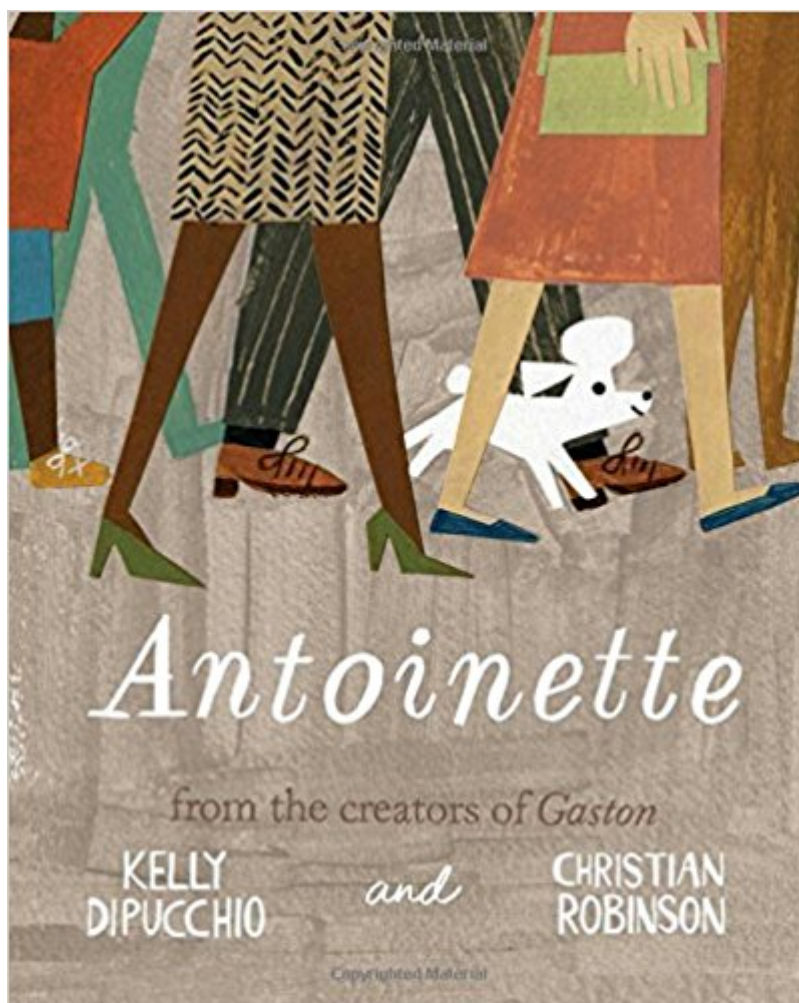


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# Antoinette (Gaston And Friends)



## Synopsis

A 2017 Parents' Choice Silver Honor Winner "Fans of Gaston (2014) rejoice! Now it's Antoinette's turn to shine." • Booklist (starred review)  
"Delightful|an action-packed romp." • Publishers Weekly (starred review)  
"Three cheers for the winning Antoinette!" • Kirkus Reviews (starred review) Meet Gaston's friend Antoinette! Antoinette a very special poodle learns to follow her heart and be herself in this charming companion to Kelly DiPucchio and Christian Robinson's beloved Gaston. Antoinette's three burly brothers each have a special talent. Rocky is clever. Ricky is fast! And Bruno is STRONG. Mrs. Bulldog reassures Antoinette that there is something extra special about her but Antoinette is not so sure. Then one day, while Antoinette plays in the park with her friend Gaston, Gaston's sister Ooh-La-La goes missing. Antoinette feels a tug in her heart and a twitch in her nose. She must find Ooh-La-La. She will not give up! Can Antoinette rescue the puppy in peril and discover what makes her extra special along the way?

## Book Information

Series: Gaston and Friends

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Atheneum Books for Young Readers (February 14, 2017)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 1481457837

ISBN-13: 978-1481457835

Product Dimensions: 9 x 0.5 x 11.2 inches

Shipping Weight: 1.1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.3 out of 5 stars 18 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #20,402 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #136 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Family Life > Siblings #148 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Dogs #166 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Self-Esteem & Self-Respect

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

PreS-Gr 1 DiPucchio and Robinson follow up Gaston, their book about a French bulldog in

a family of poodles, with a tale about his pal Antoinette, the lone poodle in a litter of French bulldogs. Antoinette's siblings all have special talents, but she's not sure what makes her stand out. All that changes, however, the day that Antoinette's and Gaston's families meet up and Gaston's sister Ooh-La-La goes missing. Stalwart Antoinette refuses to give up in the face of adversity and soon proves herself. Expressive and energetic, Robinson's acrylic illustrations are full of details that establish the Parisian setting, from the Eiffel Tower in the background to the beret on a painter in the park, and the climactic moment takes place in the Louvre, on the famed Winged Victory of Samothrace statue. The images have a flat, almost childlike feeling, with the artist using simple shapes to portray characters and objects and convey a sense of whimsy that matches the text. The focus is the dogs, but many ethnically diverse people appear in the background. While this is a straightforward story, with the familiar message that sometimes it takes time to discover one's *raison d'être*, DiPucchio brings a lighthearted, arch quality to her narration, breaking the fourth wall here and there ("Busy aren't they? And ridiculously cute, but please don't tell them that."). Overall, this picture book is bound to have children rapt until the conclusion and soon begging for another read. VERDICT Sure to be a storytime hit, especially where Gaston is popular. •Mahnaz Dar, School Library Journal

\* "In a delightful sequel to 2014's *Gaston*, *Gaston the bulldog's* poodle counterpart, Antoinette, wonders what she has to offer.... an action-packed romp.... Robinson's Parisian spreads are full of retro verve, but he doesn't overlook the city's ordinary inhabitants • a garbage collector, a bubble blower in the park, a woman in a head scarf driving a car. DiPucchio excels in showing rather than telling, and it's clear that beneath Antoinette's fluffy exterior lies the heart of a hero." (Publishers Weekly, November 2016, \*STARRED REVIEW\*) "Expressive and energetic, Robinson's acrylic illustrations are full of details.... DiPucchio brings a lighthearted, arch quality to her narration... this picture book is bound to have children rapt until the conclusion and soon begging for another read. VERDICT: Sure to be a storytime hit, especially where Gaston is popular." (School Library Journal, December 2016)\* "Fans of *Gaston* (2014) rejoice! Now it's Antoinette's turn to shine...fun for repeated readings." (Booklist, December 2016, \*STARRED REVIEW\*) "The beloved puppies of *Gaston* (2014) are back, this time with Antoinette's story of self-discovery as she reveals that every dog has a gift to share.... Once again, DiPucchio and Robinson don't miss a comedic beat, creating a playful and funny tale full of warmth that deftly explores complex themes of belonging,

self-worth, and purpose. Robinson's seemingly simple artwork belies his masterful ability to imbue his characters and the places they live with an authenticity and humanity that move readers beyond the surface page.... A reassuring tale that celebrates the uniqueness of each dog (or person) and the creation of a purposeful life. Three cheers for the winning Antoinette, who "could not give up!" (Kirkus Reviews, December 2016, \*STARRED REVIEW\*)"It's a fact of family life that every child gets a reputation: Rocky is the clever one, Bruno is strong. But what about Antoinette? "Unlike her burly brothers, she still hadn't quite discovered what she was good at," Kelly DiPucchio explains of the poodle-heroine in "Antoinette"...a delightful companion to the 2014 picture book "Gaston." Here again the pages brim with Christian Robinson's joyful, naif artwork as we return to the bustle of two Parisian families of dogs. Everyone is frisking in the park one day when a puppy named Ooh-La-La goes missing. Worried poodles hunt for her without success; anxious bulldogs seek but do not find. "In that moment, Antoinette felt a tug in her heart and a twitch in her nose. She could not give up!" In this spirited adventure for readers ages 4-8, it turns out that Antoinette's talent lies in the degree of her doggedness." (The Wall Street Journal, February 2017)

I have been waiting anxiously for this follow-up to "Gaston" from Kelly DiPuccio and it's finally out in the world!!! VERDICT: both Antoinette and Gaston are must-buys for libraries and gifts and home and kids and adults and.....I love them that much! So do my 5yo and my students at school, who love having continuing characters in books. Sweet puppies with adorable illustrations make these such fun read alouds.

We are huge fans of the author's previous book, Gaston, and it is one of regular bedtime books. As you can imagine we were thrilled to hear there was a sequel! Unfortunately, the writing and story were disappointing and lacking that "je ne sais quoi" of the first book. Illustrations are cute, but Antoinette sadly spends a lot of time on the shelf.

I loved Gaston, and now the second book, "Antoinete" by Kelly DiPuccho with sweet illustrations by the same artist as Gaston, this book has become a lovely addition to my children's book collection! Thank you for consistency in design, and delight! I highly recommend this book to all children and to all poodle-lovers and French bulldog lovers; in fact, all dog lovers, parents and non-parents, all ages and teachers, as reading material for their classroom!

While not quite as cute as Gaston in either art work or story, it's a nice addition to our family library. The writing maintains familiarity with the repeating of the puppy names and with the 'would you like to see ...again' but there isn't quite as much to discuss or look at -- although readers who can discuss Paris and landmarks might disagree. The kid likes it, and I'm glad we added it to the library, but I don't think it quite lived up to Gaston. I prefer the more 'marker' style art in Gaston, and didn't really care for the more 'paper cut out' style parts of Antoinette. That said, the kid still likes it and doesn't seem to think it's any less fun!

My son loved the first book Gaston, so I bought this one and was not disappointed . Its a cute story . Hopefully the author will write more!

Lovely sequel to Gaston! Both books get pulled off the shelf daily by my 2nd graders. A great story about how it's ok to be yourself!

the cutest book- one of my favorites to give as a gift

Perfect story to follow the previous one GASTON.....

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