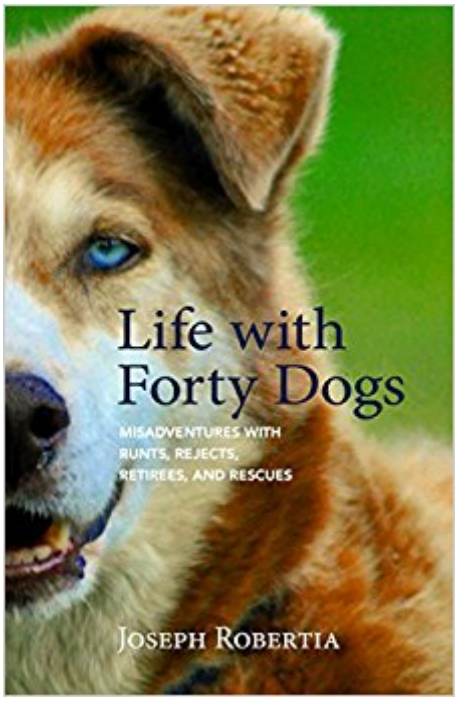
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Life With Forty Dogs: Misadventures With Runts, Rejects, Retirees, And Rescues



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Synopsis

From award-winning writer and photographer Joseph Robertia, Life with Forty Dogs is a collection of the funny, fascinating, and sometimes heartbreaking stories of the life-changing canine commitment he and his family made. When Robertia and his wife, Cole, first entered the world of dog sledding in Alaska, they had never expected to have their household grow up to forty dogsÃ¢â ¬â ¢Ã¢â ¬Å“primarily rogues, runts, and rejects from other kennels.Ã¢â ¬Â• But quickly they found their lives inextricably intertwined with each dog they rescued as they learned each oneÃ¢â ¬â„¢s unique character and personality and how irreplaceable each was for their team and for their family. This book is an invitation to understand the essence of life with forty dogs in its entirety and, through that comprehension, to truly appreciate what Robertia sees every day. Not everyone can sacrifice their spare time, salaries, and sanity to get to know so many charactersÃ¢â ¬â ¢from the well-mannered to the wilyÃ¢â ¬â ¢but Life with Forty Dogs will reveal the endless adventures and misadventures that come to those like Robertia and his family who have dedicated themselves to their furry companions.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Ã¢â ¬Å“Honest dog stories told with lots of heart, guaranteed to win yours over from the start as it did mine! Robertia tells the truth about dog mushing and points the way towards making the sport humane and less about speed and money. He models how to put humanity and compassion at the forefront, not only for the sake and love of all dogs but to ultimately make us better people.Ã¢â ¬Â• Ã¢â ¬â œ Andrea Thalasinos, author of Fly By Night, Traveling Light, An Echo Through the

Snow"Here’s an invitation to understand the essence of life with 40 dogs, and appreciate what author Joseph Robertia sees daily Ã¢â ¬â ¢ but never takes for granted. In words and photos, he shares the qualities that define the unique character and personality of every animal. Not everyone can sacrifice their spare time, salary and sanity to get to know so many characters Ã¢â ¬â ¢ from well-mannered to wily Ã¢â ¬â ¢ but LIFE WITH FORTY DOGS describes the endless adventures and misadventures that such a life invites. Robertia and his family have made a life-changing canine commitment Ã¢â ¬â ¢ one they don’t regret." Ã¢â ¬â œ Alaska Dispatch News"I could not put [Life with Forty Dogs] down and finished it in less than a day, even with going into work! As someone who rescues huskies in the lower 48 (California, to be exact), the topic of sled dogs is near and dear to my heart. Thank you for thoughtful stories - some of which were laugh-out-loud funny, others brought tears to my eyes. A great read for anyone who loves dogs, especially rescue dogs." Ã¢â ¬â œ Jane Cordingley, www.NorSled.org"When heÃ¢â ¬â„¢s not writing for the Alaska Dispatch News, Robertia can often be found with and his wife, Cole, and their mushing dogs, training for or participating in AlaskaÃ¢â ¬â„¢s many competitions, which often cover hundreds of miles in temperatures below -40Ã Â F. Here, he shares his experience in integrating, training, and living with so many high-energy canines in this delightful ode to mushing and all it entails. Alongside profiles of his dogs (such as Tatika, a German shepherd who once ate an entire Thanksgiving turkey), Robertia recounts tales of rescuing horse carcasses for feed, getting lost in subzero temperatures in the Alaska wilderness, and encountering less-than-reputable breeders and mushers. Tales of nursing sick or injured rescues back to health, integrating them into the pack, and enduring the emotionally painful death of one of his dogs are sure to resonate with dog-lovers, as is RobertiaÃ¢â ¬â„¢s wry, occasionally caustic wit. This is more than just another valentine to canines: itÃ¢â ¬â„¢s an insightful and occasionally heartrending account of life with a team of working dogs. ItÃ¢â ¬â„¢s sure to resonate with Alaskans as well as those in the lower 48. B&w photos." --Publisher’s Weekly

The driving force of sharing these stories is also to give readers a glimpse of what itÃ¢â ¬â„¢s like to truly live a half-feral Alaskan lifestyle as we have and still do, so they can vicariously experience and comprehend the magnitude of responsibility, and all the joy, pain, and myriad other emotions, that come from the fabric of a life threaded through and through by the fur of forty dogs.We donÃ¢â ¬â„¢t own our dogs; they are a part of us, our lives inextricably intertwined. For those who spend more time around people than animals, this is a tough concept to comprehend. Looking at a yard full of high-strung huskies, most outsiders to our world donÃ¢â ¬â„¢t see the individuals,

distinctly dissimilar from each other. To most folks, theyÃ¢â ¬â„¢re merely different sized and colored canines. They donÃ¢â ¬â„¢t see what we see. They donÃ¢â ¬â„¢t understand the unique personalities or our shared histories with each one. But this is a chance to see it all.

What an awesome and intimate journey Mr. Robertia takes us on by sharing some of his greatest achievements, huge laughs and sadly, some devastating heartbreaks. Life with Forty Dogs allows us to almost feel like we are there right along side his "Island of Misfits" crew, and beautiful family. The details in introducing his family, both fur and human, are so clear that I feel like I now know them. It also shows us in loud and certain detail just how different living in such an awesome place as Alaska can be--challenging yet beautiful. I loved this book so much that I've already read it three times, still laughing and crying just like it was my first time. Life with Forty is an exceptional book and I can't wait for Mr. Robertia's next adventure.

I laughed, I cried. Not just at your stories about your dogs, but also at how some of the stories reminded me of adventures and misadventures with my own. Nice book.

A great read! Each chapter presents a different and intriguing Alaskan tale. Joseph Robertia's vivid storytelling style provides readers with a glimpse into a purpose-driven and adventurous life lived with 40 canine companions.

Reading this thoroughly enjoyable book brought laughter and tears as Joseph describes life with forty rescue dogs. The love for their animals comes through in how they train and care for them. Each dog's distinct personality, from comical to neurotic, is shown in the stories.

This is a GREAT book! It's not only about dogs it's about doing what you love and loving what you doÃƒÂ Ã Å¸Ã ËœÃ Å I will read it more than once!

this book presses all your buttons. you go from laughter to tears as you read about the dogs . if you love dogs this is a must read.

This book will make you laugh and sometimes cry. Amazing descriptions of the dogs and their personalities. An authentic story of life and adventures in Alaska.

A good read - full of laughs (and tears) and the realities of an Alaskan life with incredible animals.

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