



My Life in Dog Years

By Gary Paulsen

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My Life in Dog Years By Gary Paulsen

Gary Paulsen has owned dozens of unforgettable and amazing dogs, and here are his favorites--one to a chapter. Among them are Snowball, the puppy he owned as a boy in the Philippines; Ike, his mysterious hunting companion; Electric Fred and his best friend, Pig; Dirk, the grim protector; and Josh, one of the remarkable border collies working on Paulsen's ranch today.

My Life in Dog Years is a book for every dog lover and every Paulsen fan--a perfect combination that shows vividly the joy and wisdom that come from growing up with man's best friend.

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My Life in Dog Years By Gary Paulsen Bibliography

- Sales Rank: #242756 in Books
- Brand: Delacorte Books for Young Readers
- Published on: 1998-01-12
- Released on: 1998-01-12
- Original language: English
- Number of items: 1
- Dimensions: 8.55" h x .63" w x 5.60" l, .60 pounds
- Binding: Hardcover
- 144 pages

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 4 Up?Paulsen reveals bits and pieces of his own life story through his experiences with eight of his dogs. After a heartfelt dedication to Cookie, the sled dog who saved his life, the author introduces readers first to Snowball, the puppy he acquired when he was seven years old and living in the Philippines, and then follows chronologically with profiles of other canine companions. He concludes with tales about Josh, the border collie with whom he currently shares a home. Paulsen is a master storyteller with a dry wit. His description of his dog Fred, whom he claimed was actually "nuclear in his capacity for destruction," and his account of his Great Dane Caesar, who was so petrified of trick-or-treaters that he would hide in the bedroom closet every Halloween with a housecoat over his eyes, are sure to elicit smiles. Paulsen can also make readers sigh when he relates how Snowball saved him from being bitten by a poisonous snake and how Cookie pulled him out of the water when he fell through the ice while trapping beaver. The statement, "Josh...is a person. I do not think in my heart that he is a dog," gives youngsters a real sense of how the man looks at these animals. An attractive pen-and-ink sketch of the profiled animal opens each chapter. This well-written, readable reminiscence serves as a tribute to the dogs in one person's life, written by someone who considers them his best friends.?Carol Kolb Phillips, The Library, East Brunswick, NJ

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From Booklist

Gr. 5^-10. Paulsen's style has been smoother, but this honest, unpretentious celebration of dogs further entrenches his reputation as an author who is as successful at writing nonfiction as he is at writing novels. In roughly chronological chapters, he introduces eight memorable canines he has known and loved over the years. Some were pets, others he knew as trusted partners or protectors--from Snowball, the first, to Josh, who "if possible . . . is always with me." Although the chapters are linked by small details and references (often easy to recognize from his previous books), each can stand alone, with several, including a wildly funny one devoted to an adopted Great Dane named Caesar, promising good read-aloud material. Paulsen differentiates his canine friends beautifully, as only a keen observer and lover of dogs can. At the same time, he presents an intimate glimpse of himself, a lonely child of alcoholic parents, who drew strength and solace from his four-legged companions and a love of the great outdoors. Poignant but never saccharine, honest, and open, these engaging canine character studies are guaranteed to charm animal lovers and Paulsen's fans, especially those who know *Woodsong* (1990) or *Father Water, Mother Woods* (1994). There's something to please at every turn of the page. *Stephanie Zvirin*

From Kirkus Reviews

Paulsen paid loving tribute to the sled dogs in his life in *Puppies, Dogs and Blue Northers* (1996) so gives eight more canine companions equal time: Snowball, who saved his life when he was seven, to Caesar, an enthusiastic Great Dane who ``overwhelmed the furniture'' but was gentle with children, to Fred, who did battle with an electric fence, to Quincy, who did battle with a bear that attacked the author's wife.

Thoughtful, ironic, often hilarious, these vivid character portraits not only make winning stories, but convey a deep respect for all dogs: ``They are wonderful and, I think, mandatory for decent human life.'' (illustrations, not seen) (Memoir. 10-13) -- *Copyright ©1997, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Helen Thibodeaux:

What do you with regards to book? It is not important along with you? Or just adding material when you want something to explain what you problem? How about your free time? Or are you busy individual? If you don't have spare time to perform others business, it is make you feel bored faster. And you have extra time? What did you do? Every person has many questions above. They need to answer that question due to the fact just their can do in which. It said that about publication. Book is familiar in each person. Yes, it is appropriate. Because start from on kindergarten until university need this specific My Life in Dog Years to read.

Mary Kidd:

My Life in Dog Years can be one of your starter books that are good idea. We all recommend that straight away because this publication has good vocabulary that can increase your knowledge in terminology, easy to understand, bit entertaining but still delivering the information. The author giving his/her effort to put every word into satisfaction arrangement in writing My Life in Dog Years nevertheless doesn't forget the main level, giving the reader the hottest and also based confirm resource facts that maybe you can be one of it. This great information could draw you into fresh stage of crucial pondering.

Rachel Wessels:

This My Life in Dog Years is brand new way for you who has interest to look for some information since it relief your hunger associated with. Getting deeper you in it getting knowledge more you know or you who still having small amount of digest in reading this My Life in Dog Years can be the light food for you because the information inside this kind of book is easy to get simply by anyone. These books develop itself in the form which can be reachable by anyone, yep I mean in the e-book application form. People who think that in guide form make them feel tired even dizzy this book is the answer. So you cannot find any in reading a publication especially this one. You can find actually looking for. It should be here for an individual. So , don't miss the item! Just read this e-book type for your better life in addition to knowledge.

Andrew Gillon:

That guide can make you to feel relax. This book My Life in Dog Years was colorful and of course has pictures around. As we know that book My Life in Dog Years has many kinds or style. Start from kids until young adults. For example Naruto or Investigator Conan you can read and believe that you are the character on there. So , not at all of book tend to be make you bored, any it offers up you feel happy, fun and loosen up. Try to choose the best book to suit your needs and try to like reading which.

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