

CHILDREN'S FICTION

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## The Ditch Dog. The Hedge Cat. Two Stories by Mary Barr

### The Ditch Dog

*Ditto, is a scruffy, happy ditch dog. His shaggy coat was once white with patches of dark brown but now appears a mottled gray with large patches of dirty black. Ditto has large, gentle, light brown eyes, floppy ears, and a tail that usually wags approval, whether or not there is any approval that needs wagging about. Ditto is a happy dog.*

*Ditto sleeps neatly curled up in one of his favorite ditches. All around him, the grass grows green and lush beside the lazy country lane. Happy doggie dreams float through his mind as he sleeps securely under the gentle weeping willow tree; in thin branches long, while the lazy breeze ruffles the leaves as they tickle his nose.*

### The Hedge Cat

*With sleepy green eyes, she surveyed the room. It's a small, cozy room with too many ornaments cluttering every surface and any tiny space. A collection of various pictures and paintings hang from the walls, while many framed photos are scattered everywhere. It looks almost too full of bric-a-brac, but Giggles loves it all—the old red paints peeling from the walls, as they wait patiently to be covered over by yet another new color; the dusty, worn-out carpet with the many mismatched rugs covering the small holes.*

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## The Ditch Dog. The Hedge Cat. Two Stories by Mary Barr

**The Ditch Dog** takes you into the world of a lovable, shaggy, stray dog named Ditto. He plays endlessly with his many animal friends, while his friends from the village, bring him treats and hugs. Scruffy and unkempt he may be, but Ditto is a dog with dignity, pride, and sound judgment. Once abandoned, he loves his freedom beyond all else, but gradually Ditto begins to understand that something is missing. Will his past fears allow him to become part of a special family and feel truly loved?

**The Hedge Cat** takes you into a warm cozy cottage where Giggles happily lives surrounded by those she loves; it is the only home she has ever known, until one day, a beautiful blue butterfly leads her away from her secure life and into new adventures. She finds herself in a world of dark hedges and wild animals, where some are kind but many are not. Giggles never doubts that Suzy will be searching for her, but will Suzy find Giggles in time to rescue her from Emu the wild, mangy tomcat and the smelly, large black dog that are chasing her?

  
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