



**CHANCER: HOW ONE GOOD BOY SAVED ANOTHER**

On Sale: 08/22/17

Contact Information:

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**AFTER A DEVASTATING DIAGNOSIS, A FAMILY FACES AN UNCERTAIN FUTURE—  
UNTIL A SERVICE DOG LEADS THE WAY.**

# CHANCER

**How One Good Boy Saved Another**

**By Donnie Kanter Winokur**

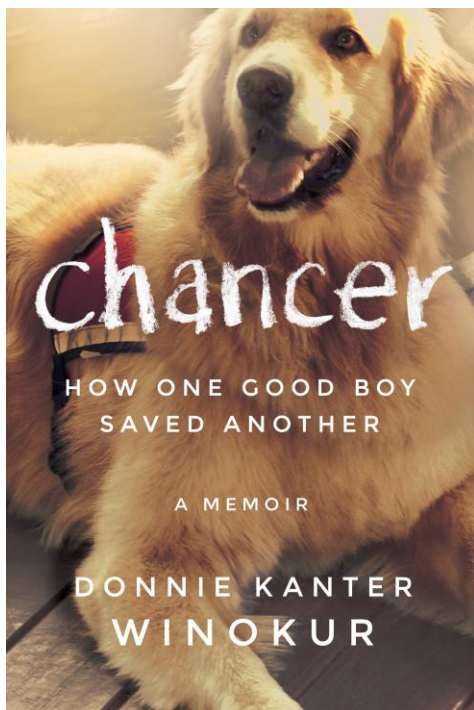
**Grand Harbor Press | August 22, 2017 | Available in Paperback, eBook, & Audio**

## PRAISE FOR *CHANCER*

**“The story of how Chancer helped the Winokurs and their son heal and grow closer is poignant and heartwarming. But what makes the book especially important is the frank way the author illuminates an underdiscussed disorder that affects as many as one child in twenty in the United States. An honest, informative, and uplifting memoir.” —Kirkus Reviews**

**“A courageous and tenderly told mother’s memoir.” —Melissa Fay Greene, author of *The Underdogs: Children, Dogs, and the Power of Unconditional Love***

**“Chancer is a moving and elegantly written memoir about marriage, motherhood, and a faithful dog who saves the day.” —Rebecca Ascher-Walsh, author of *Devoted* and *Loyal***



In her inspiring and heartwarming memoir **CHANCER: How One Good Boy Saved Another** (Grand Harbor Press, on sale August 22, 2017, available in paperback, eBook, and audio), Donnie Kanter Winokur shares the intimate story of how a golden retriever saved her family, bringing love and support to all of them – but most especially, her mentally challenged son. Five years ago, *The New York Times* featured Winokur’s endearing and transformational journey, but now for the first time, she is sharing the whole story.

Upon making the decision to adopt two infants from Russia, Donnie and her husband Harvey began a journey that would lead them through both the greatest joy and struggle of their lives. As Iyal and Morasha grow, it becomes clear that their son’s development is drastically behind his sister’s. At the age of four, a diagnosis is given to his slow progress: fetal alcohol syndrome. Though the problem has a name, the solution is difficult to define and far from alleviates Iyal’s internal struggle and constant rages as he grows out of infancy. Unable to focus, plagued with constant night terrors, along with an undefined

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urgency with every movement, Iyal's hyperactive mind could not easily be quelled. As the family future hangs in the balance, Donnie comes up with an innovative, untested, four-pawed solution: a golden retriever service dog named Chancer. Specially trained to give Iyal the unique love he desperately needs, Chancer turns out to be what the entire family needed to stay—and grow—together.

**CHANCER: How One Good Boy Saved Another**, is a touching and inspirational journey that has been featured around the globe in *The New York Times*, *Guideposts*, and *Reader's Digest*. A story that will not only resonate with families living with similar struggles, but demonstrates the power of unconditional love and perseverance from a family and a dog that you will never forget.

**\*\*PLEASE NOTE: SEPTEMBER is designated as FASD (Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder) Awareness Month. Donnie, a national advocate and speaker for FASD education is available for interviews. For more information about FASD, please visit: <https://www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/fasd/index.html>**

### About the Author



**DONNIE KANTER WINOKUR** is a writer, speaker, and human rights advocate. A native of New Jersey, she studied theatre at Catholic University and earned a degree in psychology from Emory University in Atlanta. She has created award-winning projects for Discovery, the Smithsonian Institute, and Broderbund/Random House. Author of two award-winning children's books, Donnie's story was also featured in "Wonder Dog" for the *New York Times Magazine*. Donnie and her husband, Harvey, the founding rabbi of a reform synagogue, live north of Atlanta with their son, Iyal, and daughter, Morasha. Visit her online at [thechancerchronicles.com](http://thechancerchronicles.com).

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### **CHANCER: HOW ONE GOOD BOY SAVED ANOTHER**

by Donnie Kanter Winokur

Grand Harbor Press | August 22, 2017 | 284 pages

Paperback | 978-1503942905 | \$14.95

eBook | B01M5KJE5P | \$3.99

Audio | 978-1536662351 | \$9.99



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### Advance Praise for CHANCER

"The story of how Chancer helped the Winokurs and their son heal and grow closer is poignant and heartwarming. But what makes the book especially important is the frank way the author illuminates an underdiscussed disorder that affects as many as one child in twenty in the United States. An honest, informative, and uplifting memoir." —*Kirkus Reviews*

"It's a story that warrants repeating if for no other reason than fetal alcohol spectrum disorders are a devastating disability...Trust me, it's worth hearing over and over again." —*Atlanta Journal-Constitution*

"It's hard to beat a true story about the reciprocal love between a dog and his family, but Winokur does so much more." —*Atlanta Jewish Times*

"What a story! What a dog! Winokur's memoir is a testament to the power of love, family, and friendship." —*Jennifer S. Holland, author of the New York Times bestselling series Unlikely Friendships*

"Here, in a courageous and tenderly told mother's memoir, is the inside story of parents who brought home their darling dream child from a Russian orphanage. In time—though still their precious, cherished child—the boy exhibited severe and irreversible cognitive and behavioral disabilities. In despair, in free fall, the parents grabbed for a lifeline. When the lifeline turned out to be attached to a shaggy four-legged big-hearted golden retriever, their life took an irreversible turn for the better." —*Melissa Fay Greene, author of The Underdogs: Children, Dogs, and the Power of Unconditional Love*

"Chancer is a moving and elegantly written memoir about marriage, motherhood, and a faithful dog who saves the day. Winokur has an elegant voice, and her humor fills even the most harrowing moments with hope. While this is a very personal tale, anyone who has ever been a parent, a partner, or a dog lover will relate." —*Rebecca Ascher-Walsh, author of Devoted and Loyal*

### Donnie Winokur Jewish Book Council Tour and Event Schedule

#### **Sunday – October 29, 2017**

Tampa JCCs and Federation  
13009 Community Campus Dr, Tampa, FL 33625  
Author Sessions, Reading & Signing

#### **Thursday – November 16, 2017**

Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta  
5342 Tilly Mill Rd, Atlanta, GA 30338  
Atlanta Jewish Book Festival

#### **Saturday – December 16, 2017**

Temple Israel of Lawrence  
140 Central Ave, Lawrence, NY 11559  
Talk, Reading, & Signing

#### **Sunday – March 18, 2018**

United Jewish Community of the Virginia Peninsula  
401 City Center Blvd, Newport News, VA 23606  
Dog Adoption Program Speaker

#### **Sunday – April 29, 2018**

Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia  
8900 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax, VA 22031  
Special Needs Book Club