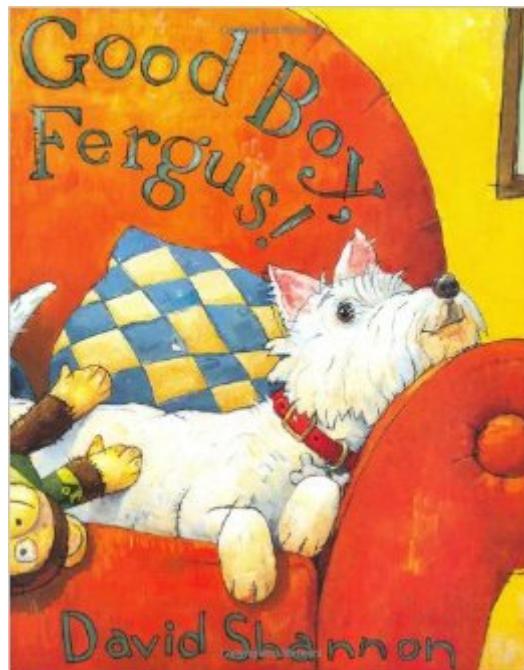


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Good Boy, Fergus!



Synopsis

Meet Fergus, the canine star of the upcoming book from Caldecott Honor artist David Shannon. Much like Shannon's beloved characters, David and Alice, the adorable Fergus is always getting in trouble! Follow Fergus as he experiences the perfect doggy day--well, except for his bath, of course! From chasing cats and motorcycles to being scratched on his favorite "tickle spot," David Shannon's newest sweet and silly character will inspire young readers to laugh out loud at his mischievous antics. Fans of Shannon's previous books will love reading all about this naughty but lovable dog!

Book Information

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: The Blue Sky Press; 3rd Print edition (February 1, 2006)

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Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 8.8 x 11.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 14.4 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ See all reviewsÂ (99 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #28,690 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #113 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Animals > Pets #258 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Animals > Dogs #1626 inÂ Books > Children's Books > Action & Adventure

Age Range: 3 - 5 years

Grade Level: Preschool - Kindergarten

Customer Reviews

My family had a Westie. David Shannon's "Good Boy, Fergus" completely nails the character of the breed. He's got every maddening but endearing trait of the "Westie-tude" down to a "T" in laugh-inducing drawings that you'll be eager to show others. Yes, "Fergus" is for reading level 4 - 8, but this adult reader was in tears of laughter thumbing through it. It's a compulsory purchase for anyone who has had a Westie make their indelible imprint on your life.

How David Shannon can get inside the head of our best friend is beyond me. There must be an angry dog somewhere who's barking mad at his or her stolen royalties. In fact, I almost suspect that our dog, the undeniably intelligent, funny, cooperative-yet-willful Sadie the Golden Retriever both co-wrote and modeled for the book. NO that's there's any physical similarities between Fergus--a

SUPER-expressive white terror--and Sadie. However, both these dogs know how to give "Attitude," with a huge capital A. Whoever said that dogs are easy; cats are hard never met Fergus: Destructive as a bull shopping for china, playful as an otter, and stubborn as the stubbornest mule on either side of your closest mountain range. The disruption starts early as a calm morning walk (Fergus' human holds a newspaper, perhaps thinking he might glance at the headlines) turns into a chase after a cat. Fergus' legs fly in different directions, his tongue lunges forward, and his eyes grow big. Shannon draws this (in gouache and ink, I believe) almost like a cubist painting, "Dog Descending a Porch Trying to Eat a Cat," with playful elongations of time and dimension. The next 2-page spread is all too familiar to dog owners: Fergus, despite much pleading, expert commands ("COME"), and good cop/bad cop negotiations, refuses to return from his post at a squirrelled tree. Fergus knows how to work it. He's cute and cuddly, and he knows it. He can follow the rigorous commands of "Sit," "Roll Over," and "Down." This is a great advantage when wanting that itch scratched or the always-hungry belly filled. Fergus hides under the bed when it's bathtime (though his butt shows), adhere to canine union rules by sticking out his head while Mr. Human drives, successfully--through sheer persistence--gets spaghetti table scraps, and LEAPS upon his human at the mere metion of "walk." He pees on the sidewalk, but that's a dog's perogative, and, before retiring for the evening, waits out dinner until the man squirts it with whipped cream. Dry Food a la Mode, anyone? I love this book. It captures the obvious and the subtle in well-known dog behaviors, and does so sympathetically. Sure Fergus can be a little work, but Shannon takes the healthy attitude that this is what a dog is like. Show dogs may sniff their noses at this notion, but Fergus is just not one of them, and never will be. Shannon's illustrations are spectacular; the big expanses of color with inkshading and detail, copious use of yellow, and the big green palid jacket of Mr. Human have an exciting 1940's aesthetic. Fergus is all motion and emotion, and Shannon gets it perfectly and playfully, with lots of open space, curvy lines, and multiple actions upn which delighted eyes will dance. Fergus has appeared in ten of Caldecott Honor winner Shannon's previous books, but this is his first as the main character. He acquits himself like a very good dog, indeed.

David Shannon's Fergus MacLaggan is always into everything - except that which he ought! Readers and the children to whom they read will delight in the luscious illustrations and Fergus' antics and escapades, he who will not eat his kibble without that aerosol artificial whipped cream topping from a can! It's a wonderful dog's life! TundraVision, Reviewer

Having two Westies of my own, I was sure that David Shannon was writing about mine. He

definitely knows what Westies are like right down to the precious smile on their faces. It is an adorable book for all, but especially the Westie Lover. Thank you David Shannon for making my day with your wonderful book.

Fergus and David must live in the same household and boy oh boy- does that family have their hands full. Fergus is an adorable and frisky dog with a curious nature. Dog lover's everywhere will recognize both the joy and exasperation that comes with owning a pet. Fergus gets into everything, does not always listen and is a big responsibility, but the joy of pet ownership exceeds the workload. Great book about the reality of a pet, but the joy as well.

I am an in home day care provider and my 2-5 yr old children absolutely love this book. I have a dog and the children related everything Fergie did to my dog Sammy. The art work is very colorful and realistic. The children ask for me to read this book every day at storytime. David Shannon is one of my favorite authors of Children's books. My day care children respond and relate to all of his books. I recommend this book for all families to share with their little ones. David has brought the simple everyday responsibilities of having a pet to life so a small child can relate it to their own dog's needs and habits.

Have you ever read a book and thought the author had been looking through your windows at home because everything mirrors what goes on in your house? Well, this book did that for me. Everything the adult says to Fergus and Fergus does (or doesn't do) happens to me with my own dog. My 5th grade students loved the book as a read aloud, especially after reading Red Fern and our constant stories of our own pets...we love our pets and many could relate to exactly what the person in the story was doing and feeling! A must-have for all libraries, at home and at school!

I loved every page of this one and so did the kids in class. Most of the children have pets, most of them dogs, and could relate perfectly to Fergus and his owner. I myself have not been without the company of a dog for well over fifty five years and the author certainly identified me! The illustrations in this work are great...you simply cannot help being attracted to Fergus. Fergus is all dog and does all the things a dog does. I cannot recommend this one highly enough.

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