



Sad, the Dog by Sandy Fussell illustrated by Tull Suwannakit

Publisher: Walker Books

RRP \$27.99

This book can be read alone, but would also be a great 'cuddle up on my lap' or 'sit close beside me' story as it starts off with the sad tale of a dog who is given all the basics in life by his owners but is not loved – he is an unwanted present!

After being yelled and screamed at the dog gives himself the name of Sad.

Hey you!" Mrs Cripps called. "Dog!" Mr Cripps bellowed

Things reach a climax when Sad is left behind by the owners when they move house. Thankfully the story has a warm, fuzzy ending when a couple with a young boy move into the empty house.

The poignant story gives young readers an insight into the responsibilities of looking after a dog, or any pet, in a simple way. It can lead to more discussions on the subject of looking after pets and also the pitfalls of giving an animal to someone who doesn't really want one.

The illustrator, originally from Thailand and now living in Australia, has complemented the text with beautiful clear expressive illustrations, in soft muted colours.

This hard back edition, by the award winning Australian children's author Sandy Fussell, will be a story that is treasured by many children, whether it read by individuals or shared.

Author's Website:
www.sandyfussell.com

**Reviewed by retired librarian
Judy Sail**

