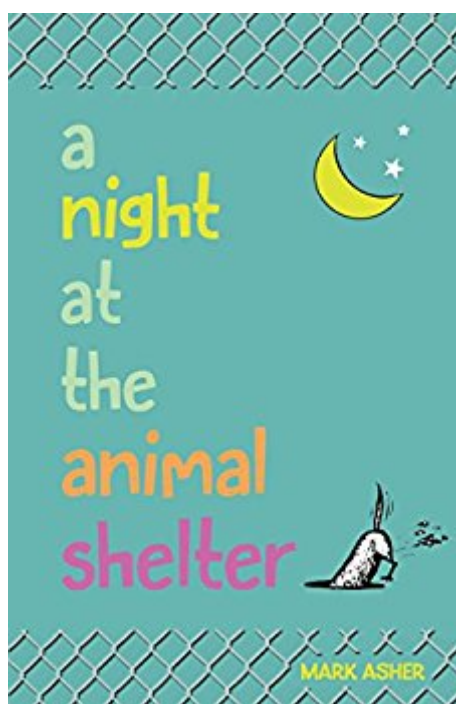


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A Night At The Animal Shelter



Synopsis

The Blithedale Animal Shelter has just ended its annual holiday sale for dogs, and miraculously all but a few have been adopted. An unexpected, welcome surprise for the shelter staff, and great news for the lucky pups who found homes. But for the dogs that remainâ "a high-strung Lab puppy, a three-legged Chihuahua, a Golden Retriever, a hard-luck Pit Bull Terrier; and a smart, old dogâ "it will be a lonely and cold Christmas Eve. Their favorite employee, Ginny Collins, is cozying up their cages and giving them some love before the shelter closes for the holiday. The sun is setting, but a night to remember is about to begin.

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Customer Reviews

Another home run! I didn't think I was going to like this one when the dogs started having a conversation because I'm not overly fond of talking animal books, but as the story developed it touched my heart. When Georgie said "I just want the family I had back" it tore at my soul as I looked at my little fur family - Sparky that I got as a 6-week-old puppy and is now 12 years old and is my best friend, Delilah that I got from the shelter because her eyes spoke volumes to me, and Nina that I got from a family that had only adopted her three months previously and she's my little

snuggle bug. I thought how hard it must be for dogs to be passed from family to family. With their unconditional love, how hard is it to love a human only to be discarded like unwanted junk? And the shelter dogs, left in a cage with only limited human contact, longing for a home and the opportunity to just play on a hillside. Add to the mix the human caregiver that is as wounded as they are and needs them as much as, if not more than, they need her and this story will just make you want to hug your dogs to you and then go to the shelter to adopt a friend for them! I absolutely loved this story and it just makes me cherish my little ragtag band of misfits that much more!

Get your tissues ready, animal lovers. "Love for Freedom" is the latest book by renowned author/dog photographer Mark J. Asher and it's a winner. In the story, you meet five shelter dogs, each with his or her own story to tell about how they ended up there and what they hope will happen to them. They spend Christmas Eve together, get to know each other better, and you will fall in love with each and every one of them. These dogs will grab hold of your heart from the first page of the story and won't let go. The beginning of this short story made me cry because it was sad. The end of the story made me cry because of the joyous way it ended. I hope the story of these loving, courageous dogs continues because I would love to learn how their lives play out. "Love for Freedom" shows us that shelter dogs want nothing more than a place to call home and in return, they will give you more love than you could ever imagine possible.

A Love For Freedom gives the reader an unusual peek into the minds and hearts of a small group of dogs left forgotten in a lonely animal shelter on a Christmas Eve. Were it not for the love and care of one woman, their situation would be hopeless. But it IS Christmas Eve . . . and animals talk (at least this bunch of tail wagging cellmates do) . . . and pain and sadness, fear and questions, give way to hope and imaginings. A chain of out-of-the-ordinary-routine events lead to a magical moment and one dream fulfilled for our furry friends. I really want to go ahead and give a 5-Star rating to this easy-to-read short story because it touches the heart and spirit, and also enlightens us to the plight or promise held for all creatures who find themselves confined to the small, barren kennels of animal shelters everywhere; however, I am left feeling somewhat unsatisfied with the ending. I really would like to know these characters better and see what happens to them beyond that one magical night. Perhaps there will be a sequel to this tender story? So, I give it 4 Stars as a hope to reading more about Ginny, old Dutch, rambunctious Maizie and the rest of the crew in the future.

I agree with other reviewers who thought this was simply written. However, that is not necessarily a

bad thing. Because this is also a short story it is a great choice for younger readers. Most children love dogs and wish they had one. They would probably really enjoy reading a story written from the dog's perspective and "knowing" what the dogs were thinking. This is also a feel good story for adults who love animals, and it is a great reminder that sometimes the perfect pet isn't always the cute little puppy. While there is definitely a place for a bouncy puppy, sometimes the perfect dog is the more mature one that most often is overlooked. Even the injured or maimed animal can be a loving companion to the right person. After all, don't we all want a little freedom and lots of love?

I enjoyed the short story! Being an animal lover I sympathized with the caged animals and loved it when they were visited by someone who loved them. Can't say much without ruining the story except to say "I liked it"!

I'm writing this review with tears running down my face (despite the fact that I never cry while reading) because the story broke my heart and put it back together in the space of forty-five minutes. I feel different- better- because even though I hear stories about dogs at shelters and other stories about them, this one opened my eyes and spoke to my soul- no matter how cheesy it may seem- of how horribly, hopelessly lonely it is in a cage. If I could speak to you personally, Mr. Asher, I would thank you a thousand times over and then some. I recommend "Love for Freedom" to everybody, everywhere. ^

A great read ! This book will make you laugh, smile & Have tears in your eyes! The dogs characters in the book come to life! You can visualize each dog and feel their emotions & struggles realizing they why they are homeless & in a shelter. A day of the life of a shelter dog! Once you start reading it, you won't be able to put it down! The Author Mark J. Asher has a beautiful talent of making a dog come to life & feel how they see life.

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