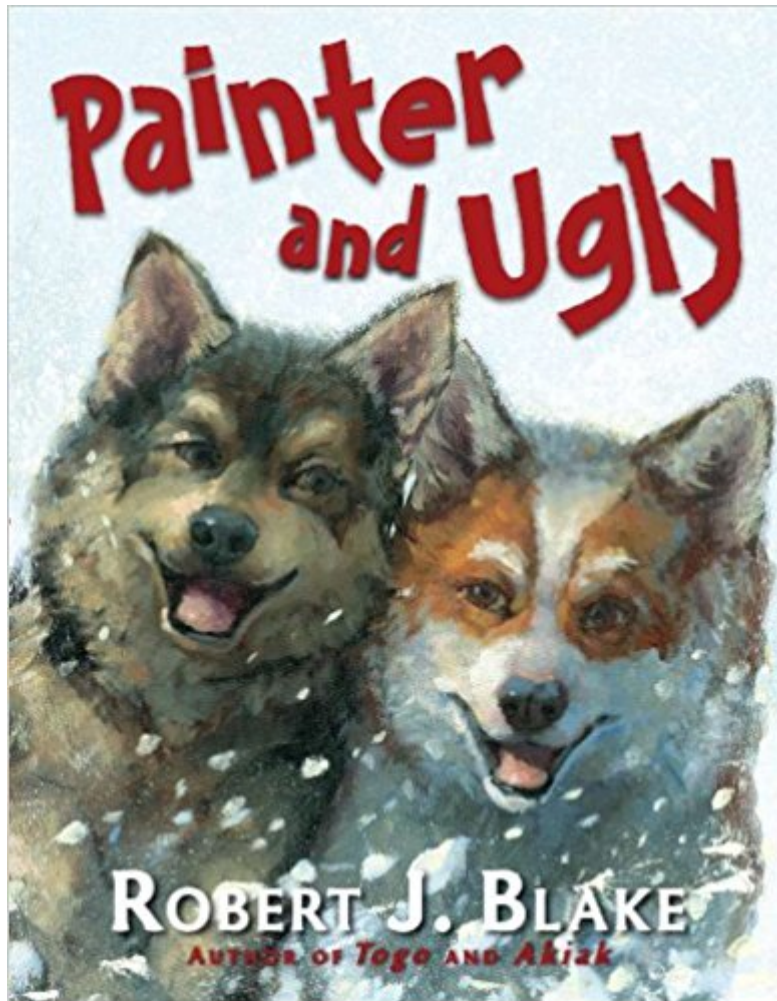




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Painter And Ugly



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Synopsis

Painter and Ugly are best friends. They run together, they swim together, they eat out of the same dinner bowls. When one calls out, "Yip," the other answers back. They are inseparable! That is, until they are forced apart and put on two different teams for the junior Iditarod. But nothing can keep them apart. When during the race Painter finds a boy musher alone, stranded on the trail, he calls out, "Yip!" and Ugly answers his call. These old friends team up to finish the race, together again, side by side. Robert Blake brings us back to the Iditarod in this exciting and heartwarming story of racing and friendship.

Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 5.0 out of 5 stars 12 customer reviews

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Age Range: 5 - 8 years

Grade Level: Kindergarten - 3

Customer Reviews

Gr 1-4-Blake presents a story of canine friendship on the Junior Iditarod Trail. Painter and Ugly are sled dogs living with their boy, Jake, on the Yukon River. They are an inseparable pair, playing together, eating out of the same bowl, and insisting on sleeping next to one another. They are also the fastest of the local racing dogs, and that leads to them being split up eventually and placed on different teams as the lead dogs. It's a lonely life for them, and they miss one another. However, during the 80-mile race, the dogs find a way to be together and to lead their teams to victory.

Blake's glorious paintings, done in oil on canvas, are slightly impressionistic but do an effective job of reinforcing the action and changing moods of this satisfying story.-Roxanne Burg, Orange County Public Library, CA (c) Copyright 2010. Library Journals LLC, a wholly owned subsidiary of Media Source, Inc. No redistribution permitted.

Blake's attention to painterly detail matches his storytelling skills in this tale of canine friendship. From the boxy sled-dog houses where pals Painter and Ugly live when not running races to the explosions of snow spraying upward as the dogs sprint, readers will sense the authenticity of his effort as well as vicariously feel the chill of icy, blue-tinged Alaskan expanses. Painter and Ugly, two lively sled-dog-team members, are inseparable when they belong to a boy named Jake: If Ugly howled at the moon, Painter sang harmony. When the dogs are sold to different owners (in an unexplained move readers see through the dogs' eyes), they inevitably suffer. A reunion during the Junior Iditarod is joyous, as the dogs recognize each other's yips and use their intelligence to bring their sled teams together as racing companions. This will hold appeal for those fascinated by the forty-ninth state's customs as well as dog lovers in general. Grades K-3. --Karen Cruze

Awesome. Even adults can enjoy it. Everyone interested in sleddogging should read it. Great book.

Love the book/great author

The book arrived as described. I am pleased with my purchase.

Iditarod ready

Great story of friendship between the dogs.

Beautiful book with a sweet story. This is a great addition for the library of a child or any dog lover!

LOve this story! the book was in great shape and I' can't wait to read it to my third graders

Painter and Ugly are two sled dogs that have been inseparable all their lives. Jake is the boy who owns them and turns them loose on an island during the off-sled season, always bringing them food and water every day....along with lots of hugs and pets. Painter got his name when he was a pup

and turned over a can of paint.....on his best friend, Ugly, so named because the paint spilled on him! The dogs are inseparable, even pulling their boxes close to each other so they can always be together. One day, Jake didn't come to the island and instead a strange man came in a canoe and took all the dogs away with him. When the canoe docked on the mainland, the whole team was split up to different people. Painter and Ugly went to different owners, howling all the way. They had never been apart and their hearts were breaking. Painter and Ugly were trained on different dog teams to compete in the Junior Iditarod, an eighty mile race to a point and then back, with boys as their sled masters. Both dogs had a difficult time adjusting to their new teams and owners, missing their friend. Each dog kept looking for the other, smelling the air and giving out their yips, calling to each other. Both dogs earned the lead position on their respective teams and mush their way to a delightful end. Robert J Blake did a superb job of describing the training and dynamics of a dog sled team and wove these details into a story about everlasting friendship between two dogs. The illustrations are dynamic and follow the story in detail. They capture the expressive faces of Painter and Ugly and make them seem an actuality. Any child or adult who loves dogs will quickly love Painter and Ugly.

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