

booklife

by Publishers Weekly

Title: Wolf: A Memoir of Love and Atonement

Author: Carter McNamara

Genre: Nonfiction/Memoir

Audience: Adult

Word Count: 81000

Assessment:

Plot/Idea: In a moving memoir, McNamara openly reflects on how his traumatic and tumultuous childhood experiences have influenced his adult life. While McNamara's life story isn't exceptional, many readers will find his journey toward forgiveness and understanding to be relatable.

Prose: McNamara's prose is bright and vivid. By placing readers directly within the formative moments of his childhood, the author brings verisimilitude to the text.

Originality: Though stories of past trauma are familiar, McNamara brings refreshing candor to the narrative. His exploration of his own anger is especially powerful.

Character/Execution: Throughout the stages of his life, McNamara comes across as authentic and distinctive. His supportive life partner is equally well conveyed.

The BookLife Prize. March 13, 2023