



new title

information sheet

DOG TUCKER

K Drinkwater

Scholastic NZ Ltd

Publication	November 2009
ISBN	978-1-86943-893-7
New Zealand RRP	\$17.99
Printing	Mono
Format	198mm x 128mm
Extent	240
Age	10-14 years
Lexile	720
Rights available	World excl ANZ
Weight	227g

Previous Publications

Selling Points

- Strong, central characters
- Contemporary, engaging read that deals with the tragic consequences of domestic violence
- Realistic action on a farm where horses are trained for harness racing
- Endorses the power of love and self-belief
- A confronting and uplifting story

Angry and defiant, thirteen-year-old Devlin believes he's unwanted. His younger siblings, who have been in foster care, are now back home with his mother, who is in an abusive relationship. He's fed up with changing schools and foster homes, and decides to run away from his foster-uncle's farm.

But then he meets a horse about to become 'dog tucker' and becomes involved in the harness racing scene, where he is instrumental in unravelling a deception.

For mature readers

"For many young people being cared for and nurtured through to young adulthood within their birth family is an unrealised dream. Kathryn Drinkwater wonderfully depicts the dilemmas many of these young people face and the potential that exists in each one to rediscover their unique personal value if they have adults in their lives who will persevere and believe in them. A great read."

Russell Martin, Chief Executive of Open Home Foundation, NZ

Kathryn Drinkwater Kathryn is a first-time author. She submitted this manuscript to the Tom Fitzgibbon Award where it made the shortlist but was beaten out by *Mind Over Matter*, written by Heather McQuillan. Nevertheless, the committee members felt this story deserved to be published.