

Booktalk!

Almost Home

by Joan Bauer

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"You know the definition of a loser? Somebody who doesn't try." Sugar Mae Cole is always trying; she takes those words from her grandfather and lives them. And Mr. B., Sugar's 6th-grade teacher, encourages her to write as a way to express her hardships.

Landing in a homeless shelter with her mom felt like they had hit rock bottom ... until they moved to Chicago. Unexpectedly, a frightened puppy named Shush is put in Sugar's hands to give her purpose. To help her mother find a new life and a real home.

Almost happy. Almost changed. Almost, but not quite.

Soon. Maybe. Hoping hard.



Best for ages 10–14