



Winter's Tail: How One Little Dolphin Learned to Swim Again

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The original hardcover upon which the major motion picture is based on!

When Winter was a baby, she was rescued from a crab trap, her tail seriously damaged, and rushed to Clearwater Marine Aquarium. Winter survived, but eventually her tail fell off. Then Winter received a prosthetic tail. It was very challenging but now Winter is thriving and using her new tail with great command. Every year, thousands of visitors travel to visit Winter who has become an inspiration to adults and children alike, especially to children who are amputees themselves. And now Winter's story is soon to be a major motion picture starring Morgan Freeman, Ashley Judd, and Harry Connick Jr.!

Winter's Tail: How One Little Dolphin Learned to Swim Again Details

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From Reader Review Winter's Tail: How One Little Dolphin Learned to Swim Again for online ebook

Tiffany says

An inspiring story for the whole family!

Awjtf says

Lovely!

Julia Jasztal says

(Mommy's review from 2/29/12)

I don't know that this actually "counts" as 'photography' but I'm listing it there for us for our own reasons. That I can't articulate. :)

Sooo... we saw the movie last week! Rented it from RedBox and went straight home to watch it. I personally could have done with more Winter, less everyone else but it's a good movie. I wish I knew exactly how much was exactly true but I suppose it's not as important as I tend to think sometimes. I like to know which details are true and which are the idea of someone behind the movie (book/whatever).

The photos of Winter are magnificent. This is a dolphin that, in another day and time, or even in this day and time, with a lesser person involved, we wouldn't be seeing. Yet we're not only seeing Winter, we're watching her swim and play, make friends, animal and human, and love. If that's not amazing I don't know what is.

I can't remember a book ever making me seriously plan a trip but after seeing the movie, reading this book and visiting the website (I'll link at the end) we have to visit the Clearwater Marine Aquarium. There is no doubt in my mind that I have to take my daughter there. She deserves to see Winter with her own eyes.

Imagine what Winter has done and is doing for kids - and adults - all over this world! Kids who have been made fun of for a defect of whatever kind, kids who are scared or lonely. We don't give animals enough credit.

I said this just a few minutes ago in reference to the people who helped Tarra and Bella (see Tarra & Bella: The Elephant and Dog Who Became Best Friends) but it's proves true again.

These are the people we should be seeing on t.v. and reading more about. These people are the ones I'll buy a magazine for. These are the people who deserve to be idolized. Not Jay-Z and Lady BlahBlah. Not any football player or Tiger Woods or Danica Patrick. I wish people would use their heads more. I'm using mine at the moment and I'll die happy if Julia ends up happy, doing something she loves with enough money to have what she needs and to help others. I'll be a happy Mom is she's doing what these people are doing if she so wished. This would make me proud. Not her staring in the mirror, wanting a boob job and wishing she were a rich movie star. And I'm going to do everything in my power to make sure she keeps knowing what's important. ('Keeps' because at 6 years old she already knows... it's later that it gets hard.)

Everyone knows Winter's story so I'll skip that. Julia and I both loved the photos of Winter and the fact that they showed younger people and older people helping Winter. Kevin Carroll (featured in the back of the book) was extremely interesting to me but Julia's a bit too young for that right now. She was interested in the

basics, that he cared enough to come up with this tail, that he worked so hard for it, etc. We both loved the pictures of the children with Winter - so touching.

Website time - www.SeeWinter.com - live camera feed people. Top that. When we looked the camera was showing on Winter, Panama and Hope. It's somewhat difficult to see *everything* but you can see them swimming, playing and "jumping". Freaking cool as hell. Julia's mind was blown.

**These people are heroes and that's all these is too it.

I have to admit something - most of the time my ratings reflect the actual book, lesser so the story. In this case and that of Tarra & Bella it's the opposite. I can't help it - I just can't help it. The stories themselves deserve a thousand stars IMO so anything less than the max, from me, isn't acceptable.**

Hannah Klumb says

Good informational text that kids would enjoy.

Sherri says

I love this story because it is a true testament to how animals live with such resiliency even when their livelihood can hang in the balance.

Laura says

Great true story! Plus I met this dolphin several times so extra special to me!

Eva Leger says

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Xiomara Vasquez says

This is my review on the non-fiction book "Winter's Tail".

This book is based on a true story of a dolphin that learns to swim again. The incredible story of Winter, the dolphin, with a prosthetic tail, has touched and inspired millions of people around the world. Winter currently lives in Clearwater Marine Aquarium.

The Dolphin Tail, an emotional book to read about the brave marine mammal that lost its tail when he was only three months old, in a trap for crabs in Florida. Winter was found in a trap off the coast of Florida, with an infection that had him on the verge of death and made him lose his tail. The dolphin survived the winter and the doctor created silicone prosthesis, which was the solution so that he could swim and lead a normal life.

His exciting story has turned him into a symbol of motivation and improvement for many children with disabilities

This book can be used in the classroom to explore the world of dolphins with science and vocabulary. Students will learn about dolphin biology and marine life through language arts activities

Kathryn says

This is an amazing true story. Winter and the people who helped her survive get five stars all the way!!!

I appreciate this book, suitable for young readers, about Winter's story. But, it has nowhere near the emotional impact of the film and I highly recommend the film to those interested in Winter's story. Though many characters and plot twists are fabricated in the film, the basic progress of Winter's story is true to life and the fact that Winter appears in the film herself and that we can see her swimming and interacting with others is just something that a book cannot replicate. (It should be noted that the book came out before the movie and does use photographs of Winter.)

Still, if you saw the movie and enjoyed it, this book does a nice job of showing the TRUE "true story". The cute kids and many of the other characters are made up for the movie. But, Winter really was rescued by a fisherman in Florida and taken to be rehabilitated at Clearwater Marine Aquarium where the team and volunteers worked tirelessly to help her survive the trauma of her injuries, to regain her strength, and to swim again when her tail fell off. I was interested to learn that Winter was only a few months old when she was found (different from the movie since that was in 2005 and, obviously, the real Winter is much older now), making her story even more poignant and her survival even more remarkable. I was also interested and glad to learn that Winter does not wear her prosthetic tail at all times; but only a few hours each day to help keep her muscles working properly. I had worried a bit about her not wearing it so much in the movie (for all the pre-prosthetic scenes), but it makes sense now. Also interesting is that Kevin Carroll, of Hanger Prosthetics and Orthotics contacted the Clearwater Marine Aquarium after he heard about Winter and, being an animal lover, he wanted to help her and create the prosthetic flipper for her. This is a little different than in the film and I think it's just one more beautiful example of how Winter touched so many people with her story.

Ann says

After seeing the new film I was quite excited to find out that Winter also has a book out about her! This book, published in 2009 (four years after Winter's rescue) is about the initial trials and triumphs of young Winter, a dolphin rescued off the coast of Florida, who's injuries sustained from a crab trap caused her to lose her tail.

I love this true-story, and thought it was very well told (especially for this type of children's non-fiction picture book genre). The photos are quite sweet and touching and informative and the text is equally informative and the narrative flows well.

The determination and dedication of, not only Winter herself, but every person involved in her rescue, recovery, rehabilitation and creation and use of her new prosthetic tale, is truly amazing.

I also found the back matter enlightening and love that the author emphasizes the way Winter's tale continues to help those who help her - how Kevin Carroll and Hanger Prosthetics & Orthotics have been working at creating artificial limbs for people (since the founder created one for himself after the Civil War in 1861 - very cool!) and then decided to help Winter, and in the process of helping Winter were able to better help people, etc., etc., etc. Or how by helping Winter, she's not been able to help and inspire others with disabilities.

I think it's such a great message - and all the better because it's true!

****Four stars overall, five compared to other books in this genre.****

CCFuller says

Long before the movies were made, or the tail for Winter had been successfully formed for her sensitive dolphin skin, my mother recorded a small segment on the news to show my then two year old daughter. That three minute segment became a fascination shared between grandmother and granddaughter. When this book was written, my mother special ordered one of the first copies and they read it together over and over again until the pages nearly fell out. It is a simple chronology of events but it inspired a deep love of dolphins in my daughter, helped create an everlasting bond between my mother and her granddaughter and has continued to inspire our family to participate in beach clean-ups and other work for the betterment of our oceans. It's a personal review but it also underscores why the real story, not the one fabricated for the movies, is so worthwhile and important.

Diane says

A sucker for all of God's helpless creatures, when I heard about Winter's Tail, I decided to pick this book up from the library. It was such a touching story. For those of you who have not heard about this amazingly resilient dolphin, here is what actually happened.

On December 10, 2005 a baby dolphin, about 2-3 months old was spotted in Mosquito Lagoon, Florida with lobster trap ropes wrapped around it's tail and mouth. The fisherman who helped rescue the dolphin, later named "Winter" was Jim Savage. Realizing that the injuries to the creature were serious, he contacted fish and wildlife conservationists who responded and took the frightened, injured dolphin on a (3) hour journey to the Clearwater Marine Aquarium to mend. Although, the dolphin did lose her tail, she was left with a stump which was later fitted with a prosthetic sleeve and tail enabling her to swim again. The last report I read indicated that Winter (4) years later is still thriving in her closely monitored environment. If you are ever in the Clearwater, FL area, you can visit Winter at the Aquarium.

The authors of this wonderful inspirational and beautifully illustrated book are Craig Hatkoff and his daughters Julianna and Isabella. RECOMMENDED - 4.5/5 stars

Valerie McEnroe says

Short nonfiction book about a dolphin injured in crab traps and subsequently loses its tail. It's rescued and rehabilitated at a marine aquarium and fitted with a prosthetic dolphin tail. Would make a great nonfiction pairing with the fiction book How to Speak Dolphin.

Michelle says

Inspiring tale about a dolphin who had to learn to use a prosthetic tail. I really liked the fact that it contained actual photos rather than illustrations. This is a good inspirational story for children.

Mary Kay says

Full disclosure Winter is in a major way responsible for the focus my child has on wanting to help animals through biomedical engineering, rather than animal training. Think about that for a moment. I used to joke that it was fine that she wanted to be a dolphin trainer, because surely one of the 8 people who make money at that would retire before she got out of college... now she works toward an engineering goal, thinking of ways to make lives better for all animals (even people.)

This book is part of the NTSA Picture perfect STEM list of trade books used in teaching STEM lessons.

I am sure you are familiar with the story. Maybe even saw the movie. But STILL I learned some things from this book. (Did you know baby dolphins usually drink their mother's milk until they are 2? And that Winter was only a few months?)

The joy of the story is more than an inspiring tale of biomedical engineering. It's a tale of overcoming heartache. Overcoming obstacles. Staying positive and keep on swimming! Winter inspired many people without limbs or who had lost limbs as well.

There was some new and interesting stuff on Kevin Carroll, too. (The man who created Winter's tail.) The end contains (smaller print, adult read) interesting information on Winter's trip, dolphins in general, and more.
