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Someone To Look Up To: A Dog's Search For Love And Understanding



Synopsis

“Jean Gill has captured the innermost thoughts of this magnificent animal.” Les Ingham, Pyr International By IPPY and Global Ebook Award Winner Jean Gill A dog’s life in the south of France. From puppyhood, Sirius the Pyrenean Mountain Dog has been trying to understand his humans and train them with kindness. How this led to their divorce he has no idea. More misunderstandings take Sirius to Death Row in an animal shelter, as a so-called dangerous dog learning survival tricks from the other inmates. During the twilight barking, he is shocked to hear his brother’s voice but the bitter-sweet reunion is short-lived. Doggedly, Sirius keeps the faith. One day, his human will come. View the book trailer [youtube.com/watch?v=JFPrJbqM4LU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=JFPrJbqM4LU) Categories; animal, dog, story, true story, memoir, dog adoption, dog training, problems, behaviour, animal shelter, humor, France, Great Pyrenees, love story’

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Customer Reviews

This story simply oozes love and understanding, and even tough, or precisely because, it is a dog's book, everything in it is as human(e) as we wish we would be, if we only tried a little more. Family ties, loyalty, mischief, consolation, kindness, wisdom, respect, experience, a range of thoughts and emotions displayed from a dog's perspective, with deep empathy, but never condescending, mushy or pathetic, toward the main character or the readers themselves. The voice used by the author to convey Sirius's mind and life events is clever, witty, charming, bitter, wise, and the pages of his life simply flow through the reader's mind. You can draw so many parallels with human lives, and yes, you can actually learn a lot from dogs, about humans and animals. The description of Sirius's parents courting brought a smile on my face, and the first training lessons Sirius had made me laugh out loud. The author offers a unique outlook on dog's changing owners, dog shelters and people who work there, and the daily treatment of pet dogs. The section with Stratos, Sirius's older brother, retelling the events in the house of his brutal master, left a deep impression; to see through a dog's eyes just how much human behaviour influences dogs. Some people should never have dogs or any pets whatsoever -- I often wonder how such people treat their family members, but I suppose it's the same. I could go on and on, about breeders, competitions, chained guardian dogs, etc., but am trying to avoid spoilers. When I finished reading *Someone to Look Up To*, I have to say all my review remarks seemed silly, mere words. This book makes you feel, respect, cherish, accept and fight for the treasures of life. It almost makes me wish dogs could read it to. I thoroughly recommend it to anyone who loves animals, has or has ever owned a dog, or anyone seriously considering getting a dog, as a companion and friend, not possession. A beautiful, loving story, told with unseen empathy -- it will more than live up to your expectations.

Writing well in first person view point is always challenging. When it is the view point of a dog, it is even more difficult. Ms Gill has done a superb job presenting the world through the eyes and heart of a Great Pyrenees. Her story imparts innumerable insights into the minds and hearts of canines as well as lessons in proper care and training of dogs. She exposes the reasons good dogs become labeled as "bad", and the turn of events in human lives that result in so many dogs being surrendered to shelters. As a breeder, trainer and exhibitor for 35 years who has had the honor of mentoring and sharing the lives of the families of every Rottweiler puppy I have placed for the life of their dogs, I can assure you that every observation Sirius will share with you in this book is truth. This story brought my dear departed "Oso", a Pry I shared my life with back in the 70's, back to me so vividly that my heart ached. I could not put this book down until I learned the fate of the hero. I found a kindred spirit in this author. Thank you, Jean, for writing the book I always intended to write.

Outstanding. A quick read, from a dog's view. A unique way to tell the story of a dog's life, that isn't the fairytale story from start to finish. A must read for any dog lover, perhaps more so for those that work with and/or have a rescue dog or more in their lives, I'm sure you'll see that fur baby in the story. As a side note, having had rescued Pyrs, the story teller hit that personality dead on for my guardian. Thank you for being their voice,

What a delight. I agree with other readers who say it should be required reading for dog owners. While I'm quite sure our part GP has never had to deal with a "not so good" owner since he's been with us, who knows what he might have gone through as a puppy before we acquired him when he was two? He definitely had NOT been trained. He does have some funny ways, and your entertaining and informative book sheds more light on some of his seemingly odd traits. I especially liked the part about the cat bonding with him, as the kitten who arrived after Banjo used to play with his tail. Discovering he was part GP explained lots and also inspired me to write a humorous book about my boy, due out on the end of August, "Lord Banjo the Royal Pooch." After all, the GPs were declared the royal dogs of France by Louis XIV. I'll be sharing this book with my dog loving friends!

Wonderful story! Entertaining and touching, this was a unique change of viewpoint, as it's written from the mind and in the voice of a dog. It also causes us to think about how we may be miscommunicating with our dog, how our actions, intended or not, influence how a dog behaves, and also reinforces that dogs have feelings and emotions too, they experience loss and bereavement and loneliness and despair -- they just can't communicate it in the words we're used to. Beautifully written, really funny in the way the dog interprets their humans (who's really training whom?), I can't imagine a dog owner / dog lover not enjoying this book.

I almost think this book should be required reading for anybody that has a dog, or even more so, anyone thinking about having a dog in their life. The author has done an excellent job of pointing out many mistakes people make when dealing with canines as told from the dog's perspective. At the same time, the author still conveys the love, loyalty, and trust that forms the bond between man and dog, making it a very positive story. I further enjoyed this book because we've recently been fortunate to have two adopted Pyrenees as companions. The author does an excellent job of describing the characteristics of this lovable and loving breed

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