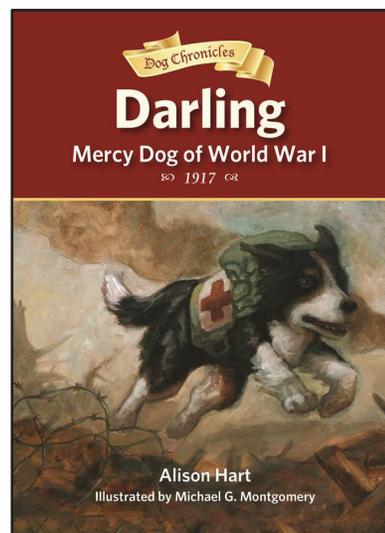


DARLING, MERCY DOG OF WWI	
Author / Illustrator:	ISBN – 13:
Alison Hart / Michael Montgomery	9781561459810
Retail Price:	Pub Date:
\$7.95	04/17
BISAC Codes:	
JUV016080 JUVENILE FICTION / Historical / Military & Wars JUV016040 JUVENILE FICTION / Historical / Europe JUV002070 JUVENILE FICTION / Animals / Dogs	
Category / Format / illustrations:	Trim size:
Illustrated Fiction / PB / 20 B&W illustrations	5 ½ x 7 ½
Page count:	Age Range /Grade Range:
160 pages	Ages 7-10 / Grades 2-5
Territory:	Rights:
World	All rights available, except simplified Chinese



Sales Handle:

An action-packed, heartwarming story of a World War I canine hero.

Description:

When the British military asks for dogs to help the war effort, Darling's family reluctantly sends her to be trained as a mercy dog. Through gunfire and poisonous gases, it's Darling's job to find injured soldiers on the battlefield and fetch help from the medics. After saving the lives of numerous soldiers, Darling suddenly finds herself in need of rescue. Will she ever make it back to England? This wartime adventure, the first installment in Alison Hart's Dog Chronicles series, is a touching and exciting introduction to World War I. Darling's story of bravery and devotion reminds readers that dogs can be so much more than pets.

Sales Points:

- Action-packed story about a mercy dog working on the front with British troops.
- Explores the many roles dogs played in World War I.
- Part of a terrific series about dogs in history: *Murphy*, *Gold Rush Dog*; *Finder*, *Coal Mine Dog*; *Leo*, *Dog of the Sea*

Author Bio and Residence:

Alison Hart is the author of more than twenty books for young readers. Hart is a teacher at Blue Ridge Community College.

She lives in Mount Sidney, VA

Illustrator Bio and Residence:

Michael G. Montgomery has illustrated numerous children's books. He attended Georgia Southern University and the University of Georgia.

He lives in Dacula GA

Author's previous books:

Title	ISBN	Publisher	Pub date	Price
<i>Finder, Coal Mine Dog</i>	9781561458608	Peachtree	10/1/2015	\$12.95
<i>Murphy, Gold Rush Dog</i>	9781561457694	Peachtree	10/1/2014	\$12.95
<i>Darling, Mercy Dog of World War I HC</i>	9781561457052	Peachtree	10/1/2013	\$12.95

Marketing and Publicity points:

- Cross-promote with new hardcover
- Teacher's Guide

Cover & Interior:

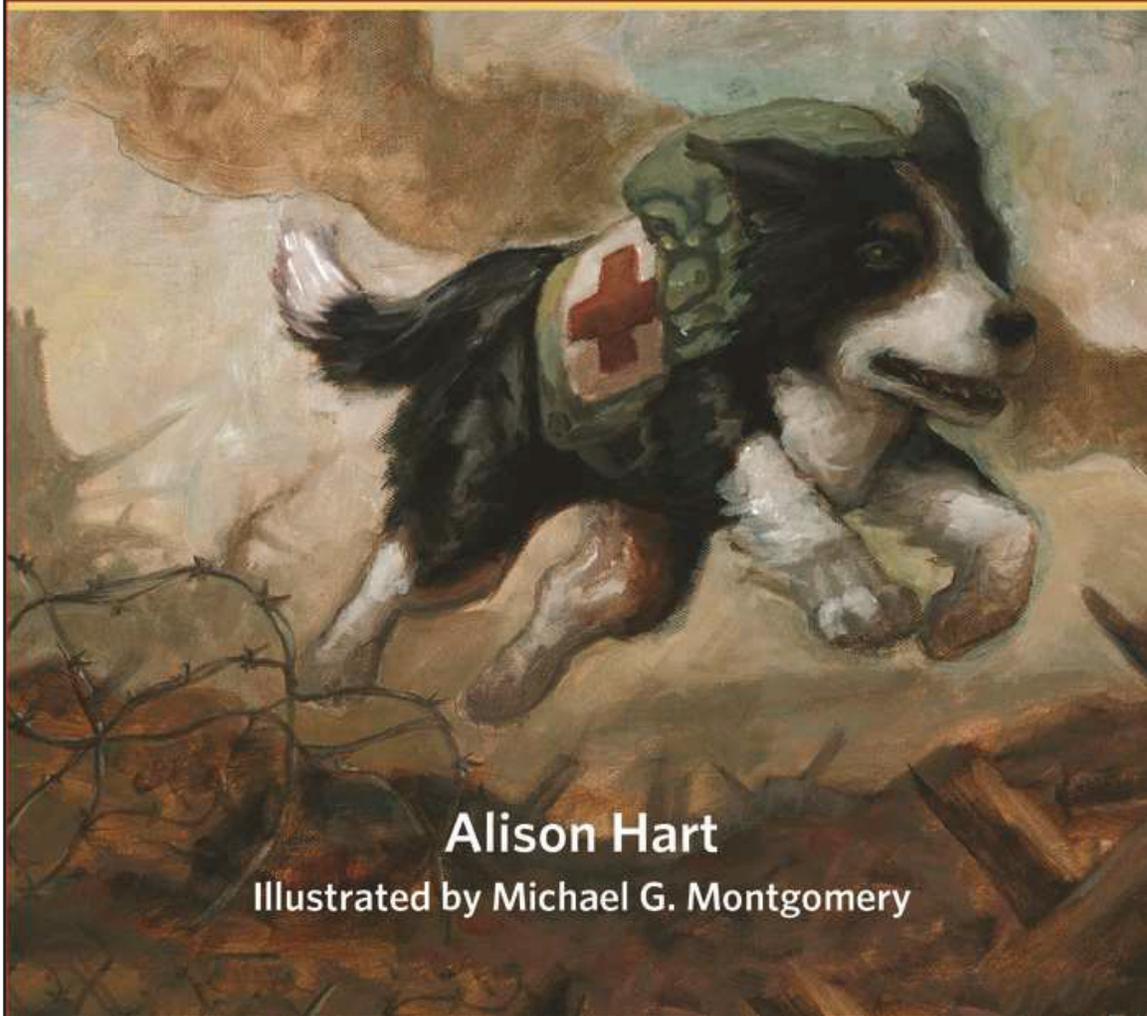
<http://peachtree-online.com/staff/seasonal/pdfs/DarlingMercyDogofWWI.pdf>

Dog Chronicles

Darling

Mercy Dog of World War I

∞ 1917 ∞



Alison Hart

Illustrated by Michael G. Montgomery

Darling, Mercy Dog of World War One

Written by Alison Hart

Illustrated by Michael G. Montgomery

PB: \$7.95/ 978-1-56145-981-0

Pub date: April 1, 2017

Darling enjoys her life in the village of Cosham, chasing pigeons with her stray terrier friend Rags and playing with her family, especially Robert and Katherine. But when Father is sent to the front, and her family can no longer afford to pay the dog tax, Darling is taken to Shoeburyness to be trained as a War Dog. Unfortunately, she shows no ability as a sentry and is not strong enough to pull artillery. The only hope for her is to pass the messenger test.

However, when Sergeant Hanson is injured and Darling ignores all her instincts—thus failing the test—in order to bring help for her handler, a new plan is formed. Her new handler, kind-hearted Private Kent, starts training her as a mercy dog, assigned to search out and bring aid to the wounded despite shells and gunfire.

Once her training is complete, Darling is sent to Belgium with the 10th Battalion Worcestershire Regiment and becomes one of the most successful mercy dogs in the trenches. During the Battle of Messines Ridge, she rescues many wounded, sustaining a bullet wound in the neck and injuring her paws freeing soldiers, and her handler, from a trench which mortars had collapsed.

After saving the men, she collapses with exhaustion and wakes up in a veterinary clinic, bandaged and sore. Declared “unfit” by the veterinarian, Darling is on the list to be put down until Sergeant Hanson has an idea. He calls in a favor with an old friend who is a reporter with *The Daily Times*. Darling is brought to an army hospital and reunited with Private Kent and a soldier she saved, who both receive metals. Photos are taken of “the three heroes” and the story is recorded with plans to send it to England and the trenches. Now that everyone knows the bravery of War Dog 204, no one can hurt her. Because of their condition, both Private Kent and Darling are sent back home to recover—which brings absolute joy to both of them.