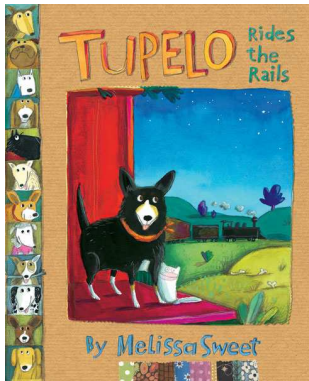


News from Houghton Mifflin Books for Children

An inspirational story about the universal desire to belong . . .

Tupelo Rides the Rails

By Melissa Sweet



Tupelo is searching for a home.

Abandoned and alone, but determined to find her place in the world, Tupelo sets off on a daring adventure, with her sock toy, Mr. Bones, for company. Along the way she meets a cast of fabulous characters, such as the Boneheads, a troop of strays who wish for homes, and Garbage Pail Tex, a friendly soul who is generous with his affection and, most important, his pail of fried wieners.

Will Tupelo ever find a home? Will wishing on Sirius, the Dog Star, like the Boneheads really make her wish come true?

The award-winning author/illustrator Melissa Sweet brings Tupelo's journey to life with her gorgeous illustrations and vivid prose. As *Booklist* states in its starred review, "[*Tupelo Rides the Rails*] . . . is packed with feeling and story."

Join Tupelo on her moving quest for somewhere to belong. Along the way, readers will learn about the wonders of the night sky, the importance of persistence, and the value of friendship.

Melissa Sweet is 357 dog years old. She fervently believes that dogs are "benevolent, exalted, earnest, and doggedly sublime." She lives in Rockport, Maine, with her family and transcendent dog Rufus and exalted Sheltie, Nellie, who was recently rescued from a Louisiana shelter. Visit her website at www.melissasweet.net.

Check out Tupelo's website to register your dog as a "Bonehead"!

<http://mydogisabonehead.com/>

***Tupelo Rides the Rails* • April 2008 • Ages 6–10 • 40 pages • \$17.00 • Fiction**

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