



Pumpkin: The Raccoon Who Thought She Was a Dog

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As a baby, Pumpkin the Raccoon was abandoned by her parents after falling out of a tree and breaking her leg. Taken in by a family with two rescue dogs, Toffee and Oreo, Pumpkin gained a new set of "parents" and a life of luxury in the Bahamas.

Pumpkin: The Raccoon Who Thought She Was a Dog is a sweet, unique look at an adorable household pet, captured in gorgeous, never-before-seen photographs in luxurious settings. Pumpkin's message is that friendship and love can be found in the most unlikely of companions. With a lot of personality, and a little bit of mischief, Pumpkin will capture hearts all around the world.

Pumpkin: The Raccoon Who Thought She Was a Dog Details

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Author : Laura Young

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LEVI says

Cute. I had no idea about the backstory to Pumpkin. But I'll admit I skipped all the text. I just wanted to see the pictures because raccoons are awesome. Some of them were cute, but a lot of them kind of looked the same, just Pumpkin and the dogs at different angles on different pieces of furniture. The novelty quickly wore off and I kept turning the pages hoping for something I hadn't yet seen a variation of.

Tatiana says

For someone who loves raccoons as much as me this book was a treat. While I would love to have a raccoon like Pumpkin, raccoons are wild animals and need to be treated as such. But Pumpkin is just too adorable for her own good

Lianne - Literary Diversions says

We (and by “we” I mean “animal lovers” and by “animal lovers” I mean “you” and if you’re not an animal lover than why, in the name of all things fluffy, did you pick up this book?) love a good news story.

I feel as though I could confidently point to every single animal lover in my friends group both on and offline and feel completely safe in the assumption that during the course of their day at least one of them will have clicked on a rehoming story on Facebook, watched a Dog Saves Boy piece on the news, or listened patiently to someone else’s story about Timmy Their Beloved who was The Best cat/pony/gerbil ever to have graced this green earth.

Why is that? Why is it that in amongst all of the horrific news stories of abused fighting dogs, hoarded horses, neglected domestic pets and barbarism towards tiny, furry, defenceless things, the rehoming stories still win? How does the Dog Saves Boy piece still get more shares when it hits our news feeds? Why do we still desperately want to hear about Timmy?

I’ve thought long and hard about this over the years. I’ve especially thought long and hard about it this year. And the answer, my friends?

The answer is that in a world which seemingly imploded in 2016 with political farces, numbing losses, and truly mind-boggling amounts of suffering, we *still* fundamentally want to believe that people are good. That good intentions outweigh the bad. That we, as human beings, are capable of compassion above all things.

Laura Young’s family *are* those good people and Pumpkin *is* that good news story that goes viral again and again and again.

And, above all, Pumpkin’s story serves as a reminder that we can still win, even if the win is as small as one rescued, rehabilitated and desperately loved raccoon.

Bernard says

OMG. The pictures! I want a Pumpkin of my very own!

I promptly ordered one book for every child I know under the age of fifty.

Louise (A Strong Belief in Wicker) says

No it's not great literature, it's not even literature, but it's super cute. An orphaned racoon in the Bahamas (who knew that there were racoons in the Bahamas? Not me) takes over a family and now this book with her totally cute antics. She thinks she's a dog and likes hanging on the couch doing dog things. Glad to have found a remaindered copy, I will pass it along to my favourite primary school library.

Emmy says

A cute premise and cute pictures, but I was not a fan of the writing. First, and this is just personal preference, but I don't like the phrase "pet parent" or when pet owners refer to themselves as "mama" and "daddy". Pets are pets and kids are kids. There is a difference. Also, I'm a bit disturbed by how spoiled this racoon is. She floods the house one night, and everyone thinks it's hilarious! Yikes! And I don't know about you, but I'm not going to make my pet a special home-cooked breakfast every morning.

tl;dr: cute pictures, but tedious writing. Just enjoy the visuals and ignore the text.

Christopher says

As much as I adore author Laura Young's @pumpkintheraccoon Instagram posts (and I really do, and recommend all users of that social media app to subscribe to her account), I found her book about Pumpkin to be less than the sum of its parts. It's cute, for sure, and filled with lovely snapshots of the adorable critter and her two canine besties, Oreo and Toffee. The accompanying brief bits of text, however, are too vacuous for my taste, with many of the same breathless one-dimensional descriptions repeated ad nauseam. In addition, the photos which look so wonderful on Instagram do not fare particularly well in the translation to the printed page. Still, I was happy to give money to Ms. Young, since her online efforts make me smile on a daily basis.

Christina says

Lots of cute fun.

Brianna McLaughlin says

I read this on my lunch break for my book challenge, "read a book guaranteed to bring you joy." This one definitely fit the bill!

Figgy says

Review to come.

Jennifer says

I am not sure how to review this book... Cute photos, very little text. This book is formatted like a children's picture book - in fact my 11 year old daughter grabbed it from me and can't get enough of Pumpkin! I did enjoy seeing a different perspective on raccoons. Where I live, raccoons are typically seen as a pest that goes through the garbage or makes a mess in the pool. To see that Pumpkin forms a bond to her human and dog family makes me rethink how I see raccoons in general. I received this book as a Goodreads giveaway.

Julie Zantopoulos says

I walked into my library to pick up a book and the children's librarian walked up to me and said, "here, this will make your day immediately better." I sat down on a sofa and curled up to read. This is such a sweet picture/table book of raccoon and dog Instagram pics. It's pretty much a catalog of adorable animals snuggled together with a few snippets of what life is like with an adopted raccoon. Honestly, it was pretty adorable and the picture quality is great. What a sweet recommendation from a woman who clearly saw I had a case of mid week blues.

Les says

"At the end of the day we aren't so different from each other, and if a raccoon and two dogs can become friends, then we too, can have compassion and love for anyone, no matter how different they may seem."

super cute, quick read.

it's mostly pictures with cute captions and a few quick anecdotes.

definitely makes for a great coffee table book

karen says

hi, i'm karen. have we met? no? all you need to know about me is that i miss EVERYTHING GOOD on the internet until they make a book out of it. therefore, i knew nothing of pumpkin the raccoon until i saw this book and it rekindled the need i have had for a pet raccoon that has been burning ever since i read Frosty: A Raccoon to Remember when i was very young.

i need this. real bad.

most people who have reviewed this book on here so far had already been introduced to pumpkin through the magic of the internet, and were let down by the quality of the writing and the repetition of stuff they'd already encountered on the various social media destinations that feature pumpkin. but for me, this was all new stuff. all new chubby mischievous stuff.

and, while i hesitate to judge anyone's perfectly valid reactions, if you're reading this for the captions, we have to have a talk. because, yeah - they're kind of phoned-in

but why are you even reading them?? hey, buddy, eyes up here! where the fuzzy thing is!

for those of you who live in a cave, here's the skinny on pumpkin: she is a raccoon who was orphaned during a tropical storm in the bahamas when she was only a month old, and rescued by a couple who had, six years earlier, rescued two eight-week-old abandoned and injured puppy-sisters; oreo and toffee. unable to find a home for the baby raccoon, they took her into their home, apprehensive about how the animals would react to each other, but with no other options. next time, ask ME! i have many eggs!

fortunately, not only did the animals get along, their home became like some sort of disney movie of mutualistic affection and sisterhood presided over by the cutest raccoon ever, who is very hands-on in her affection

and now they all wanna be raccoons!

in fact, i kind of want to be a raccoon

it looks so relaxing!

and full of snacks

there's a warning at the end of this book that raccoons don't typically make good pets, and that pumpkin was a special case because she was orphaned and blah and blah, but that just sounds like HOGGING to me! don't be greedy with the raccoon-having!

pweez can i come live with you?? blink, blink.

but i know, i knoooooowww. raccoons are wild animals and they are very disruptive on account of their clever little hands

that are so strong

and get into everything

and their curiosity

and their ability to climb up into anything. although pumpkin seems to be a little lacking in that department

although she did manage this:

and this

on the other hand, pumpkin also managed to toilet train herself, which seems much more convenient than 99% of the traditional pet options, and she even has her own bathroom, which seems excessive, but whatever.

and she seems to be able to entertain herself

and do you see how freaking *white* this house is??

with two dogs and a naughty little raccoon, it seems inexplicable that they would manage to keep everything so blindingly white. i have one cat, and she manages to track food and litter and fur and ripped-up cardboard all over the place, so i suspect pumpkin has also been taught how to vacuum and mop and dust.

if you wanna read about raccoons, there are books for that. if you wanna see a raccoon cuddle with dogs and play in the sand and jump off a surfboard into a swimming pool, this is your book.

even the endpapers are adorable

but not as adorable as raccoon-feet

maggie is less impressed with pumpkin, and there was lots of eye-rolling and "you want me to do cute things with my hands? look, i'm doing cute things with my hands. don't you dare bring a freaking raccoon into this house. don't make me play the cancer card."

so i guess that settles it: no raccoon for me.

here is where pumpkin can be found on the internet:

<https://www.instagram.com/pumpkinther...>

<https://www.facebook.com/PumpkinTheRa...>

and this:

is my 2017 wall calendar. and it is so freaking cute.

Sarah Theis says

What a sweet/cute trash panda! ?

This book is full of great photos of Pumpkin and a quick story about her life. The only downside to this book is there was very little story. I would love to hear more about this little baby and her life as a 'dog'!
