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Dog Heaven



Synopsis

In Newbery Medalist Cynthia Rylant's classic bestseller, the author comforts readers young and old who have lost a dog, as she did for cats in the bestselling companion book, CAT HEAVEN. Recommended highly by pet lovers around the world, DOG HEAVEN not only comforts but also brings a tear to anyone who is devoted to a pet. From expansive fields where dogs can run and run to delicious biscuits no dog can resist, Rylant paints a warm and affectionate picture of the ideal place God would, of course, create for man's best friend. The first picture book illustrated by the author, Dog Heaven is enhanced by Rylant's bright, bold paintings that perfectly capture an afterlife sure to bring solace to anyone who is grieving.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD820L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

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Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 842 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #1,218 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #2 in Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Death & Dying #4 in Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction > Short Story Collections #11 in Books > Children's Books > Animals > Dogs

Age Range: 4 - 7 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 2

Customer Reviews

Newbery winner Rylant, who debuted as an illustrator with her Everyday board books (1993), offers paintings and text in tribute to "Dog Heaven." Here there are fields to run in, soft beds (made of clouds turned inside out) and "angel children," because "God knows that dogs love children more than anything else in the world." Rylant's childlike acrylic paintings-similar though less practiced than the work of Lucy Cousins-are filled with checkerboard steps, yellow daisies and pink stars. Whether she is aiming for whimsy, albeit self-consciously, or striving to present a genuinely

comforting view of heaven is not entirely clear. God, for example, stands like an organ grinder at a biscuit machine, wearing a purple hat and sporting a white mustache. "God has a sense of humor," Rylant tells us, "so He makes His biscuits in funny shapes... kitty-cat biscuits and squirrel biscuits," and "every angel who passes by has a biscuit for a dog" because "every dog becomes a good dog in Dog Heaven." Many will think Rylant's vision appropriately warm and fuzzy; others will consider her on thin ice, psychologically and theologically. Dead animals invisibly return to earth "for a little visit," a development likely to unsettle young mourners; told that dogs in Dog Heaven will be "at the door" when "old friends show up," many children are going to worry about how those old friends got there. All ages. Copyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.

PreSchool-Grade 2?Curl up with Rover and take a journey to Dog Heaven, where there are endless fields for running; clear lakes filled with teasing, honking ducks; and loving angel children playing everywhere. There are tasty biscuits shaped like cats and fluffy cloud beds for sleeping, memory trips back to favorite spots and people, and cozy homes with petting hands. Rylant uses simple, comfortable language and an abundance of careful detail to create a place of warmth and happiness. Dressed in colorful clothing and sporting an orange scarf, God is friendly and accessible; he looks after "His dogs," making sure the biscuits are appetizing and the dreams are serene. With their simple shapes and bold lines, the bright acrylic paintings have a childlike appeal. Brush strokes add texture and depth, while unusual color combinations?glowing mixes of oranges, purples, and greens?contribute to the peaceful mood. Canines become part of the landscape; tumbling hills and rounded surfaces reflect the rapid motion of exuberant pooches running breathlessly across endless fields, while pawprints shine brightly beside nighttime stars and decorate the sides of mountains. The reassuring story might comfort a child after the loss of a pet, but this pleasant, imaginary paradise will have a broader appeal to all animal lovers.?Joy Fleishhacker, New York Public LibraryCopyright 1995 Reed Business Information, Inc.

I appreciate this. Very helpful for even an adult. I look forward to sharing it with my children. God Bless!

I bought this book for a friend of mine whose dog unexpectedly died. I was looking for something nice, and thought this would be a book good for all generations. This book is great for children, not so much for adults. The book talks about children and dogs -- not about people and dogs. Not a criticism at all, but just a head's up; a good book for small children, but not so much even for those

young at heart.

I purchased this book for my 5yr old granddaughter. She loved it and we have read it several times. The book is simple and reassuring and geared for young children who have lost a beloved dog. My granddaughter assumes that God is a farmer because of all the animals in heaven and that gave her comfort. This book is well worth getting if you have a small one grieving for a lost pet.

A wonderful book to bring comfort to those who have had to send there "puppy" to heaven. It also helps young children understand death and life ever after.

Best BOOK FOR CHIKDREN AND ADULTS WHEN OUR FURRY BUDIES ARE TIRED AND MUST GO TO GET REST

I ordered I thought 3 books for , the two that actually came from were great, one was good condition used & one was new, I ordered Dog Heaven I thought from them but it was from another book handleer, said was in very good condition, and it wasn't, it had worn spots, ripped cover, bent over pages. I was personalizing 3 dog books for my son & wife in remembrance of their beloved dog Bodacious, put personlized picture stickers & poocher poems & jokes throughout. They just loved them, but of course giving them as a gift set you want them in nice condition, did send me a new copy of Dog Heaven that was actually cheaper than the used one from a company that you find on their site. Did have to pay shipping, this was my first time ordering from , we learn something new every day, so just be sure it is for they stand behind their products but do not honor a replacement from the other companies that post with them, has to be a refund, it all came out but had to rush to get it finished for Mothers Day. All three books, "For every Dog an Angel"- "Paw prints in the Stars" & "Dog Heaven", were awesome/a great gift of comfort in the loss of a pet.

We just lost our dog of 12 years. This brought tears to my eyes. I believe it will help my children through the grieving process. I feel The book Gives plenty of opportunities to talk about good memories and ask questions such as: what do you think he's doing in heaven, remember how he loved to play outside and sit under the table? I'd recommend this book for adults as well as children.

Have purchased many of these as well as Cat Heaven for my critter friends who have suffered losses. Sensitive and uplifting approach.

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