

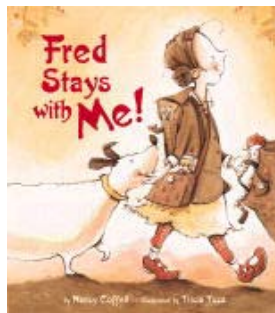
Fred Stays with Me!

Written by Nancy Coffelt

Illustrated by Tricia Tusa

Hachette Book Group USA

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Themes: Dogs, Divorce, Parenting

Overall Theme: This book is about a little girl that stays with her mother part-time and her father part-time, but the dog always stays with her. The overall theme is that you can have a true friendship with an animal.

Genre: Fiction

Point of View: 1st Person

Interest Level: Ages 3-6

Reading Level: 1st grade

Conflict: The conflict of this book is internally. The little girl has to spend time with her father and mother at two separate houses. She talks about how she does certain things at one house differently than the other, but one thing always remains the same...she has Fred with her! One day her mother and father announce that Fred cannot stay with either of them but the little girl resolves this conflict.

Resolution: At the end of the book, the little girl tells her parents that Fred really doesn't "stay" with either of them. She tells them that "Fred Stays with Me!" They come up with a plan and the dog gets to stay with the little girl.

Characters:

Name of Character	Relationship(s)	Personal and Physical Traits
Girl	Main character	Persuasive, Happy, out-going, a dog-lover
Mom	Parent to the young girl	Busy, open-minded, divorced
Dad	Parent to the young girl	Busy, open-minded, divorced
Fred	Dog to the girl	Loving, energetic, happy

Setting: This story takes place during the day. The little girl goes to many different places with her mom and dad but it is mostly about visiting both parents at both houses.

Book Talk:

Some children do not live with their mommy AND their daddy. Some children have two bedrooms and two different houses. These children have parents who are divorced. In this book, a little girl tells her story about visiting both parents. Sometimes she does things with her mom and other times she does things with her dad. Visiting both places can sometimes be hard, but her dog Fred stays with her all the time. One day the mom doesn't want Fred to stay at her house and the dad doesn't want Fred to stay at his house either. Together they come up with a plan that works for everybody!

**About the Author:**

Nancy Coffelt is an author and an illustrator. She has written several picture books. They are *The Dog Who Cried Wolf*, *Good Night*, *Sigmund*, *Tom's Fish*, and *Dog's in Space*. She loved to draw pictures when she was a young child. She even won first prize in a coloring contest when she was in second grade. When she writes and draws, she likes to incorporate animals. She lives in Portland, Oregon with her husband, son, and two wiener dogs, Dutch and Maggie.

Official Webpage of the Author: <http://blog.nancycoffelt.com/>



About the Illustrator:

Tricia Tusa is a writer and an illustrator. She has illustrated many well-known picture books, *Mrs. Spitzer's Garden*, *Maebelle's Suitcase*, *Camilla's New Hairdo*, and *Bunnies in My Head*. *Bunnies in My Head* is very special to her because it features illustrations drawn by young patients at the M.O. Anderson Cancer Center. She lives Galisteo, New Mexico.



Official Website of Illustrator: N/A

Awards Received by the Author:

- Boston Globe/Horn Book Honor
- Kirkus Starred Review
- Horn Book Starred Review
- School Library Journal Starred Review
- School Library Journal Best of 2007
- Kirkus Best of 2007
- Miami Herald Best of 2007
- ALA Notable Book
- 2008 Moonbeams Award Silver Medal
- 2008 Mom's Choice Award
- Donna Norvell Oklahoma Book Award

Other Books written by Douglas Wood:

	<p>Big, Bigger, Biggest! by Nancy Coffelt</p>
	<p>Pug in a Truck by Nancy Coffelt</p>

	<p>The Fearless Flyer: How to Fly in Comfort and Without Trepidation by Cherry Hartman, Julie Sheldon Huffaker, and Nancy Coffelt</p>
	<p>What's Cookin'? by Nancy Coffelt</p>
	<p>Tom's Fish by Nancy Coffelt</p>

Annotation:

Nancy Coffelt is an author and an illustrator. She loves to write and paint her illustrations into her books. She knew she liked art as a young child when she won first prize in a coloring contest in second grade. This book starts with the young girl discussing how “sometimes I live with my mom. Sometimes I live with my dad. My dog, Fred, stays with me.” She discusses many different activities that she does with her mom and dad and how they are different. The illustrations are so descriptive and allow you to see what she is doing with her mom on one page and what she is doing with her dad on the other. The plot of this book is about the young girl having a dog and neither parent wanting it to stay with them. The girl helps her parents come up with a plan and they all realize that the dog stays with her!

Language/Vocabulary/Spelling for Fred Stays with Me! By Nancy Coffelt

Bunk bed (page 5) - either of a pair of single beds fitted one on top of the other

barks (page 11) - the characteristic loud abrupt sound made by a dog or fox

steals (page 12) - to take something that belongs to somebody else, illegally or without the owner's permission

trouble (23) - a condition of distress, anxiety, or danger

Anticipation Guide:

Before		Fred Stays with Me! By Nancy Coffelt	After	
Agree	Disagree		Agree	Disagree
		Everyone lives with their mom and dad.		
		If you have a dog, everyone will like it.		
		Having two rooms at two different houses is impossible.		
		Dogs know what you are feeling.		
		Moms and dads always get along.		

Standards:

K.2.5, K.3.1, 1.3.4, 1.3.5, 2.2.3, 2.7.7, 3.7.1, 3.7.2

Art Medium: Painting

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