it would be the perfect pet! Readers may notice striking similarities between the raptor's behavior and that of a more common house pet. But whether their first love is dinosaurs or kittens, little people with big imaginations will definitely warm to this perfect picture book.

If I Had a Raptor Details

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Author : George O'Connor

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From Reader Review *If I Had a Raptor* for online ebook

Alexandra Calaway says

This one jumped up into my favorite picture books of all time, right next to Adam Rubin's 'Dragons Love Tacos.' Fantastic story and wonderful illustrator.

Barbara says

Enchanted by its fluffiness as a baby, a little girl dreams of what it might be like to bring home a baby raptor. Things start off just fine with the raptor playing hide and seek and warming up on the windowsill. But as it gets larger and older, the raptor would become larger and revert to its natural nature. Readers will smile at this one and maybe shudder a tiny bit as well, and they certainly will be glad for the presence of that bell hanging around the raptor's neck. The illustrations, rendered in pencil and watercolor with some additional digital touches, are delightful and push readers' imaginations. One of the best parts of the book is how much the raptor resembles the more familiar family house cat in its antics. Ah, the possibilities!

Christine Hopkins says

Deeply sinister. The ending is especially dark. 5/5 raptor bites.

Rebecca Honeycutt says

So cute I can't even. Give this one to dino enthusiasts, or use it to jazz up a pet-themed storytime.

Mississippi Library Commission says

As a former little girl with a dinosaur addiction, it was refreshing to see O'Connor's portrayal of a young girl who shares the same gender-bending bent. Add the fact that *If I Had a Raptor* features a young girl of color, and that the illustrations and text were completely delightful, and we were sold on this lighthearted look at a child's first pet. It brought back memories of *The Mysterious Tadpole*, a similar book from the 1970s. We highly recommend this 2016 Magnolia Award nominee!

Anna Smithberger says

What a sweet little book with great representation. Little girls who love feathery dinosaur-cats are the best and this is just so cute.

Madeline Reid says

Picture Book Five:

I found this book at the Lexington Public Library in the children's book section. "If I had a Raptor" is about a young girl who wants a baby raptor and she tells us about all the fun things they could do together. In her imagination, she can see herself picking up her blue teensy and tiny raptor out of the box labeled "Free Raptors." She can imagine everything from her raptor hiding from her to even allowing the grown raptor to sit on her lap. The illustrations are a great edition to the book because of the great facial expressions on not only the little girl but, also her bright blue raptor. These illustrations would be great to read out loud to a kindergarten or first grade classroom because they are lively and fill the whole page. You could also point out to the children how much the raptor overtime grows to a bigger animal and she still loves her raptor! I gave this book three stars because I did not always enjoy the way some of the sentence were structured even though it was a young girl speaking. "If I had a Raptor" is a fun easy read and I would still recommend it to anyone interested in dinosaurs or a funny read

SaraKat says

I loved the illustrations and the little girl's pigtails were just adorable. :) I felt like the words and illustrations could have shown a bit more differences between a raptor and a cat, though. I thought that the animal could have been changed to a house cat and very little would have changed in the book.

Mary says

I grew up with the JURASSIC PARK franchise (book and movies) and thought this slightly morbid, totally hilarious book was a fun tribute to the velociraptors so central to the prehistoric theme park. The story and drawings also made my boys and me belly laugh at certain points. And there is nothing I love more than hearing my kiddos laugh uncontrollably!

ElphaReads says

Anything that makes raptors pets equal to the common stubborn house cat is a-okay in my book! Super cute!!!!

Tracey says

diverse picture book (dinosaurs, pets; for preschoolers 3 and up?)

* prominently features diverse characters: yes, the little girl on the cover (and her raptor) stars throughout.

* Good choice for a preschool storytime--the story is longer, but the pictures are funny. Some of the jokes

are purely visual (the raptor sneaking up on the child, the child stepping on the tail of the raptor) so it doesn't work as well for dial-a-story over the phone, but in person this is a great choice as a one-on-one or reading aloud to a crowd.

Debbie says

4 stars for showing a girl want to have a dinosaur for a pet. 4 stars for portraying that girl as something other than white.

2 stars for the clever idea of using a bell, and the funny way the girl plays with (and not with) the dinosaur pet.

1 star for the actual writing, though - something about the sentence structures or word choice bothered me. I'm just glad that I found this book after my kids were older, so I wouldn't discover that one of them loved this book so much I'd have to read it over and over.

Heidi-Marie says

Another dino pet one, this one having the raptor be like a cat. Great illustrations portraying that twist. I like it just as I like the other. How did the committee choose one over the other to make the long list? Must keep in mind for storytime.

6/15/16 Used as opener for R is for... theme. Kids liked the pictures. I had to explain at the beginning that this was a type of dinosaur, and that got them liking the book a little more. Very fun.

Elsbeth says

If I had a RAPTOR... it would have been a m----- F----- Bird! A pair of wings and this might have been one of my favorite books of the year. I know that "Velociraptors" are sometimes casually referred to as "Raptors" but when I see the word raptor I think "Bird of Prey" not "Dinosaur".

Amy says

Recording sent- Ry listened with nanna and poppa today
