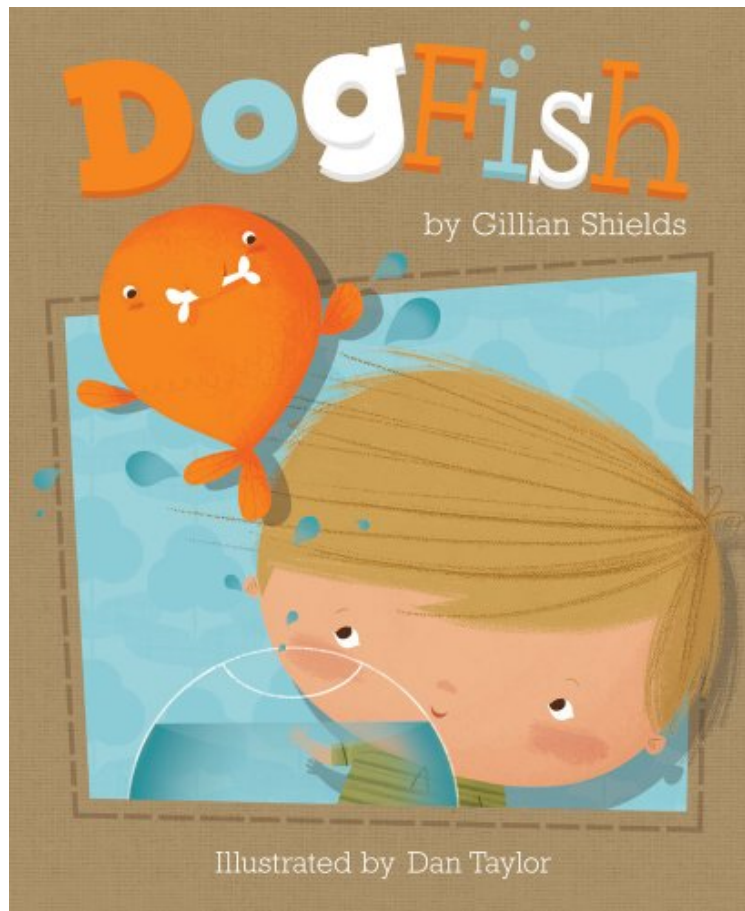


DogFish

Gillian Shields

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#1387630 in Books Atheneum Books for Young Readers 2008-11-25 2008-11-25 Original language: English PDF # 1 11.00 x .40 x 9.00l, 1.05 #File Name: 141697127032 pages | File size: 24.Mb

Gillian Shields : DogFish before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised DogFish:

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Great book!By CcbMy son has loved his book for a while but I couldn't find it so when it dawned on me to look here ad I found I was very excited! It so cute and written in such a neat way!2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. fun story with interesting picturesBy LadybugI agree with most of the other reviewers. This story is fun and playful overall, though at times it may be a bit sophisticated for younger readers. The illustrations are especially clever and interesting; they were my favorite part of the book. I do think it is a bit trite to ask a child to feel content with a fish instead of a dog, but I liked the message that you can use your imagination to have fun with what you have, even if you don't have exactly what you want. I think most everyone can relate to that.1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Very Creative.....The Kids Thought this Book was Great!By LoriAnnRThis book was just delightful for kids age 3-7. If your child is pestering you non-stop for a dog as they look at you with "hypnotizing eyes" (you'll get the "hypnotizing eyes" comment when you read the book); compromise and buy them this book (along with a goldfish of course)! Seriously though, this is really an entertaining

book. The book is the story line, from a little boy's point of view, of his efforts to convince his mother that he really, really, REALLY needs a dog. After every thwarted attempt to make his mother see things his way, the boy provides a very humorous verbal account of how he looks upon receiving the bad news. This was a really interesting take on describing and illustrating emotions (i.e.: hopeless, irritated but sorrowful, sad). And then the book takes a turn because the little boy realizes that with patience, he could teach his goldfish tricks.....just like a dog. And in fact, he could do all the things with his goldfish that he imagined he could do with a dog. Positive emotions are then illustrated: feels good, happy, etc. All in all, a very good book that begins with a disgruntled "Everyone has a dog.....except me" but in 28-pages ends with a blissfully HAPPY "why would I need a dog when I have the best goldfish in the world?"

Everyone has a dog. Except for one little boy. He has a goldfish. He needs a dog. Mom says, "Why do you need a dog when you have such a nice goldfish?" But goldfish can't catch sticks or go for walks or wag their tails.... Can they? Maybe they can...

From School Library Journal
Grade 14A little boy who has a goldfish wants a dog and enumerates all the things a pup can do that a fish can't. His mom says, "We'll see," which really means, "NO." Finally, after looking "irritated but sorrowful," she says, "Well, if you can't have what you want, want what you have." The boy takes a look at his pet and soon finds that he can train it to catch sticks, climb steps, and wag its tail. The tone of the text will appeal to children, who will be familiar with the boy's attempts to manipulate his mother. The digitally rendered illustrations are hip and fresh, yet reminiscent of '50s modern. Readers will chuckle over the performing goldfish, who reads the paper when he's home alone. A winning combination of dog and fish, humor and hard work.
Susan E. Murray, Glendale Public Library, AZ
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From Booklist
A little boy who lives in a forty-fourth floor apartment has a goldfish, but he longs for a dog. His mother is not interested in his pleas: If you can't have what you want, why don't you try wanting what you have? And so, like Pygmalion, the boy begins to try to transform his goldfish, and in no time his pet is fetching sticks, wagging his tail, and taking walks in the park. Shields' story is a familiar one, with a well-wrought predictability that young audiences will respond to. And Taylor's digital artwork, with its midcentury decor, aqua and orange palette, and highly stylized figures, evokes both a specific, retro sensibility and a timeless quality. Together, text and art form an insouciant package that will entertain groups of young pet enthusiasts and comfort children longing for canine companionship.
Preschool-Grade 2. --Thom Barthelme
About the Author
Gillian Shields was born and brought up in England, where she studied English and worked in a drama school for several years. She now looks after her family and teaches English and drama part-time, as well as writing for children. Her first book, *Ben and Gran and the Whole, Wide, Wonderful World*, was published by Macmillan in London. *The Starlight Baby* is Gillian's first book for Simon Schuster.