



Widget

Lyn Rossiter McFarland (Illustrations) , Jim McFarland (Illustrations)

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A stray dog pretends he's a cat in order to get a home

When Widget, a little stray dog, stumbles through a flap door into the home of Mrs. Diggs, he sees six cats, six bowls of food, and six warm beds. There's clearly only one thing to do. Confronted by the cats' intense scrutiny, Widget meows, purrs, plays with a toy mouse, and uses the litter box. Having eventually convinced his new family of his felinity, Widget is soon living so happily he sometimes forgets his true nature. But when Mrs. Diggs takes a fall and doesn't get up, it's up to Widget to save the day with a particularly canine solution.

A very simple text and droll pictures make Widget a book to read again and again.

Widget Details

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Author : Lyn Rossiter McFarland (Illustrations) , Jim McFarland (Illustrations)

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From Reader Review Widget for online ebook

Nicole says

This is a nice and cute story about a puppy who pretends to be a cat to fit in with a family. Until they need a barking dog and then he shows who he really is to save the day.

Tina Seeborg says

Adorable!

Lauren Kramer says

Widget is a stray dog searching for a home. While walking in the rain, he discovers the house of Mrs. Diggs. The house is warm and cozy...and filled with cats!

Mrs. Diggs wants Widget to stay but that will be up to her six cats to decide. Widget really wants to be part of the family. Will pretending to be a cat grant him the approval he seeks?

I found this story to be charming from start to finish. Children will definitely relate to Widget and his quest to fit in. This book especially tugged at my heartstrings because I support rescued animals. From adopting five dogs and three cats to volunteering at the Animal Protection Agency of Missouri, I absolutely love shedding light on the importance of adopting animals from local rescue groups and shelters.

Jim McFarland's illustrations are classic and timeless. Children will fall in love with Widget and cheer him on in his quest to find a forever home. I love seeing Widget's range of emotions as expressed by his facial features and fur.

Overall, this is a wonderful book for animal lovers of all ages. This book could also be used in a humane education class for local shelter and rescue groups.

Brenda Kahn says

So, one of my colleagues went to a workshop on dyslexia and emailed me from the workshop asking if we had this picture book. We did not so I ordered it ILL through the public library to take a look. It was recommended as a text to teach inferencing. I work with this teacher's students every day and she asked if I'd mind sharing it with her kids. Of course not! It's a very cute story, ably illustrated. The kids enjoyed it. I enjoyed it. The best book for teaching inferencing? Not sure. It's fine. I am sure it bowled over the presenter who recommended it but left me a bit underwhelmed about being THE book. There are so many books capable of being used to teach inference - pick the one that makes you excited. Don't force yourself to fit a book that doesn't click for you just because some expert named it. Otherwise, it was a fine book.

Silence says

a simple, sweet story that will please cat and dog lovers alike.

Rosa Cline says

Our librarian pulled this book for us, and glad she did! This is a very simple very cute book of how a lonely abandoned dog found his own 'family'...the elderly woman he found wanted to keep him but her 6 cats didn't like dogs. So Widget hisses back at the cats, arches her back back at them and even meows at them so they accept him as a cat and he finds his family. He forgets he's a dog, until his elderly "mom" falls and they need to find help they go out and meow and try and get attention then he remembers he's a dog and he barks bringing the neighbors to help her. This is a very simple, cute and good illustrations. My 2 year old granddaughter enjoyed this book as did I.

Maggie says

CIP: "A small stray dog is accepted into a household full of cats by learning to "fit in," but when his mistress is hurt, he demonstrates that being a dog is not all bad."

Lonely and homeless, Widget find a potential home--if he can learn how to fit in with his new roommates. A delightful story for the preschool crowd with beautiful illustrations that add to the humorous tale. Recommended for ages 3 through 6.

Reviews:

Horn Book: "When Widget, a stray dog, wanders into Mrs. Diggs's home filled with six cats, he meows, purrs, and uses the litter box-anything to fit in. It isn't until Mrs. Diggs falls that Widget acts like a dog again, and his barking rouses the neighbors. Appealing illustrations shown from the animals' perspective add character to this humorous story."

SJL: Favorable review: "a preschool crowd pleaser, just right for storytime."

Elizabeth Moreau Nicolai says

I've been using this one for years and it remains one of my storytime favorites!

mary dewley says

Crazy cat lady adopts sweet, lonely little white dog who behaves like a cat to fit in. Doggies saves her life by barking when she falls and soon the cats start adopting the same behavior. Cute story about getting along with others.

L.A. James says

Cute art, and the story has a point. Plus it gave us a giggle.

Aimee says

The preschoolers at the library really liked this one! Widget, a lonely stray dog, finds a nice lady to live with, but there's one problem: she has six cats who don't like dogs! Widget initially pretends to be a cat, until his owner really needs him to be a dog, and the cats accept him. It's not just a cute story, it'll tug at your heart strings too.

Robin Raines-Bond says

Super cute story about a sweet, lonely dog who pretends to be a cat so that he can have a home with 6 other cats. He almost forgets he is a dog until a dog is needed.

Tara says

Review by 1st graders: This book was okay, and had a great message. It wasn't nice to look at and it isn't something they want to reread.

Michelle says

It was funny thinking of a dog pretending to be a cat
