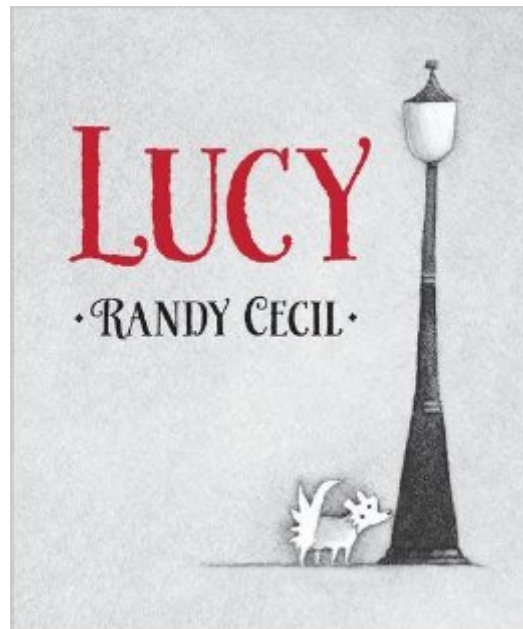


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# Lucy



## Synopsis

A tiny dog, a kindhearted girl, and a nervous juggler converge in a cinematic book in four acts â” a unique childrenâ™s literature experience. Lucy is a small dog without a home. She had one once, but she remembers it only in her dreams. Eleanor is a little girl who looks forward to feeding the stray dog that appears faithfully beneath her window each day. Eleanorâ™s father is a juggler with stage fright. The overlapping stories of three delightful characters, offering a slightly different perspective each time, come together in a truly original, beautifully illustrated book for dog (and underdog) lovers of all ages.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 144 pages

Publisher: Candlewick (August 2, 2016)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0763668087

ISBN-13: 978-0763668082

Product Dimensions: 7.8 x 0.8 x 9.4 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.2 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 starsÂ Â See all reviewsÂ (6 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #14,861 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #28 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Where We Live > City Life #130 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Animals > Dogs #770 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life

Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

## Customer Reviews

This book is more than your average illustrated children's book. Lucy tells the story of a homeless dog, named Lucy, who makes her way to the front step of a little girl named Eleanor. Every morning, Eleanor drops a sausage tied to a string down to homeless little Lucy. Once she has had her breakfast, Lucy spends the rest of the day roaming around. Eleanor's father loves to juggle, but he has stage fright. Several times in the story, the reader sees her father freeze up and get pulled off stage. It's not until the last Act that Lucy becomes part of the show and helps Eleanor's father face his fears. Illustrated in black and white with exaggerated features, Lucy is more than teaching basic words and meanings--it's about love and acceptance and confidence.

Do you have a dog? If you had a dog what would you name it? The author, Randy Cecil, has written a lovely, thoughtful book about about three characters who all have needs, and how they came to help each other. We meet a lost little dog looking for a family, we meet Eleanor Wische, a little girl wishing for a dog, and we meet Sam Wische, Eleanor's father, who likes to juggle but has stage fright. None of these characters knows the others wishes, and when you read this book you will learn how they may help each other. Parents and adults will enjoy reading this book to their children, and children who can read will enjoy reading this book. This is a book with lessons to be learned, and it is important that each of us realize that. The book is told with some repetition, but this is a good way to remember what occurs, and how important it is to observe. The illustrations are done in black and white ink, and they depict the storyline so well. I went down those streets with Lucy, Eleanor and Sam. Such a great book for a class to read and go discuss what has been said and done. The children and adults can relate the character's experiences to their own. Recommended. prisrob 08-27-16

Hope. As I was reading this book, I was thinking about the many conversations you could have with young readers about the role of hope in this story and perhaps in our daily lives. Hope as defined by Merriam-Webster - "to want something to happen or be true and think that it could happen or be true." What did Eleanor, her dad, and the dog Lucy each hope for? How did this influence their actions? What kind of actions do you have to take when you have hope? How can one person or being help others who are hopeful? This story is beautiful in so many ways...one is just the kind of conversations we can have with young readers who read it.

In the town of Bloomville, every morning a little white street dog makes her rounds and stops in front of a red door. She patiently waits for a girl named Eleanor to lower a scrap of food tied to a piece of string from her window. Sam, who is Eleanor's dad, practically trips over the white dog as he leaves for his job at the grocery store every morning. Eleanor names the dog Lucy. Even though life is hard on the street Lucy gets by, except that she is always hungry and dreams of a home. Eleanor does okay on her own every day while Sam is working but she is lonely and yearns for a friend. And she loves dogs. Sam is an unhappy grocery store clerk and longs to be a juggler on the vaudeville stage. The problem is he suffers from stage fright. It's perfectly clear that Lucy, Eleanor, and Sam belong together. Their paths keep crossing in the search for their hearts' desires. Then one fateful meeting in the park results in a happy accident that is pure magic. Cecil's simple story of finding bliss unfolds in four acts over 144 pages. Textured black and

white illustrations framed in circles achieve the look of vintage cartoons from the vaudeville era. *Lucy* is an achingly sweet story about longing and companionship that will captivate young readers again and again.

Unconventional format for children's book with more than 100 pages, in a form of play, very well written, beautifully painted, this is certainly for children AND adults. Anyone can get something out of the story no matter how old you are or what stage of life you are at. Story doesn't shout out, it's quiet and subtle, but so strong. Highly, highly recommend this book.

*LUCY* by Randy Cecil tells three overlapping stories that come together for a heart-warming finale. Told in four acts through different perspectives, this sweet story explores the lives of a lonely dog, a young girl, and an aspiring juggler. The clever storytelling approach, sparse text, and grayscale illustrations all come together for an unusual reading experience. Librarians will find this highly-illustrated book popular with dog lovers. Both beginning readers and older children will enjoy the repetition and compelling conclusion. To learn more about the author, go to [...] Published by Candlewick on August 2, 2016. ARC courtesy of the publisher.

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