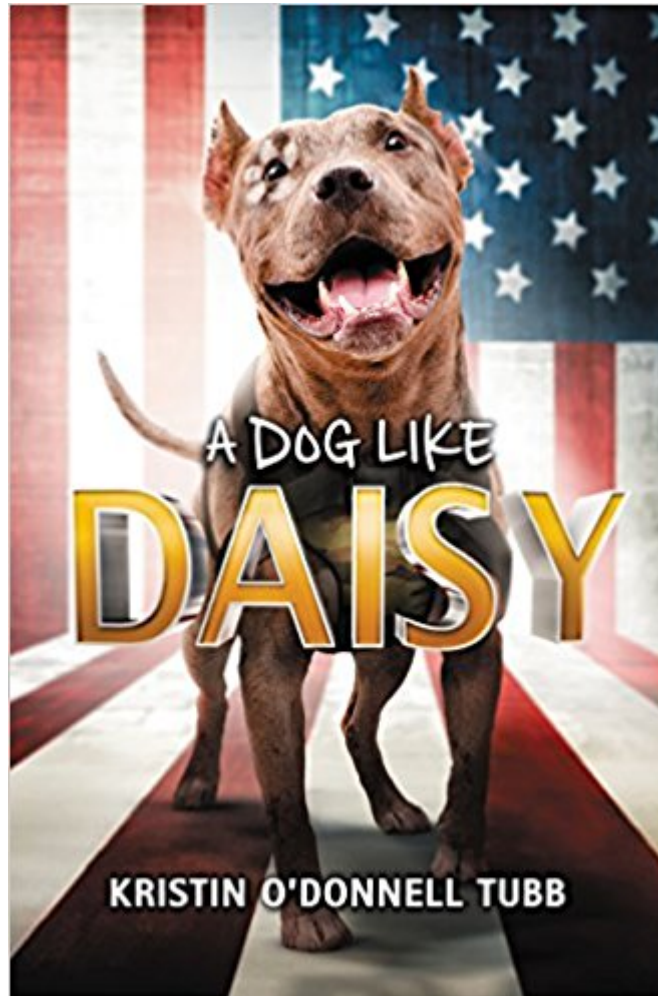




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# A Dog Like Daisy



## Synopsis

Max meets A Dog Called Homeless in this sweet and poignant middle grade novel told from the humorous, thoughtful perspective of a rescued pit bull as she trains to be a service dog for an injured veteran and his family. Daisy has only ten weeks to prove her usefulness or else be sent back to the pound. Yet if she goes back, who will protect Colonel Victor from his PTSD attacks? Or save the littler human, Micah, from those infernal ear muzzles he calls earphones? What if no one ever adopts her again? Determined to become the elite protector the colonel needs, Daisy vows to ace the service dog test. She'll accept the ridiculous leash and learn to sit, heel, shake, even do your business, Daisy when told to. But Daisy must first learn how to face her own fears from the past or risk losing the family she's so desperate to guard again.

## Book Information

Hardcover: 192 pages

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Shipping Weight: 9.6 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars 16 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #285,758 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #224 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Historical Fiction > Military & Wars #260 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Illness #481 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Fiction

Age Range: 8 - 12 years

Grade Level: 3 - 7

## Customer Reviews

"Daisy's wry comments on human foibles and eccentricities...combine to paint a moving picture of suffering and, ultimately, redemption. Daisy is distinctive and memorable, and this depiction of PTSD is useful, making this a fine, compelling tale." (Kirkus Reviews)  
"Avid canine lovers will surely appreciate the intimate look at Daisy's yearning for purpose. The focus on...service dogs should enlighten readers about the ways our four-legged companions function as more than just pets. A poignant animal tale, and a strong

addition to most collections. (School Library Journal) "Daisy's voice is strong, painting a world with canine synesthesia: happy days are yellow, untruths taste like turkey bacon. With joint appeal to children of soldiers and dog-lovers, this is likely to find a broad audience. (Booklist Online) "The emotional journey of veterans experiencing PTSD is a difficult subject, and this book explores it with empathy and candor. The commitment of these characters—human and canine—to confront their past and find freedom in the future offers an inspiring example of personal resilience. (Chapter 16) "Beautifully written, this big-hearted book is filled with courage, guts, loyalty, and hope, just like Daisy herself. Truly a celebration of the healing power of love! (Bobbie Pyron, author of *A Dog's Way Home*) "This bighearted book is filled with courage, guts, loyalty, and hope, just like Daisy herself. (James Patterson) Praise for *The 13th Sign*: "An original, action-packed plot, a resilient heroine, a twist ending and 12 sly, angry Keepers will hold readers on edge. The ultimate astrological fantasy. (Kirkus Reviews) "The swiftly paced plot will please readers used to *Hunger Games*-style action. Kids into astrology and horoscopes will hang on every chapter, especially when they find out that the concept of Ophiuchus exists and is used in some beliefs. (Booklist Online) Praise for *Selling Hope*: "Tubb deftly ingrains a thoughtful ethical question into the story—but never overdoes it in this bouncy tale populated by a terrific cast of characters. The well-synthesized period flavor extends right down to the one-liners that punctuate *Hope*'s earnest, easygoing, and perfectly pitched narration. (Booklist (starred review)) "Tubb uses rich historical material well in this clever story whose time line is a 17-day countdown to the comet catastrophe. (School Library Journal) "[An] oft-engaging, pleasantly romantic romp through a fascinating time in America's entertainment history. (Kirkus Reviews)

Kristin O'Donnell Tubb is the author of several books for young readers, including *A Dog Like Daisy*, *John Lincoln Clem: Civil War Drummer Boy* (written as E. F. Abbott), *The 13th Sign*, *Selling Hope*, and *Autumn Winifred Oliver Does Things Different*. She's also written many activity books featuring well-loved characters such as Scooby-Doo, Bugs Bunny, the Powerpuff Girls, and Strawberry Shortcake. Kristin lives near Nashville, Tennessee, with her bouncy-loud family. Just like her two dogs, she can be bribed with cheese. You can visit her online at [www.kristintubb.com](http://www.kristintubb.com).

I can't get my daughter to put it down. She is loving it and reading me lots of good parts that I've

"gotta hear!", which is something she pretty much never does.

Stories with animals as the main character/narrator aren't usually my thing, but this book is very well done. The voice of Daisy feels very true, and the depiction of someone struggling with PTSD as seen through the eyes of a service animal makes the experience accessible to middle grade readers. I look forward to sharing this story with my fifth graders!

It was wonderfully written from a dog's perspective, I felt her sorrow her pain her fears and her need to belong. and in the end I felt her joy and happiness. The only bad part in the book was when it made me cry that also means it was a great story.

Great book

A Dog Like Daisy by Kristine O'Connell is a story told in the perspective of a rescue dog. This book is marked for middle grade, but do not let this stop you from reading this book, as I totally loved it. I did not know what to expect when I decided to read this, and I am so glad I did. I loved Daisy, a rescued two year old pit bull, who is being trained to be a service dog. The entire book is in the POV of Daisy, and it was so well written by Kristin O'Connell. We meet Daisy immediately when she is in the pound. When three humans, walk in looking at all the dogs, one of them looks at her and says she is the one; but the other two are not too keen on the choice. Victor, a veteran who had PTSD, is the one who sees a bond with Daisy, who also recognizes that this man is the one she needs to protect. Micah is Victor's son, and he wanted a puppy; the other man, Alex is a trainer for service dogs. Alex tries to convince Victor that they only have 10 weeks to train Daisy and she might not be a good fit, but Victor is

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adamant about our sweet Miss Daisy. When they arrive home, Daisy meets Annie the wife, and their baby, as well as seeing more of Micah, who really doesn't want him. What follows is a beautiful heartwarming, and intense at times story of Daisy determined to learn everything to be a good service dog, as well as to protect Victor from his horrible bouts with PTSD. The story shows the family's struggles with Victor's nightmares, which is dangerous, scary and out of control at times. All this is through the eyes of Daisy, who begins to see the signs quickly when Victor is ready to go off. Another nice part of the story is Micah trying to understand his father, and at times jealous that Daisy seems to be getting closer to his father. But it is sweet and emotional when Micah realizes later on how special Daisy was. *A Dog Like Daisy* was to my surprise a wonderful touching and delightful story, as we follow Daisy throughout and listen to her thoughts. Thank you, Kristin O'Donnell Tubb for this amazing story. I loved every moment of it. So very well done.

I never thought I'd say this about an author, but Kristin captures the "voice" of a dog's inner thoughts perfectly! With *A Dog Like Daisy*, I actually feel like I understand my own dog much more after reading this book. Added to that is a touching relationship between a rescue dog and her owner and this is a story that will make a lasting impression on you, no matter how old you are!

Daisy is a couple of days away from being euthanized at the pound. A veteran, his son and the dog trainer come to find a rescue dog to be trained as a service animal. Colonel Victor feels a kinship with Daisy and even though the trainer tries to convince him to choose another dog, a puppy even, he chooses Daisy. Colonel Victor is suffering from PTSD and needs a service dog to help him with his uncontrollable emotions. His son Micah is disappointed, he wanted a puppy, a pet, not a dog to be used as a tool. Even though training was not successful at the beginning, Victor wants to stick with Daisy. Her human pack does not know what Daisy has been through though and unfortunately, this causes some difficulty with her training and her testing. Will she be able to learn all of her lessons and be able to assist Victor in the ways he most needs? Will she become certified so the VA will help with her expenses because Victor can not work? It's difficult to write a novel from a dog's perspective. I like the way the author used colours to describe what Daisy was sensing. Using Daisy as the narrator was a good way to show Victor's difficulties without overwhelming young readers. We also are able to see how life can be difficult for a rescue dog. I really enjoyed the story, especially the ending. Not only does this book shed light on the plight of rescue dogs, but it also shared a family perspective on what military families often deal with when their "soldier" returns from

active duty. Victor's difficulties were shown in an honest straightforward manner as well as showing how it affected the rest of the family. Micah is the character who young readers will identify with. He wants to have a relationship with his father like his friends do and often is unable to understand what is going on. He gets angry often at both his father and Daisy. PTSD is a common issue with the many veterans in North America and this book was a good way to show one thing that is being done to help them. It raises some awareness as well as giving resources at the end if you want to find out more. This book is geared to middle grade readers, but I really enjoyed it. I think anyone who is an animal lover or interested in finding out more about service dogs would enjoy this book no matter what your age. The publisher generously provided me with a copy of this book via Edelweiss.

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