

Hachiko

The True Story of a Loyal Dog



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*The
story that
inspired the
major motion
picture!*



There is a statue of my old friend at the entrance to Shibuya Station. His bronze feet are bright and shiny, polished by thousands of friendly hands. There is a sign that says, simply, "Loyal dog Hachiko." I close my eyes and remember the day we met, so long ago.

When I was six years old, my family moved to a little house in Tokyo near the Shibuya train station. At first the trains frightened me. But after a while, I grew to enjoy their power and the furious noises they made. One day I begged Mama to take me to meet Papa as he came home on the afternoon train. She laughed and said, "Kentaro, you have become big and brave, just like a samurai!" Together we walked to the station.





"This touching tale will capture the hearts of young dog lovers."—*School Library Journal*

★ "Turner unfolds this poignant true story in the natural, unaffected voice of Kentaro, who wonders at the dog's unswerving devotion. Unobtrusive details evoke a sense of place . . . as does Nascimbene's spare line-and-watercolor artwork, reminiscent of Japanese woodblock prints. . . . This will resonate with any child who has loved a dog and been loved in return." —*Booklist*, starred review

"The book's gentle tone, compelling story, and exquisite art are a winning combination."
—*San Francisco Chronicle*

Imagine walking to the same place every day to meet your best friend. Imagine watching hundreds of people pass by every morning and every afternoon. Imagine waiting and waiting and waiting. For ten years. That is what Hachiko did.

Hachiko was a real dog who lived in Tokyo, a dog who faithfully waited for his owner at the Shibuya train station long after his owner could not come to meet him. He became famous for his loyalty and was adored by scores of people who passed through the station every day. This is Hachiko's story as seen through the eyes of Kentaro, a young boy whose life is changed forever by his friendship with this very special dog.

The legend of Hachiko will touch your heart and inspire you as it has inspired thousands all over the world.

