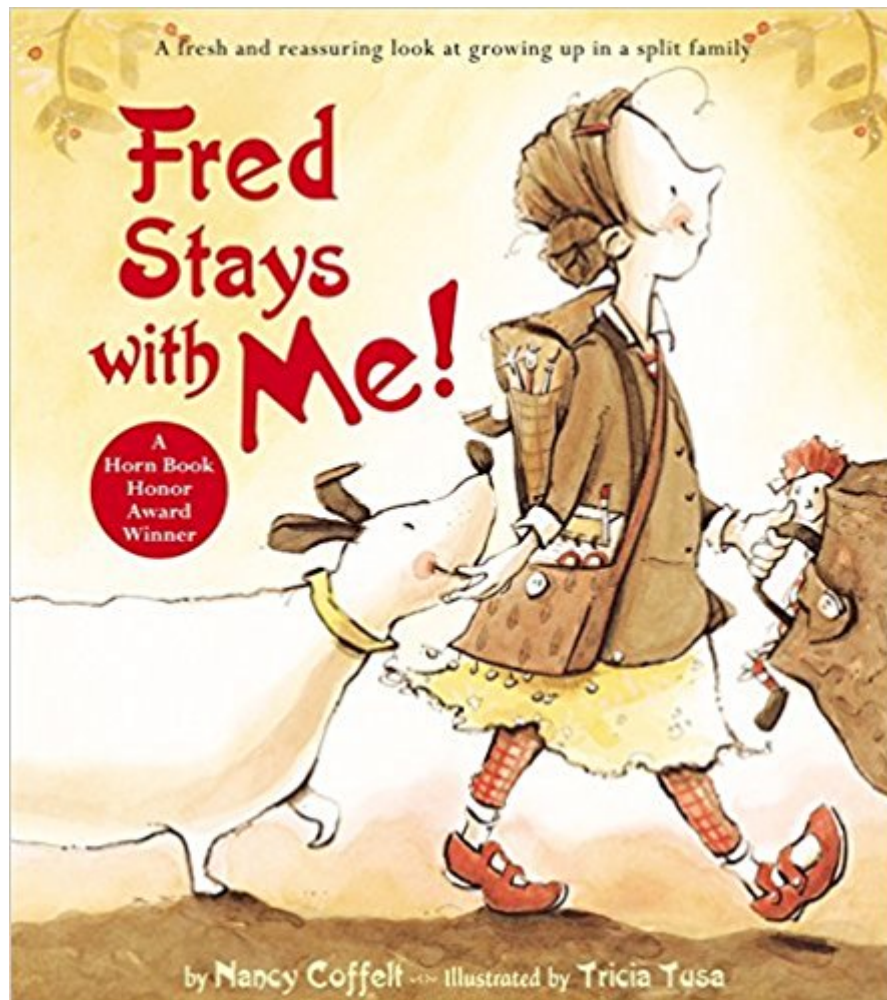




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# Fred Stays With Me!



## Synopsis

*Fred Stays with Me!* is an award-winning story that follows a young girl who turns to the one constant in her life, her dog Fred, in the face of her parents' divorce. In this poignant but not overly sentimental story, Coffelt's accessible and kid-friendly language alongside Tusa's charming artwork create a light, cheerful, and reassuring mood that will comfort any child who has two homes.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 430 (What's this?)

Paperback: 32 pages

Publisher: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers; Reprint edition (January 4, 2011)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0316077917

ISBN-13: 978-0316077910

Product Dimensions: 8 x 0.2 x 9 inches

Shipping Weight: 4.2 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 20 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #343,877 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #163 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Marriage & Divorce](#) #760 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Pets](#) #1505 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Dogs](#)

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

Starred Review. Kindergarten-Grade 3 *—* Coffelt and Tusa have teamed up to create a charming book that meshes text and illustrations seamlessly. A young girl moves back and forth between her divorced parents' homes, along with her canine companion, Fred, who has several bad habits that neither parent appreciates. When the dog wears out his welcome at both homes, the child must forcefully remind the adults that, "Fred stays with me!" and help work out solutions for his naughty behavior. The story unfolds through the voice of the child: "Sometimes I live with my mom. Sometimes I live with my dad. My dog, Fred, stays with me." Her descriptions of what she does at each residence and Fred's constant affection and consistent bad behavior can be read independently by the intended audience. The text, for the most part, appears against a simple white backdrop. Tusa uses gold and brown hues with occasional splashes of red to create a warm tone. The narrator is drawn with a doll-like charm, but it is Fred, with his perky ears and perpetually

wagging tail, that holds the most appeal.~Maura Bresnahan, High Plain Elementary School, Andover, MA Copyright ~ © Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved. --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

A small girl's bond with her beloved pet helps her handle the disruption of her parents' divorce. She has to sleep in two different beds in two different homes, but wherever she goes, her dog, Fred, stays with her. He does make trouble--barking at the poodle that lives next door to Mom's house, shaking mud all over her car seats, eating Dad's socks--but when the grown-ups object, she is adamant that she will never let him go. Kids will enjoy the simple, first-person narrative and the playful art, in shades of brown and red, that shows the mayhem Fred causes and the power he gives the child because he will never leave her. Shown from the girl's viewpoint, the pictures do not include the grown-ups. For more picture books about shuttling between parents' homes, pair this with the titles in the Read-alikes "Mom's House, Dad's House," in the March 1, 2003, issue of Booklist. Hazel RochmanCopyright ~ © American Library Association. All rights reserved --This text refers to an out of print or unavailable edition of this title.

I work with children and parents through an education program designed to decrease risk of abuse and neglect in identified families. I found my first copy in a grocery store bargain bin and after reading it sent it to my grown daughter who had "Teddy" to stay with her. After 17 years Teddy, went to his reward, and my daughter called to say the book captured how she had felt and found it a touching tribute to all the Freds and Teddies of the world. I purchased this second copy, based on her reaction, to use with clients to help them understand that just because their situation is amicable, and separateness their ideal; their children experience the dissolution of family living under one roof to two differently. The gentle humor and the lovely quality of the illustrations help convey the message that even though children may understand, changes can still be hard to transition, especially emotional ones without support.

Fresh out of divorce, I bought this book as a tool for my three year old to help her understand and cope. As we read it for the first time, I watched the lightbulbs of recognition turn on, page by page. She asked to read the book four times in a row that night. We don't have a dog: for my daughter it was more realizing she wasn't alone and that she could relate to the little girl in the book.

The perfect story for children of divorce that go from house to house. I volunteer at elementary

schools and it is the perfect read aloud story with a follow up discussion.

When I found this book, my daughter's father and I had gone our separate ways but wanted to be good co-parents to her. This was a great book to help her deal with going between the two houses and learning that she could have some constancy--in her case, her two most treasured stuffed friends. It is very charmingly drawn and the text is bittersweet.

A great book for kids that have to deal with separation and divorce of their parents. Both households are very different, and this can be very unsettling to kids, but the one main "constant" in her life is Fred...because "Fred stays with her." Very cute illustrations, too!

A wonderful read for children

wonderful book to help cope with divorce

This is a fantastic book for children who's parents are divorced. The love of dogs shows through and it's wonderful how it shows the two parents working together for the child.

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