



## Tender

*Valerie Hobbs*

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After Liv was born, her mother died. Liv's father, Mark, simply handed her over to his own mother and left. Now Liv's beloved Gran has died. Liv has to leave New York to live with her father in California, where he dives for abalone. It is a disaster. Mark isn't the talking type, and Liv cannot forgive him for abandoning her. Samantha, his girlfriend, has to serve as go-between. Then Mark's 'tender' the man responsible for his lifeline when he dives breaks his arm, and Liv takes his place. Now she literally has control over her father's life, and once they head out to sea, there is no turning back....

## Tender Details

Date : Published March 30th 2004 by Puffin (first published 2001)

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Author : Valerie Hobbs

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Genre : Young Adult, Realistic Fiction, Family, Death

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## From Reader Review Tender for online ebook

### **Corinne says**

its a really good book so far. its about a girl whos mom died during child birth and the dad was so grieved he left her to live with her grandma. her dad was a diver. 15 yrs later her grandma dies of a stroke and she has to go live with her dad..... you HAVE to read it

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### **Holly Smith says**

After the death of Liv's grandmother, she had to pack her bags and move out to California to live with her father. Her father was not home much, and his girlfriend Samantha helped her get used to her new surroundings. Then when her father's "tender" breaks his arm, she has to fill in for him, and figures out a lot about herself and her father.

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### **Tiffani Williams says**

This book was very interesting and when the event at the end occurred, not going to spoil it for anyone, I thought something happened. I kept reading and something different, from what I thought, happened. I would recommend this to anyone.

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### **Alexis says**

This book is about a girl named Liv, her mother died when she was born and her father didn't know what to do, so she was raised by her Gran. Thinking about her father made her wonder, does he really care about her?

I rated this book 5 out of 5 because I really connected with what Liv was thinking and saying. Most kids think that their parents hover way to much over them, but in this book you realize what its like for kids who have parents that don't talk to them all the time, ask them about their day,etc. It helps you realize what life would be like if your parent didn't show that they care about you.

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### **Leah says**

I read this book a long time ago but I do remember a little bit about it and the fact that I really liked it.

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### **Molly Harnish says**

At the beginning it was kind of hard to get into the book; Liv was not the kind of character you fall in love with & can relate to immediately. I definitely got drawn in towards the end, and it turned out to be a story of families drawing together, without the sappiness of "families drawing together", which is really hard to do. Liv definitely grew a lot over the course of the book. While that is something most people (especially me) look for in every book, it often doesn't deliver.

The ending was really superb. You don't expect this book to be - well, for lack of a better word, sweet - at the beginning, but it is at the end.

Some bad language. I'm surprised it was in my library's children's section.

Overall, I'd recommend it to anyone looking for a good, not-sappy-yet-sweet book with three-dimensional characters.

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### **Rain says**

This book is about a girl who lives with her grandmother. One day she goes to school and she gets a note from the office that says her grandmother is in the hospital. She had a heart attack and dies. So now, she has to live with her dad (never met him before) in California.

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### **Edmund says**

The book I read was "Tender" by Valeria Hobbs. This book was mostly about how Olivia (the main character) adjust to life with having to deal with her father. The whole plot of the story was boring and I wouldn't recommend this book.

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### **Kendell says**

A good YF novel of a 15 yr. old girl who moves in with her dad. He hasn't seen her since birth and the author captures well the awkwardness of relating to teens and hard family dynamics.

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### **Elise says**

Would not recommend.

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### **Sofia Pintabona says**

Valerie Hobbs starts the book in New York. After her Grandma dies she moves to a small town close to Santa Barbara called Carpenteria, California to live with the dad that abandoned her when she was born. Her dad works as a diver collecting Abalone to sell and eat. The whole story is about how Olivia adjusts to life with having to deal with her father, Samantha, and Spinuchi, her father's tender.

The whole plot structure of this book is boring. If I didn't have to finish this book for school, I would have stopped after chapter 5. The only exciting part is at the very end. All the characters lack any character development. There was one moment in the end where you could really see Mark's (the Father) struggles for about one page. Sam and Liv don't develop at all, just like the dad. The dad has the same facade for almost the whole book. There is no connection to any of the characters.

In my opinion this book was a waste of time. I personally would not read it again. I am the type of person that likes to read about suspense, action, and comedy. I love series like Percy Jackson! This book is too slow-paced for me.

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### **Abby Nesheim says**

In the book *Tender*, the main character's name is Olivia. Right after Olivia was born, her mom passed away leaving her with her immature father. Her father named Mark handed her over to his mom. Liv grew up with her grandma and is now in high school. One day she gets a call saying her grandma died. She is devastated and is forced to go live with her dad and his girlfriend. When Liv arrives she is first met by Mark's girlfriend Samantha. Sam takes her home to drop off her stuff then they go for a walk. After they get some food they come back home and for the first time in while, Liv is reunited with her father. A little later, Mark's tender or person in charge of his lifeline breaks his arm leaving Liv in charge of literally Mark's life. This led Olivia and Mark to both grow as people and find out a lot about each other.

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### **Linden says**

Liv's mother died at her birth. At that event, Liv's father, Mark, handed her over to her mother's mother "like a bundle of laundry" and has had no contact with her since.

Now a teenager, Olivia--Liv--has to move from New York City to live with her father in rural California. When she meets her father for the first time, their lack of history together promises to be an immense obstacle to creating a relationship.

Liv cannot forgive her father for abandoning her and he is not willing to talk about it. His girlfriend Samantha, however, is more approachable and proves to be Liv's first new friend. Mark dives for abalone off the coast of Santa Barbara so when the young man who manages Mark's lifeline breaks his arm, Liv must fill in. It is turnabout: his life is in her hands this time.

I hardly know how to describe the author's style though that is precisely why the story is such a success. Here are three shots aimed toward that target.

Hobbs has an unerring eye for the detail that absolutely transfers to the reader the image or sound of the event she recounts. The silky fall of a scarf from a coathook, the consolidation of Chinese take-out into one of its boxes after the meal, the sound of disbelief behind a polite reply--all ring so true that I find myself remembering similar events in my life with the retrospective clarity she grants me.

She can show a character develop or change believably. To do so requires the ability to create a character with enough depth to embrace change, and the ability to convey the psychological truth of that character as they do so.

Hobbs writes in an unhurried manner; there are no missing bits as a story knits itself together. Whether it is the reaction of women in Samantha's beauty shop to Liv's dyed black hair with orange tips like flames, or the description of Mark's boat floating above him while she tends his air hose, Hobbs effortlessly creates small moments to advance nuances of the story. Yet she is also economical, with no gratuitous description or filler. She can successfully begin a new chapter after an elapse of several weeks or several hours.

Altogether this is a thought-provoking story , sensitively written, about people who are themselves tender and worth your time in getting to know them.

Genres: Adventure, People and relationships

Also: 8 1/2 or Better List

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### **Heather says**

Hmm. Not really quite sure what to say. This book could have used some editing maybe. Liv seems a little...dumb...or whiny. Her dad is distant, his girlfriend ranges from being very cool to being a hot mess. Liv feels burdened. One boat wreck and lost-at-sea-episode and everything's okay in the end.

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### **Faye says**

Young girl, Liv, has been raised by her grandmother after her mother died in childbirth. Her father left Liv with his mom. Unexpectedly, Gran has died. Liv is forced to leave New York and live with her father in California, someone she has never met. His lifestyle is different from what Liv has experienced. He lives from day to day diving for abalone. He dives for abalone. An accident brings both father and daughter together when they realize they need each other to survive.

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