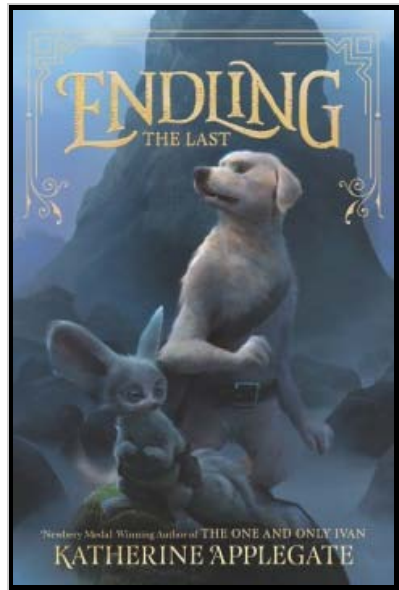




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Endling #1: The Last

by Katherine Applegate

Price: \$17.99(Hardcover)

Published: May 01, 2018



Rating: 0.0/5 (0 votes cast)

From the Publisher: First Katherine Applegate thrilled readers with the action-packed Animorphs series. Then she stole our hearts with the award-winning *The One and Only Ivan*. Now she takes us on an unforgettable journey in this first book of an epic middle grade series! Byx is the youngest member of her dairne pack. Believed to possess remarkable abilities, her mythical doglike species has been hunted to near extinction in the war-torn kingdom of Nedarra. After her pack is hunted down and killed, Byx fears she may be the last of her species. The Endling. So Byx sets out to find safe haven, and to see if the legends of other hidden dairnes are true. Along the way, she meets new allies—both animals and humans alike—who each have their own motivations for joining her quest. And although they begin as strangers, they become their own kind of family—one that will ultimately uncover a secret that may threaten every creature in their world. Building upon the success of her critically acclaimed novels such as *The One and Only Ivan*, *Crenshaw*, and *Wishtree*, while also returning to her action-packed fantasy roots of *Animorphs*, the *Endling* series is Katherine Applegate at her finest. With its enthralling characters, unique setting, and gripping adventure, this series is the perfect next read for fans of Rick Riordan, Brian Jacques, and Tui T. Sutherland.

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About The Author

Katherine Applegate

Katherine Applegate is the Newbery Medal-winning and #1 New York Times bestselling author of numerous books for young readers, including *The One and Only Ivan*, *Crenshaw*, *Wishtree*, and the *Animorphs* series. She lives with her husband and their children in California.

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What We Say

I wish I could define the magic. First, you begin a fantasy novel that has the same ingredients as a thousand other fantasy novels. But through some alchemy, it immediately...works. That's the case with the first book in a new series by Katherine Applegate. It begins with what might be the last of the "dairne." Her name is Byx and she's the runt of a litter, the smallest of a group of dairne desperately on the run, searching for a sign of any other dairne left in the world. What's a dairne? It's a

dog-like creature, though calling it a dog is quite an insult. The dairne can walk on their hind legs, have opposable thumbs and speak languages with other creatures. Byx soon finds herself alone -- perhaps utterly alone if she is, as feared, an endling, the last of her species. While she 's too modest to begin an actual quest, Byx does soon find herself in league with Tobble, a silly looking little creature Byx saves from drowning. He insists it is the code of his people that Tobble must save the life of Byx not once, not twice, but three times to be free of his debt to her. They're soon joined by a girl pretending to be a boy, a panther-like creature and a charmingly frank thief named Renzo. Byx's quest turns out to be much bigger than the survival of her race: it might involve the survival of every race of creature that humans plan to eliminate, one by one. Witty, charming, suspenseful, this is the sort of fantasy where unusual creatures are introduced and soon seem like old friends. Applegate establishes her medieval world with its own rules rather easily -- dairnes can spot when others are telling a lie and perhaps Applegate had a dairne edit her novel. I don't know if creatures like dairnes or wobbyks exist, but I know Applegate fervently believes in them and thus so do we. While this is being pitched to middle grade readers and fans of Redwall and the like, I think any fantasy fan will gobble it up. Now where is volume two? -- Michael Giltz

What Others Say

Praise for Endling: “Applegate effortlessly constructs her fantasy world, briskly moving readers through its imaginative details while creating winning, unique characters. This epic series starter is a bracing, propulsive read that will be a challenge to keep on the shelf.” - **ALA Booklist**

Praise for The One and Only Ivan: “Will capture readers’ hearts and never let go. A must have.” - **School Library Journal**

“Exemplifies everything youngsters need to know about courage.” - **Kirkus Reviews**

“Animal-loving youngsters and their adults will find plenty of food for thought in Ivan’s extraordinary story.” - **Bulletin of the Center for Children’s Books**

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