



## Dog Aliens 1: Raffle's Name

*Cherise Kelley*

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## **Dog Aliens 1: Raffle's Name** Cherise Kelley

Clem is a dog with a secret: he is an alien from outer space. Every morning he digs out of his yard to join his fellow Kaxians. So far, his humans have just filled in the holes, so he should be fine, right? But Clem must keep his secret.

No humans can know that dogs are aliens. This gets difficult when Clem's latent psi abilities start to appear!

Dog aliens can't wait for their humans to leave them home alone. That's the only time they can do their covert intergalactic trading duties. The little dogs are aliens, too, but they are from a rival planet called Nique, and anyway, who cares about them?

There is a happy ending, and no dogs or humans are harmed in the story, although there are scary parts and sad parts. The dog tells the story!

The sequel, Dog Aliens 2: Oreo, is now available!

## **Dog Aliens 1: Raffle's Name Details**

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Author : Cherise Kelley

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## **From Reader Review Dog Aliens 1: Raffle's Name for online ebook**

### **Grampy says**

“Dog Aliens 1: Raffle’s Name” by Cherise Kelley is an amusing tale narrated by Raffles, currently living in his 99th dog body. You see, Raffles is not from Earth. In fact, NO dog originally is from Earth.

Aliens from two planets came to Earth eons ago to mine a substance needed on their home planets; a substance completely unknown and unnecessary to humans. This element is called “Jex” by the aliens. The two alien species, and their home planets, are the Kaxians from Kax; and the Niques from Nique.

Humans unwittingly differentiate between the two species by characterizing the Kaxians as “big dogs” and the Niques as “little dogs”. The two species do not like each other, and don’t miss an opportunity to annoy each other, especially when their humans aren’t nearby. Even when their humans ARE nearby, the alien language sounds just like barking to humans, so the provocation continues unabated.

This story is considerably more entertaining than the previous paragraphs might lead you to believe. As a matter of fact, the primary purpose of the book is to encourage people to adopt dogs from their local Humane Society shelters. It accomplishes that by artfully weaving into the story line several visits to the dog shelter. Consequently this story is not only entertaining, but has a very serious message for its readers.

The author very cleverly creates an authentic, if fictional, interplay between the humans, the big dogs, the little dogs, the Jex mining operation, and the candid diversity in how different people treat their pets. Fortunately for these fictional alien dogs, if they die they are “reborn” as a new puppy. Unfortunately for non-fictional dogs, when they die they stay dead.

This entertaining tale leaves the reader with an enhanced awareness of the plight of many dogs in the U.S. and the world. That aspect of the story is a sad one, but one the author hopes to change by increasing public awareness.

I strongly recommend this book for any human with a heart for dogs, regardless of the reader’s age.

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### **Shannon Davison says**

Such a cute book. I've always had a dog growing up and we currently own a 6yr old yellow lab/husky/shepherd that we adopted from the pound when she was 8 weeks old. I've always said there's a little being inside her and reading this book, I'm sure there is. You can just look in her eyes and see the wheels turning. Wonderful book for all ages.

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### **Wendy says**

“Alien Dogs 1: Raffle’s Name” is a delightfully innovative story about a dog who's an alien from outer space. With other Kaxians Clem's mission is to dig for jex so each day he escapes from his yard to help his friends

mine the mineral and transport it to a space ship. But, one day he's late returning and the hole is discovered. Instead of being reprimanded his master abandons him and he's left to try and find his way back to his Kaxian friends. What begins is an exciting adventure as Clem not only discovers his telepathic powers, but bonds with loving owners who change his name.

The well-written and imaginative plot sends a strong message about the abuse and abandonment of animals. Even visitations by potential owners to the Animal Shelter seem geared to the adoption of younger or smaller animals rather than the older, well-trained but unloved larger dogs brought in by animal catchers. Although in this story Kaxians (older dogs) and Niques (smaller dogs) are born again, there is the tragic realization that animals not adopted are put to sleep. With a mood that seems bleak and hopeless at times it makes the reader want to go to an Animal Shelter and save one of the Kaxians.

Cleverly Cherise Kelley weaves the story of Neya, a female wolf who dreams about a romp in the woods with Clem(Raffle) into the main plot leaving an opening for a romance in future books in the series. This is fascinating because, although Kaxians have a strain of wolf in them, they are not trusted by wolf packs. Laced with large doses of humor the author ingeniously intertwines elements of faith, hope, friendship and love into a plot that has danger stalking the alien dogs from an abusive master to jealous rivals. The plot progresses quickly and never slows as events unfold, making it a riveting tale.

In this narrative the personalities of dogs and cats come to life and seem more human than animal with all their idiosyncrasies. Clem haunted by his abandonment at 6 months is considerate, loyal and brave. A dog with a big heart who tries to please the owners he bonds with, he tries desperately to get along with his housemate Puritan, a old, bitter and hateful cat who spitefully tries to antagonize him. Developing psi powers, the intelligent and perceptive Kaxian can even project images into the minds of humans who don't know of the alien invasion. But his abilities excel beyond his expectation as he not only transmits mental moving pictures and messages but can detect emotions through colours. His friend Lido is a portly but loveable English bulldog in love with Skil, an easy-going and naive black lab. Fidetz, the mean-spirited Chihuahua like all the Niques holds a grudge, claiming their mining rights on earth were stolen by the larger Kaxians. Like all Niques she's a pest, never confronting her adversary but only nipping and barking to make life miserable. All these characters and more are realistic and entertaining, adding energy and drama to this fascinating tale.

Although the story is geared to a young children's audience I thoroughly enjoyed "Alien Dogs 1" and will not only look for the next book in the series but will recommend it to others.

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### **Stefanie says**

I forgot how I first learned about this book, but I'm so glad it crossed my path. I am a dog lover 100%. Have grown up with them and have had my Keeshond Leo since he was 6 weeks old (he will be 13 at the end of June 2013). This book about dog aliens and their intelligence totally reminded me of Leo and his intelligence. Therefore the book was engaging and funny. Especially the interactions between the Kaxians (big dogs) and the Niques (small dogs). It reminds me of a crazy story a friend and I made back for our middle school english class about caterpillars vs. worms of optimal intelligence (Cappies vs. Wormies) that lived on Earth unbeknownst to humans. I really hope this author finds the time and funds in order to keep writing about the dog aliens. For those who might think that this is a childish portrayal of dogs, it really is not. It is a well thought out, and yes silly/funny, story. But it also makes you wonder about how smart your

dog really is. And that in itself is fun to do since we (I'm assuming from conversations with other dog people) all wish we could understand our furry friends better.

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### **Ana Perkins says**

Okay to be completely honest I had low expectations for this book at the beginning. When I first saw it I figured it was going to be some goofy kids book about cats vs dogs and probably a waste of time but I thought about it for a moment and decided to give it a shot anyway and honestly I loved it. Its an adventure story of a puppy trying to find his place and to figure out his purpose in life. I honestly think it could possibly be written about a normal dog and be just as strong but it would be missing out on some creative details and moments. There is also some parts of a story about a Bulldog named Lido (Who by the way I want a book for him because I find him absolutely adorable)who is trying to win the girl (pup or mate)of his dreams and a She wolf, Who we learn very little about and I hope her book is just as good as Raffles story. Clem or Raffle is a great character, who goes through both good times and bad and constantly makes mistakes but I find myself rooting for him the whole way. I like that it is the little dogs that they are fighting against and the cats are the some what sane creatures trying to explain to the owners that there are aliens among them. I work at an animal shelter and trust me, I could possible see this happening in real life just by watching how the little dogs behave around the big dogs and I have a cat, who I almost sure that is based on Puritan (Who I can not help to feel a little bad and sorry for making her one of my favorite minor character in this book). The characters are great, the dialog is pretty good, and I liked the ending even though it leaves me with many questions needing to be answered. I think this is a great story for kids and is worth a read or two but do not take my word for it! Read it for yourself and form your own opinions on this earthbound book that is out of this world!

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### **Shay says**

\*\*\*Received Copy From Author\*\*\*

Read this book awhile ago but life kept me from writing a well deserved review (My apologizes to the Author).

I started reading this book for my Godchildren who are animal loving freaks. They werent the only ones who loved it!

Not only is this book ridiculously adorable and charming but makes valid points on the dog owning life and the importance being a responsible pet owner.

All dogs are aliens but ankle biters are a different breed of alien from the bigger dogs (I knew something like this was always true!)and the Nique (little dogs) are against the big dogs (Kaxian). Little Raffle gives his point of view on everything concerning his job. His POV is immature at times, since he is just a pup. Shifting from home to home raffle finds his maturity, love and friendship and also that he has a special talent the rest don't seem to have.

There were also parts in this book that hit spot on for the dog species, the need for responsible owners. Suffering abandonment and even abuse (written in a way it wont scar the kids for life but effective enough to

talk about how all animals have feelings) and bonding with a loving family.

The best and most heartbreak part was when Raffle explains how when a dog falls in love with an owner (bonds) they would rather be put to sleep than to live life without the humans they love.

Excellent book that has adventure, heartbreak and real life lessons for the youngsters. This is their favorite book about dogs now.

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### **Mary says**

Dog adventures and space aliens create fun topics for stories - so what could be more fun than dog aliens from space.

Children in families with dogs will enjoy reading about the double life of the dogs in Dog Aliens 1: Raffle's Name. And children without dogs will be sure to beg their parents to bring them to the nearest animal shelter to adopt a dog.

The story is packed with plenty of humor for a 4th grader to appreciate. And the chapters are perfect in length to keep the young reader engaged.

The dialogue among the dogs at the pound may spark the interest of children for a desire to become involved in their neighborhood pound. They can have fun imagining if dogs everywhere think and talk like they do in Dog Aliens 1: Raffle's Name.

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### **Nancy Silk says**

#### **"Alien Dogs Rule"**

This was a fun story to read, it was so innovative! The first two chapters had me wondering if I could endure this story, but after reading on, Chapter 3 really drew me to the story of Clem, a member of the alien clan known as Kaxians, from the planet Kax. They came to this earth specifically to be miners of jex (which I never really understood what it was, but maybe it was really prehistoric bones?!). Their competitors were from Nique, also in pursuit of the treasured jex. What's the difference between these alien dogs? Size! The Kaxians are large-breed dogs that don't like the smaller-breed obnoxious Niques. Now, I've been a dog fancier for generations, and I want to know if my dachshunds are from Nique. They certainly have big dog attitudes! They'll even stand their ground against the vicious wild badger! So, there must be another planet out in the universe that generated dachshunds! But on with the story of Clem, who as a pup on earth is abandoned in the mountains of southern California. He is only six months old, and he's so very upset to be separated from his parents and siblings. Clem is very gifted...he has mind control (sometimes I know that my dogs have it)! He can sway humans as well as his fellow Kaxians. This author has presented a very intoxicating story from Clem's perception. It is filled with affection from humans, and the love that every dog seeks. This is why, when one is seeking a loving companion, first check your local humane shelter and see which dog looks you in the eye and says, "I can love you more than any other dog here." The author, Cherise Kelley, should be very proud of the story she has created. She's done an extraordinary job! Highly

recommend for adults as well younger readers.

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### **Gregg says**

I loved this story because of the pacing and that it is about dogs. I enjoyed how the author kept the writing simple, yet as mentioned in a previous review, engaging. The pacing was really great overall, but I felt it was especially good between the exchanges between the large dogs and small dogs. If you are a dog lover and want a book that is entertaining, then you will want to give this one a read!

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### **Fletcher Best says**

I was sent a review copy of Dog Aliens 1 and although it really wasn't my kind of story, it was unique and creative and I decided it deserved a decent rating anyway for a couple of reasons.

First, the book is well-written. I've seen enough books by indie authors with poor grammar, spelling, and punctuation that I notice and appreciate it when a book is well-written.

The second reason I've given the book a good rating despite the fact that I wasn't really into it is because I imagine that it would appeal to a certain audience. It would not be fair for me to rate it poorly just because I didn't really like the subject matter. I think that hard-core dog lovers will probably find this book to be cute and entertaining, so it's worth a look if you fall into that category.

To better clarify who I think would enjoy this book, I suggest the following criteria (my apologies to Jeff Foxworthy): If you dress your dog up in frilly outfits or silly costumes and/or think it's cute when others do... you might like this book. If you can easily spend hours having a conversation with your dog... you might like this book. If you order an entire separate meal specifically to take home to your dog when you eat out... you might like this book. If a story about dogs being aliens from other planets who are here having adventures as they mine earth for a resource that allows them to bioregenerate sounds like good fun to you... you'll definitely like this book!

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### **Lucas says**

Dog Aliens book 1 Raffle's Name is a good, fun book that every dog lover should pick up and read. I teach 5th grade and it will definitely be a new addition to my class library but adults will also enjoy the story for the following reasons.

Have you ever wondered why your dog might go to a window and bark when nothing is there? Have you ever dragged your dog away while they sniffed the 50th bush on your walk? Finally, have you ever stopped what you were doing in order to pay some attention to your dog?

If you found your head nodding to any of these questions you aren't alone. And it appears, neither are the humans. Now, this book isn't a "how to" book or even a "deeper look inside your dog", instead, Cherise Kelley has created a fantastical story filled with space travel, bickering between "big dogs" and "little dogs", and the reason why all dogs are here on Earth (and no, it isn't to be there when we get home from work or

school).

I was hooked from the start when a group of the big dogs were mapping out their plan for mining Jex (the resource that the "dogs" are here for) and the ensuing confrontation with the little dogs and I didn't put the book down until...well, I suggest you pick up a copy of the book if you want to know the rest :)

I am looking forward to reading the next book in this great new series about man's (and woman's) best friend.

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### **Holly says**

I just finished up reading Dog Aliens 1: Raffle's Name. It was sent to me for review. As a teacher I read quite a bit of children's literature and found this book enjoyable. I think the kids will really enjoy connecting with Raffle/Clem and the explanation on why dogs do certain things. I love the thought of the mind movies that dogs play on/for their humans. This book does present some harsh realities in the animal world such as dumping of animals which is awful! But in this case, it does have a happy ending. I also like how the author has included the first chapter of the next book in the series. I already want to read it and I know kids will also. This book is a must have for an upper elementary classroom library.

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### **Carol says**

Life is about to change for Clem. His human is mad at Clem for always digging a hole to get under the fence. Clem is taken on a long ride over two hours from his home. Once there his human gives him meat to eat. Only while Clem is eating, his human drives away...abandoning him. Since Clem is an alien in a dog's body, being left begins an adventure for him. After several incidents, Clem ends up in an animal shelter. It is when he is adopted that Clem becomes Raffle by his new set of humans. The reader will share with Clem/Raffle his new life plus the new talents he develops. His new humans decide to get him, a buddy. This new buddy is named Oreo. He is a Springer Spaniel and Border Collie mix. The story is told by the dog aliens from Kax. This is an entertaining sci-fi read plus it makes one realize the importance of animal shelters and treatment of dogs.

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### **Chris Meads says**

I really liked this book. It was humorous as well as informational about dogs. One thing I question is what is Jex? Why are the dogs mining it? I think this book would be a good one for children to read as well as one to read to children.

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I think the story line is cute. Large dogs (Kaxians) from outer space and different from wolves. And that Raffle can send messages to humans and other animals (like the chicken incident and setting the pigeons on the Nigues (little dogs).

I can't wait to read more of the series.

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