

# Because of Winn Dixie

by Kate Di Camillo

## ***Basic Level Summary***

Opal is sad because she has moved to a new town. She finds a stray dog to take in and care for. Her dad lets her keep the dog. The dog helps Opal meet new friends. The dog makes Opal and her friends happy.

## ***Mid-Level Summary***

Opal and her father have moved to a new town in Florida where her father has gotten a job as a preacher. Opal is sad and lonely. She does not have any friends in her new town and the preacher is very busy and sad, too. They both miss Opal's mother who left when Opal was 3 years old. Opal finds a stray dog in the local Winn Dixie Grocery Store. She names the dog Winn Dixie and takes it home to meet her dad. Winn-Dixie helps Opal make friends with people in town. She meets the Pet Store owner, Otis, the librarian, Miss Franny, and Gloria Dump. The new friends have a party to celebrate their friendship.

## ***Upper Level Summary***

Opal and her father have moved to a new town in Florida where her father has gotten a job as a preacher. Opal is sad and lonely. She does not have any friends in her new town and the preacher is very busy and sad, too. He is at his church most of the time and not there for Opal. They both miss Opal's mother who left when Opal was 3 years old. Opal finds a stray dog in the local Winn Dixie Grocery Store. She names the dog Winn Dixie and takes it home to meet her dad. Winn-Dixie helps Opal make friends with people in town. She meets the Pet Store owner, Otis, the librarian, Miss Franny, and Gloria Dump. Otis, Miss Franny and Gloria all have things in their past that make them sad and lonely. Opal learns that all people have something in the past that has hurt them. Opal also makes some friends with the kids in town, Sweetie Pie, Amanda and the Dewberry boys. The new friends have a party to celebrate their friendship.