



Tanglewood Press

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Perfect for Summer Reading!

“It’s a quick read, light and breezy in tone, and would be a great summer read for girls 10 and up.”

—Leslie Hawkins, owner of Spellbound Children's Bookshop (Asheville, NC)

MY BROTHER THE DOG
by **Kim Williams-Justesen**

Pop Quiz #1: Imagine you are an average 14-year-old girl, say, like me. You are awakened one morning at 5:30 by your four-year-old brother licking your face and barking in your ear. Your parents arrive at the sound of your screaming and respond by:

A: Asking your brother to please return to his room and play quietly so the rest of the family can continue sleeping.

B: Yelling, “What’s all the screaming about, Mattie? Can’t you be nice to your brother for once in your life?”

—or—

C: Saying, “Wait! I gotta get the video camera for this.”

B and C are how my morning started.

When Mattie is forced to babysit her little brother Donny over the summer, she feels like her life is being ruined! Donny is so embarrassing – he only responds to dog commands, wears a collar, and answers just about everything with “arf.” On a positive note, her best friend Livvy’s dreamy brother, Nate, has finally started to notice her, but for some reason, Livvy doesn’t seem too thrilled about it.

An unexpected crisis forces Mattie to make important choices: Will she revolt against taking care of Donny? Will she choose her relationship with Nate over her lifelong friendship with Livvy?

In a contemporary and humorous manner, **MY BROTHER THE DOG** examines classic teen conflicts: the pressure to take on increasing responsibility in a family, and feeling torn between friendships and a romantic relationship. There are plenty of books available for kids re the serious issues facing them today...but it’s kind of nice to read something fun once in awhile.

Kim Williams-Justesen has an MFA in Writing from Vermont College. She is the co-author of an adult nonfiction workbook, several short stories, and articles for various periodicals. *My Brother the Dog* is her first book for youth. She teaches English, Literature, and Humanities part-time at a small private business college, and resides with her family in Sandy, Utah.

MY BROTHER THE DOG
Written by **Kim Williams-Justesen**
Tanglewood Press
June 2006 🐾 0-9749303-5-0
\$6.95 (Original Paperback) 🐾 Ages 8-13