

When it all begins, the little dog doesn't have a place to belong or a person to call her own. She doesn't even have a real name yet—until someone tags her with the nickname Wombat because she's stout, sturdy, and has ears that look like furry cookies.

On the day she wakes up and the air tastes wrong, and an ugly ribbon of red and gold and orange flickers on the hillside, Wombat hears a voice: *The right way is the wrong way. The wrong way is the right way.* And the wrong way is closer to the fire. Closer to danger.

Wombat has always wondered how some dogs find their person, and she wonders now if listening to this voice will help her find hers. So she listens, because she knows that whoever the voice is leading her to may need her help.

This stunning standalone novel from #1 *New York Times* bestselling, Newbery Medal-winning author Katherine Applegate is a heartfelt and moving story of compassion, resilience, and surprising friendships.

Katherine Applegate is the Newbery Medal-winning and #1 *New York Times* bestselling author of numerous books for young readers, including the One and Only series, the Endling series, *Crenshaw*, *Wishtree*, *Odder*, *Pocket Bear*, the Roscoe Riley Rules chapter book series, and the Animorphs series. She lives with her husband, who writes as the author Michael Grant, in Nevada. Visit her website at katherineapplegate.com.

Read by Mara Wilson



Runtime: 2h. 11m. • Unabridged

© 2026 Katherine Applegate © 2026 by Macmillan Audio, 120 Broadway, New York, NY 10271. Jacket art © 2026 by Jennifer Bricking. Jacket design by Amy Ryank. www.macmillanaudio.com

playaway
PRODUCTS

© 2026 Playaway. Patented.
All rights reserved.
31999 Aurora Road, Solon, OH 44139 USA
Designed in Ohio. Made in China.
www.playaway.com

The Playaway format is recommended for children ages 5 and up.

47910
ISBN 979-8-3317-2125-1



9 798331 721251



AUDIO

Applegate
WOMBAT WAITING

Kids



PLAYAWAY
Kids



BOLD. BRIGHT. AUDIOBOOK.