Wiggens Learns His Manners at the Four Seasons Restaurant by Alex Von Bidder

Pretty Is As Pretty Does, As My Grandmother Used To Say

Quirky humor combines with a top restaurant owner’s expertise in this tale of a rambunctious pup who learns a few tricks about manners.

Wiggens is a Chocolate Labrador puppy who just can’t seem to mind his manners. His parents don’t know what to do, until they discover a place that teaches puppies all about refinement and how to behave — the famous Four Seasons Restaurant! Wiggens is nervous at first, but with the help of a Saint Bernard, he and the other puppies soon learn ten important lessons (and sample delicious food as well). Leslie McGuirk’s playful art and language enliven tips from Four Seasons owner Alex von Bidder in a truly fetching tale about mastering your manners.

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My Personal Review:
Manners may be difficult for young ones not only to understand but to learn and then remember to practice. This can be especially onerous if the young one is a puppy - a rambunctious Chocolate Labrador puppy named Wiggens.

While Wiggens’s parents surely do love him they’re at their wits end trying to teach him good manners. They’ve heard about a place where puppies are taught to be polite and refined, so they enroll Wiggens. And what is this wonderful place? New York City’s famous Four Seasons Restaurant!

Believe it or not, puppies come from all over the world to the Four Seasons to learn matters of refinement under the tutelage of Saint Bernard. Fortunately, Saint Bernard is patient as Wiggens does tend to be
excitable and, of course, puzzled by what he sees on the menu - to say nothing of forks and spoons!

However after a few missteps Wiggens does learn his manners. Especially helpful for young readers will not only be the reminders of manners, but the reasons for doing so and suggestions to help. Such as Be respectful of others tastes, though they may differ from your own, and always be willing to take a bite of something new.

Leslie McGuirks brightly colored illustrations are eye catching and will help young readers remember what the puppies learned.

- Gail Cooke

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