



The Wolf Wilder

By Katherine Rundell

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The Wolf Wilder By Katherine Rundell

A girl and the wolves who love her embark on a rescue mission through Russian wilderness in this lyrical tale from the author of the acclaimed *Rooftoppers* and *Cartwheeling in Thunderstorms*.

Feo's life is extraordinary. Her mother trains domesticated wolves to be able to fend for themselves in the snowy wilderness of Russia, and Feo is following in her footsteps to become a wolf wilder. She loves taking care of the wolves, especially the three who stay at the house because they refuse to leave Feo, even though they've already been wilded. But not everyone is enamored with the wolves, or with the fact that Feo and her mother are turning them wild. And when her mother is taken captive, Feo must travel through the cold, harsh woods to save her—and learn from her wolves how to survive.

From the author of *Rooftoppers*, which *Booklist* called “a glorious adventure,” and *Cartwheeling in Thunderstorms*, which *VOYA* called “a treasure of a book,” comes an enchanting novel about love and resilience.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 4–6—Feodora "Feo" Petrovich is a "dark and stormy girl" who lives deep in the snow-covered Russian forest with her mother circa 1917. They are wolf wilders, brave souls who help reintroduce wolves into the wild, once the animals have outlived their usefulness as pets and entertainment for the aristocracy. When the deplorably evil General Rakov threatens their livelihood, burns down their home, and arrests Feo's mother, the plucky young girl sets off into the woods with her three lupine companions and a newborn wolf pup. She's soon joined by a runaway soldier from the tsar's Imperial Army who's not much older than Feo herself. Together, the ragtag band of humans and wolves must outrun Rakov and his men, survive brutal winter conditions, and figure out a way to liberate Feo's imprisoned mother. As in her previous two novels, *Rooftoppers* (2013) and *Cartwheeling in Thunderstorms* (2014, both S. & S.), Rundell gives readers a fierce young heroine whose strength and independence are as appealing and authentic as her painstakingly concealed vulnerabilities. Though appearing only briefly in a handful of scenes, Feo's mother is a well-drawn, larger-than-life presence in the girl's life; readers will believe that Feo will risk anything to save her. The pacing slows in the middle, as the characters visit a struggling village and recruit other kids to their cause. The ending, though satisfying, comes quickly and stretches credulity just a bit. Rundell's strength is in the beauty of her writing—lyrical sentences that evoke the drama and simplicity of fairy tales and folklore, combined with descriptions of a setting that will have readers shivering along with the frozen characters as they trudge across the unforgiving terrain. VERDICT A solid addition to middle grade collections; hand this novel to kids who appreciate strong characters and harrowing survival stories—Kiera Parrott, School Library Journal

Review

"A triumph! Exciting, moving, highly original, fierce, completely convincing. The world had better watch out. I don't really know what a cocked hat is, but you'll be knocking all the rest of us into one soon. I loved the characters, the speed, the force of it all." (Philip Pullman, author of *The Golden Compass*)

"The hero of Katherine Rundell's new book may be young and small, but Feo has a spirit as wild and dauntless as that of the wolves she cares for. I don't know whether this irresistible force of nature and the colorful gang of waifs drawn to her had an actual hand in starting the Russian Revolution, but Rundell convinced me that they did. *The Wolf Wilder* is chilling (quite literally!) and thrilling from start to finish." (Tor Seidler, author of National Book Award finalist *Mean Margaret* and *Firstborn*)

"[A] future classic...Enchanting, unique and outstanding: don't miss it." (*The Bookseller*)

"Rugged cross-country adventure with a diverse cast of two- and four-legged fellow travelers and a sturdy main character who is more than a little "wilded" herself." (*Kirkus Reviews*)

"Rundell gives readers a fierce young heroine whose strength and independence are as appealing and authentic as her painstakingly concealed vulnerabilities...Rundell's strength is in the beauty of her writing—lyrical sentences that evoke the drama and simplicity of fairy- and folklore, combined with descriptions of a setting that will have readers shivering along with the frozen characters as they trudge across the unforgiving terrain." (*School Library Journal*)

**"Fairy tale and history merge seamlessly; in a land where terror reigns and adults grow numb with fear, a "little wolf girl" outmaneuvers a sadistic general, awes a village, and inspires an army of children to march

on St. Petersburg with dreams of justice. Breathtaking." (*Publishers Weekly, starred review*)

**"Rundell never fails to work magic with language and deft storytelling. Feo's world of wolves and snow, danger and triumphant bravery, rings with the classic allure of folktales. Her spirited, half-wild nature shines brightly on the page, even as her vulnerabilities endear her to readers' hearts." (*Booklist, starred review*)

**"Will have readers cheering--or perhaps howling--their approval." (*BCCB, starred review*)

About the Author

Katherine Rundell is the author of *Rooftoppers*, *Cartwheeling in Thunderstorms* (a Boston Globe–Horn Book Award winner), and *The Wolf Wilder*. She grew up in Zimbabwe, Brussels, and London, and is currently a Fellow of All Souls College, Oxford. She begins each day with a cartwheel and believes that reading is almost exactly the same as cartwheeling: it turns the world upside down and leaves you breathless. In her spare time, she enjoys walking on tightropes and trespassing on the rooftops of Oxford colleges.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Albert Parks:

Reading a reserve tends to be new life style with this era globalization. With studying you can get a lot of information that can give you benefit in your life. Having book everyone in this world could share their idea. Books can also inspire a lot of people. Many author can inspire their very own reader with their story or maybe their experience. Not only the story that share in the books. But also they write about the ability about something that you need illustration. How to get the good score toefl, or how to teach your sons or daughters, there are many kinds of book which exist now. The authors in this world always try to improve their expertise in writing, they also doing some research before they write to the book. One of them is this *The Wolf Wilder*.

Harold Houston:

Why? Because this *The Wolf Wilder* is an unordinary book that the inside of the publication waiting for you to snap this but latter it will jolt you with the secret the item inside. Reading this book beside it was fantastic author who else write the book in such incredible way makes the content inside of easier to understand, entertaining technique but still convey the meaning fully. So , it is good for you because of not hesitating having this any longer or you going to regret it. This amazing book will give you a lot of rewards than the other book have got such as help improving your proficiency and your critical thinking approach. So , still want to postpone having that book? If I ended up you I will go to the e-book store hurriedly.

Robert Wilkes:

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