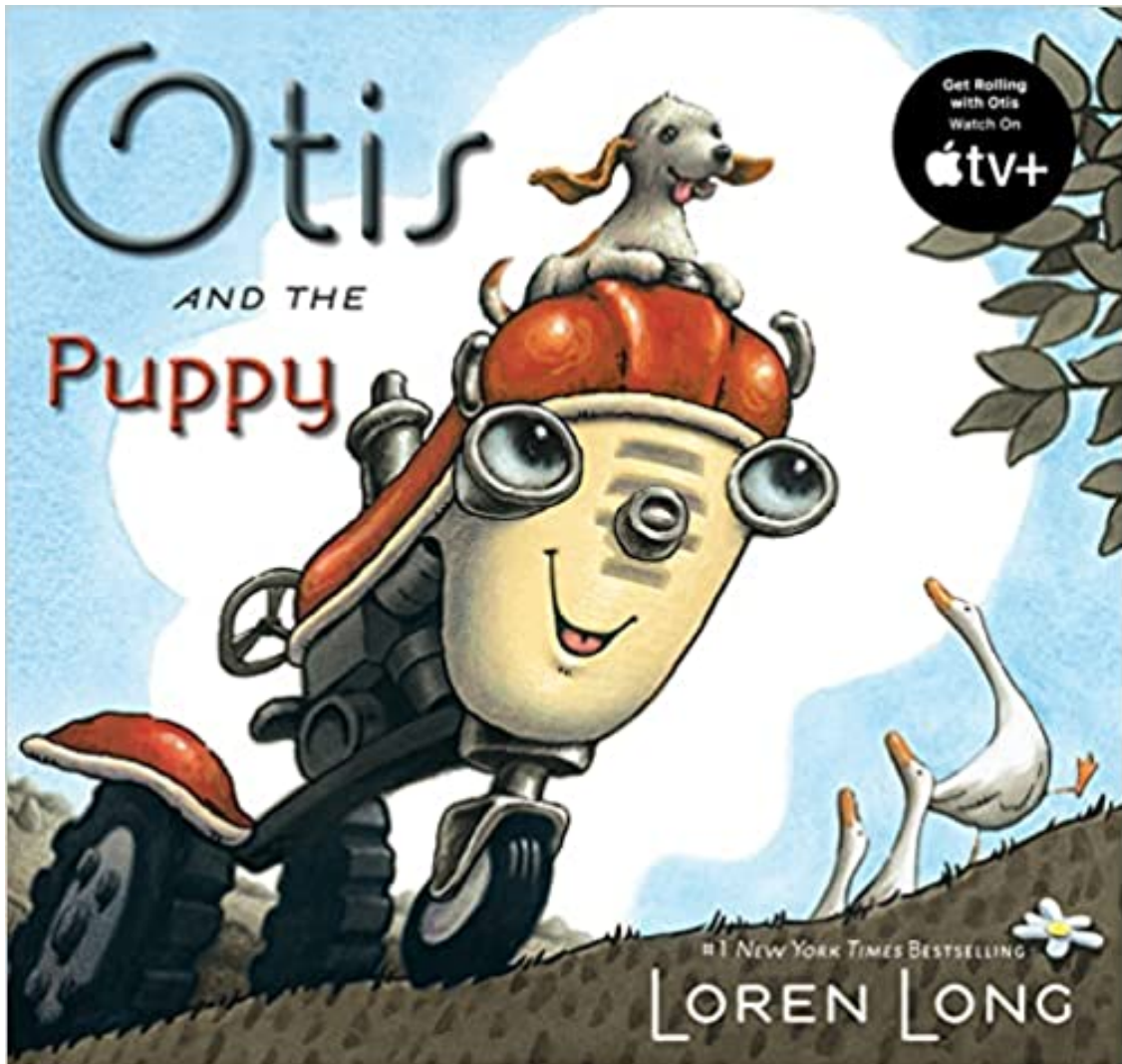


Otis and the Puppy

by

Jane Yolen



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Synopsis

The bestselling Otis the tractor series created by Loren Long, the illustrator of Matt de la Pena's Love and Watty Piper's classic *The Little Engine that Could!* Otis and his farm friends love to play hide-and-seek. Otis especially loves to be "It," finding his friends as they hide. Yet when the newest addition to the farm—a bounding puppy who can't sit still and has a habit of licking faces—tries to hide, he finds his attention wandering and is soon lost in the forest. Night falls and Otis, knowing his new friend is afraid of the dark, sets out to find him. There's just one problem: Otis is also afraid of the dark. His friend is alone and in need, though, so Otis takes a deep breath, counts to ten, and sets off on a different game of hide-and-seek. From the critically-acclaimed illustrator of *The Little Engine that Could*, *Of Thee I Sing*, and *Otis*.

Sort review

From School Library Journal PreS-Gr 2-In this fourth installment about a big-eyed, hardworking tractor, it is spring, and there is a new puppy on the farm. After Otis rescues the whimpering pooch from the doghouse (and the dark) the first night, the two become fast friends. Painterly gouache and pencil illustrations have panoramic views, and stars and headlights shine through the dark of twilight and forest. And that is where the puppy gets lost one evening, after playing hide-and-seek. When the sun sets, and the search party gives up until dawn, Otis confronts his own fear of the dark and forges ahead amid spooky animal silhouettes and long shadows. As the two make their way home together, the night sounds are somehow no longer so frightening. Older readers will delight in Long's use of idioms, and younger children will appreciate the loyalty of a true friend and understand the terror, not of darkness, but of aloneness. Otis will win readers' hearts.—Sara Lissa Paulson, *The American Sign Language and English Lower School*, New York City (c) Copyright 2011. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted. From Booklist After a hard day at work, a friendly little tractor named Otis likes to wind down with a game of hide-and-seek with his barnyard friends. That group gets one member bigger the night a puppy comes to live at the farm. He's a happy little guy, licking and playing and sleeping up a storm. But he whimpers upon nightfall. So begins the puppy's habit of sleeping on Otis' seat. When a game of hide-and-seek goes awry and the puppy ends up lost in the woods—shown as a page full of black behind the spooked pup—Otis must use his headlights to scour the forest for his frightened friend. Plot isn't the point here—Otis finds the puppy, and that's pretty much the end. What's more valuable is the softly delivered example of true friendship and how it means not giving up on a pal. In sepia-toned illustrations, Long depicts Otis as a surprisingly agile machine with *Thomas the Tank Engine*–style features and other anthropomorphized attributes (His heart ached deep inside his engine). Simple but moving. Preschool-Grade 1. --Daniel Kraus Review **THE NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER!**--New York Times "It is spring and there is a new puppy on the farm. After Otis rescues the

whimpering pooch from the doghouse (and the dark), the two become fast friends. Painterly gouache and pencil illustrations have panoramic views, and stars and headlights shine through the dark of twilight and forest. And that is where the puppy gets lost one evening, after playing hide-and-seek. When the sun sets, and the search party gives up until dawn, Otis confronts his own fear of the dark and forges ahead . . . Older readers will delight in Long's use of idioms, and younger children will appreciate the loyalty of a true friend and understand the terror, not of darkness, but of aloneness. Otis will win readers' hearts."--School Library Journal

"Lovable Otis the tractor is back for a third adventure, in which he overcomes his fear to help out a new canine friend. Otis and his animal buddies, including the calf and bull from previous titles, play hide-and-seek after working on the farm. With a "one-putt, two-puff, three-puttedy four-chuff," Otis begins his turn as "it," which he especially likes. One day, the farmer brings an adorable young pup to the farm, and he immediately wins the hearts of all with his wriggling and wagging and an abundance of wet kisses. But after night falls, the puppy whimpers when he is left alone in his very dark doghouse outside the barn. Otis invites him inside to sleep next to him, and a special friendship forms. The story takes a turn when the puppy, instead of hiding as he is supposed to, gets distracted. In this spread, Long separates the text from what he depicts in the classic-feeling illustrations in gouache and pencil. While the language describes Otis discovering his friends in their silly hiding places--bull is "behind a lone dandelion"--a series of spot images shows the pup following a butterfly until he becomes hopelessly lost in the dark forest. Long contrasts the bright daytime farm scenes with the deepest darks of night to heighten the drama, for Otis must first cope with his own fear of the dark before rescuing his friend. Fans of Otis will not be disappointed with the satisfying ending that results in a creative solution and a most happy reunion. Seek this out--"game on!" --Kirkus Reviews

About the Author Loren Long is a Midwesterner, having grown up in Missouri and attended school at The University of Kentucky in Lexington. He pursued graduate-level studies at the American Academy of Art in Chicago after graduating with a BA in Graphic Design/Art Studio from the University of Kentucky. He and his wife, Tracy, have two sons. Read more

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What people say about this book

Frank O., "We love Otis!. My little boy Loves Otis and I love reading this series to him. I purchased used and it was in perfect condition."

Red Teapot, "My grandchildren and I consider these books our favorites. As with all the Otis books, the story is heartwarming and engaging. The illustrations appeal to children, and adults also enjoy the nostalgic artwork. I personally always look forward to reading them to my preschool grandchildren, and even the ones with the shorter attention span give their whole attention to the stories. I find the stories to be wholesome and without agenda. It's refreshing to find that today. We own Otis, Otis and the Tornado, Otis and the Kittens also. I highly recommended them."

Heidi Grange, "Sweet story of friendship and facing one's fears.. I fell in love with Otis the tractor after reading the first book. And I've loved the sequels equally well. This is such a sweet story about friendship and facing one's fears for the sake of someone else. Both Otis and his friend, the puppy, are afraid of the dark, but when the puppy gets lost, Otis must face his fear or leave his friend alone in the dark all night. I also loved the idea at the end that those things we fear aren't so scary when we face them with those we love. The story is beautifully written and would be great for sharing. The large size makes it especially appropriate for sharing with larger groups. The illustrations are gorgeous. It's amazing how much expression that Long gives his characters, especially Otis and the puppy. The large beautiful illustrations clearly show the tender relationship between Otis and his friends and especially between Otis and the puppy. My favorite picture shows the puppy asleep with his head resting on Otis's front tire. Highly recommended."

Nathan, "Kids love this book. Very sweet book. Our 2 year old insists on this book being read every night before bed. Quality story that deals with real topics (fear of the dark as well as friendship). The illustrations are beautiful."

Psyche, "Beautiful and Classic. Loren Long has a gift for telling sweet, timeless stories. His books feel like tales that I grew up with, and my parents grew up with, and probably my grandparents grew up with. My son enjoys them now, and I'm sure he will enjoy reading them to his children. Writing stories like that takes skill, talent and a particular gift. Before writing this review, I went back to read what I wrote for my review of the first Otis book. This was my first sentence: This is one of the books that I bought solely because I love, love, LOVE the artwork. That is mostly true of Otis and the Puppy, except now I knew that I would be getting a lovely story to go with the sumptuous and absolutely perfect illustrations."

FlamingoGirl, "Cute. Super cute! We love Otis books and this one is one of my favorites! Otis

overcomes his fears to help a new friend.”

Lida L., “happy with purchase. Good quality book. Happy with the purchase.”

undefined, “Thumbs up!. Good book, great message!”

Bean15, “Lovely illustration, super stories and well made book suitable for small fingers.. My grandson loves these books, and a tractor called Otis is a find made in heaven for a farm-loving 2 year old called Otis!”

pauline heath, “Happy grandson. My grandson Otis loved this book.”

abhijeet chandankhede, “Four Stars. Kids loved this.. Otis is really cute..”

Martin, “Five Stars. Great little stocking stuffers”

The book by Jane Yolen has a rating of 5 out of 4.8. 320 people have provided feedback.

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Book Information

Language: English

Paperback: 192 pages

Reading age: 2 - 5 years, from customers

Lexile measure: AD630L

Grade level: Preschool - 2

Item Weight: 1.34 pounds

Dimensions: 11.38 x 0.41 x 10.81 inches

File size: 235698 KB

Text-to-Speech: Not enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced typesetting: Not Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Not Enabled

Sticky notes: Not Enabled

Print length: 192 pages

Hardcover: 40 pages

Simultaneous device usage: Unlimited

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