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# The Real Winnie: A One-of-a-Kind Bear



## Synopsis

The story of Winnie, the real Canadian bear that captured the heart of Christopher, son of A.A. Milne, and became immortalized in the Winnie the Pooh stories, is told against the backdrop of the First World War. In August 1914, a Canadian soldier and veterinarian named Lieutenant Harry Colebourn, en route to a training camp in Quebec, purchased a black bear cub in White River, Ontario, which he named Winnipeg. First a regimental mascot for Canadians training for wartime service, Winnie then became a star attraction at the London Zoo, and ultimately inspired one of the best-loved characters in children's literature. For those many generations of readers who adored Winnie the Pooh, and for those intrigued by the unique stories embedded in Canadian history, this book is a feast of information about a one-of-a-kind bear set during a poignant period of world history. Today Winnie "lives on" at the London Zoo, in White River and in Winnipeg. Her remarkable legacy is celebrated in many ways — from statues and plaques to festivals and museum galleries.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars — See all reviews (24 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #306,528 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #27 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Historical > Canadian #33 in Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Animals > Bears #102 in Books > Biographies & Memoirs > Leaders & Notable People > Military > World War I

## Customer Reviews

Did you know Winnie is short for Winnipeg? And that Winnie the bear started his life as an orphan and friend of the Canadian Military? These and other little known details in the life of the "real" Winnie are revealed page by page in this delightful biography. I have enjoyed using it for years in Storytime on the anniversary of A.A. Milne's birth -- and I hope you will find a place for it, too!

Charming bear, charming story. Although the book is written for a YA audience, I'm far from a youth,

but I enjoyed the story immensely. I didn't know where the stories of Winnie the Pooh came from and once you read "The Real Winnie" you'll love Winnie the Pooh even more, no matter what your age. Mr. Shushkewich also added a few side-bars throughout the book to help place the reader in the history of the time, WWI, and that helped place the story in its time and place.

the book a The Real Winnie is an absolute joy a must for all Winnie the Pooh this book is a keepsakeso glad i bought it Cheryl

We saw the movie and I saw there was a book. The book has great pictures. It's a great story.

The product arrived quickly and in good condition. I was very happy with the transaction. I purchased this book along with the DVD "A Bear Named Winnie" and Disney Winnie the Pooh bears for my grandkids.

This tells the real story of Winnie. It is not my first choice of the books available but it is good. I ordered four different books and this was my second choice of the 4..

If you're a big Winnie the Pooh fan, you'll love this story. I am as well as a WW I history fanatic so this book was perfect for my library.

Precious story for Pooh fans.

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