



The Story of Rose: A Man and His Dog

Jon Katz

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From the acclaimed author of *A Good Dog, Dog Days*, and *Going Home* comes this eBook original—a poignant memoir that celebrates Jon Katz's beloved border collie, Rose, and their transformative years together on Bedlam Farm.

The Story of Rose: A Man and His Dog Details

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From Reader Review The Story of Rose: A Man and His Dog for online ebook

Judi Sawyer says

As a huge fan of Jon Katz' writing I have been anxiously awaiting the release of "The Story of Rose". I'm a Border Collie owner myself and Rose has always been one of my favorite characters in his books. Her intensity, work ethic and intelligence have endeared her to me and I looked forward to reading more stories about this wonderful dog. This book was well worth the wait as Katz tells a poignant and heartwarming tale of his bond with this little dog with a huge heart. My only regret is that I don't have the right hardware to view the videos available in the Enhanced Edition. Yet another great book from Jon Katz!!

Jocelyn Peterson says

I loved it as I do with all of his books.

Holly DeMark says

I've been following Jon Katz's adventures on Bedlam Farm for a while on Slate, and I always looked forward to the stories about his stoic working dog Rose. This is beautifully written and speaks to anyone with a beloved dog (working or lazy). It was an emotional read but it doesn't feel manipulative or trite. If you aren't acquainted with Rose, I wouldn't start here - read some of his essays first. (I can't speak about his other books.) This makes a nice bookend.

Maybe this isn't your standard beach read, but it was perfect for my trip to Aruba with an infant - I could pick it up and read in short spurts. I recommend it for a sweet thoughtful read any time of year.

Christine says

This book blends the casual, conversation style of Katz's blog with the more carefully-edited non-fiction style of his other books. He writes about his animals in such a way that you feel as though you had seen them and walked with them many times. The publication of this, his first eBook was bittersweet after only recently lost Rose to a wasting disease - it firmly reinforces some of the things he wrote about in his previous book, Going Home: Finding Peace When Pets Die.

Neither sappy or overly sentimental, Katz's books make evident the affection and appreciation he felt for Rose and for all of his animals. I hope to be able to follow Katz and his Bedlam Farm for years to come.

Diann says

I am a sucker for any dog story/memoir.

I found this one interesting, especially in the way that the author was connected to the dog on a spiritual/metaphysical level and not the typical emotional/anthropomorphic level.

However, I found it to be a laborious read, with much repetition. I think the story could have been told in a shorter version.

With that being said, it was still a worthwhile read.

loretta says

I loved this book! Rose was an incredible soul and her impact was significant. As I'm reading these stories not necessarily in order, it might have seemed that it was old news but it wasn't. Each dog has a special place in the story of Jon's life and although Rose was the first dog Jon got when he moved to the farm, she was, it seems, as significant to Jon's life as he was to hers. This was a relationship unique and personal. I think I will remember Rose for a very long time.

Leslie says

Have a tissue handy.

Kathie says

"The Story of Rose: A Man and his Dog" is a memoir about Rose, the first border collie living on Bedlam Farm with Jon Katz, the author. Rose was intelligent and hard-working and according to this book saved Jon's life numerous times. "I yelled at her so often and in such frustration that the trainer took me aside and told me, if you want a better dog, be a better human". How true this statement is!

There were many references to the book "Call of the Wild" that was a childhood favorite of mine. Katz says "Reading London, thinking of my own life, I realized how dogs and humans shape and reflect each other, and how that is the story of Rose and me."

This was not a well written book even though I enjoyed knowing Rose, the border collie through this story. The book seemed quickly constructed and many passages and phrases were repeatedly used. I see now that this is classified as an "ebook". Does this mean I should not have as high an expectation? Even so, if you need a dog book fix, this will do the trick.

Jeannie Bilodeau says

Overall, I liked this book. I love stories about dogs and their importance in our lives.

Although I understand the the difference btwn a working dog living their life on a farm vs a pet that lives in a typical home, to me they both can be happy and fulfilled.

I occasionally felt this story condescending towards dog that are pets and treated with an abundance of love and pampering.

While I admired Rose (the title character) and thought the life she lead was idyllic for her, not all pets need to be raised as such.

I would have enjoyed the story more if there was more insight to how the animal changed and inspired her human.

Well written and a good read, over all I would recommend this to pet owners and nature lovers alike.

Peggy says

I have to admit, I found the book interesting, but not compelling. I have never been a "pet person" and therefore, did not connect with the deep feelings the author had for his dog. I did enjoy the descriptions of Rose at work and I do highly recommend it to many of my friends and relatives who are dog lovers. Finally, and oddly, in the afterward I connected with the author and his feelings about the death of his dog. For me, it was the decision of "letting my dad go," and making the most of our last years, weeks, and days together. I, too, was able to let go with no regrets. I am NOT comparing my dad to a dog, but grief is grief and I admit I am not usually sensitive to friend's grief over the death of their pets. Maybe this book will help me.

Kelley says

I found this book so poignant and compelling, I couldn't put it down. As someone who has always had dogs, and has went from not just owning and loving them, but to training and providing a job for them to do, as mine are Aussies and Shelties, this book was close to home for me. Rose is amazing, a once in a lifetime herder, intuitive, hard working, driven, serious, and many things my dogs aren't. My Aussies are crazy for snuggling. But I have many times thought since I got our first Aussie and did a herding instinct test that moving further out to the country and getting some sheep and agility equipment would be a dream come true. Maybe someday. As all of his books provide a story of a specific dog, I always think to the stories I would tell of each of my dogs and what they have done for me and my life. I will always read Katz' books, they really connect to people like me who have herding dogs and love to work with them, and learn all they can about them. Even if you are not a dog owner, I recommend you read his books, they put the perspective, these are not stories about how out of control their dog is and how funny and endearing one might think that is, it's about the animal-human connection, something that's been in humans' history forever.

Karen says

I couldn't put this book down, I read it from beginning to end. Mr. Katz wrote a very poignant story about the bond, those of us lucky enough to have experienced, at least once In our lives, with a dog. I have Aussies and I recognize many of the traits that Rose had are the same as my youngest Petey exhibits. He is very intense

and focused when playing ball or walking. He will watch me leave in the mornings and then go to his favorite spot on the stairs to "watch" out the window protecting the house and his older sister Sydney. Our spare bedroom has been visited many times by Pete. He will lie on the bed, I always know because the comforter has been rumpled, and watches out the window, where he can see deer, turkey, barn cats and other various animals in the fields. He's one of the smartest and yet most stubborn dogs I've had. He understands everything we say to him, he reminds me a lot of Rosie...in many ways but always needing a job to do.

Jane Thompson says

Dog Story

Another of Katz's good books. This one about Rose, the border collie who looked out for his sheep. There is a death in this book, and the author tries to handle it without sadness, but it reminded me of all my animals who are dead

Elaine says

Since I'm writing a book on dogs, and since my book starts with the story of my border collie and how he saved my life, I thought I should check out another book about a border collie. Jon Katz's book is not the sort of thing I usually read. It's sentimental, spiritual, virtually sappy at times--but a really good read. This is the sort of book I love to curl up in a chair with on a rainy afternoon.

Katz, throughout the book, shows that animals can help people, not only in physical jobs like herding sheep, but help them spiritually. He recounts the conversations he had with Rose, and how the dog helped him make a sea change in his life. If you're not a dog person, you may not care for such stories. However, I am, and I agree with Jon Katz. My dogs "talk" to me with their eyes and their vocal cords. I've had cats who did the same, but not so intensely. I've had deep relationships with most of the dogs I've had in my life.

One caveat: This edition is an Enhanced Edition Nook Book, which is, not only an e-book, but also has videos embedded into it. I love that. Here, I got to see one of my favorite sights: a border collie herding sheep--and doing other things. The videos are a bit shaky. They were taken by the author, but, for me, they work.

It's well-known that I think dogs are amazing, but Border Collies and other working breeds are beyond amazing. Rose certainly lived up to her breed's reputation. I did a post on my dogsandwolves blog about Rose's helping a ewe after a difficult birth; thus saving the ewe's life. If you don't like dogs, you probably won't like this book. Too bad. You are missing out on two experiences. A good read. And, a good dog.

<http://dogsandwolves-smartoldlady.blogspot.com>

To me, this is the book of the future. I intend to make mine an Enhanced Edition e-book as well.

Kristen says

It took me a little while to get into this book seemed like a bit of a slow start but by the end of the book of course I was crying. I also have a dog that is part border collie and reading this book I see a lot of the same tendencies in her. For sure she has the herding instinct as she likes to use on our lab. But also finding a job to do... I am in a wheelchair and one day she just came over after I got on it and pulled down the footrest for me. She had never been taught this before nor had she ever been asked she just took it upon herself to do it. They are extremely brilliant animals and I enjoyed reading about Rose and her drive to work and make sure what needed to be done was taken care of!!! Good book :)
