Dogs, Cats, Lions, and Rhinos

Books for animal lovers

Alex and Me: how a scientist and a parrot discovered a hidden world of animal intelligence--and formed a deep bond in the process
by Pepperberg, Irene M.
636.6865 PEP
Scientist Irene Pepperberg documents her 30-year relationship with Alex, an African gray parrot with a vocabulary of more than 100 words and the ability to describe objects in human language in this moving and informative memoir.

All Creatures Great and Small
by Herriot, James
BIO HERRIOT
A classic memoir of a country veterinarian in 1930s England. Herriot's stories are funny and heartwarming.

All My Patients Have Tales: favorite stories from a vet's practice
by Wells, Jeff

Called a modern-day James Herriot, Jeff Wells tells his experiences as a veterinarian, including tales of delivering calves, wrangling buffalo, and removing porcupine quills from various animals.

Animals Make Us Human: creating the best life for animals
by Grandin, Temple
636.0832 GRA
Grandin believes humans and animals share a core emotion system, including a need to seek; a sense of rage, fear, and panic; feelings of lust; an urge to nurture; and an ability to play.

Babylon's Ark: the incredible wartime rescue of the Baghdad Zoo
by Anthony, Lawrence and Spence, Graham
590.7356 ANT
Anthony, a South African conservationist, tells his story of traveling to Baghdad after the American invasion to save what animals remained at the zoo. This story is a bright spot in the middle of the devastation and loss occurring in Baghdad.

From Baghdad with Love: a Marine, the war, and a dog named Lava
by Kopelman, Jay

Kopelman tells the story of the scruffy puppy he and fellow Marines found in the rubble of Fallujah. Against military orders, they keep the puppy and arrange to bring him back to the United States.

The Daily Coyote: a story of love, survival, and trust in the wilds of Wyoming
by Stockton, Shreve
636.9772 STO
In this book, Stockton expands on her popular blog, the Daily Coyote. With stunning photographs, she

tells her experience of adopting a ten day old coyote pup and sharing her life with him.

Dewey: the small-town library cat who touched the world
by Myron, Vicki
636.8092 MYR
The story of a ginger-colored kitten dropped into the book return at the Spencer, Iowa, Public Library.

Dogs Never Lie about Love: reflections on the emotional world of dogs
by Masson, J. Moussaieff
599.7721 MAS
Masson examines the foundation of the human-dog bond and discusses dogs' thoughts and emotions.

The Dogs Who Found Me: what I've learned from pets who were left behind
by Foster, Ken
636.7 FOS
Foster has the ability to see stray dogs when others don't. He tells of his experiences finding dogs - some resulting happily, others not. He includes suggestions for what to do if a dog "finds you."

Good Dog. Stay
by Quindlen, Anna
BIO QUINDLEN
Quindlen reflects on how her life has unfolded in tandem with her Labrador Beau's, and on the lessons she's learned by watching him: to roll with the punches, to take things as they come, and to measure herself not in terms of the past or the future but of the present.

A Lion Called Christian
by Bourke, Anthony

In 1969, the authors purchased a lion cub from the pet department at Herrod's in London. The lion soon grew too big for their space and the authors found him a suitable home with Born Free's George Adamson in Kenya. Christian, the lion, was soon reintroduced to the wild and became head of a pride. The authors came to find him a year later and were greeted with a loving welcome from Christian.

The Lost Dogs: Michael Vick's Dogs and Their Tale of Rescue and Redemption
by Gorant, Jim
636.0832 GOR
This book tells the story of survival and our powerful bond with man's best friend, in the aftermath of the nation's most notorious case of animal cruelty. At the heart of the stories are the rescue workers who transformed the pups from victims of animal cruelty into healing caregivers themselves, unleashing priceless hope.

Making Rounds With Oscar: The Extraordinary Gift of an Ordinary Cat
by Dosa, David
362.1756 DOS
When Oscar arrived at the Steere House Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Rhode Island he was a cute little cat with attitude. It wasn't long before Oscar had created something of a stir. This ordinary cat possesses an extraordinary gift: he knows instinctively when the end of life is near.

Marley and Me: life and love with the world's worst dog
by Grogan, John
636.7527 GRO
The day they brought home Marley, John and Jenny's lives were forever changed. This memoir tells the humorous tale of Marley, an energetic Labrador retriever who is kicked out of obedience school, eats jewelry, breaks free from almost any restraint, and bounces straight into the couple's hearts.

Merle's Door: Lessons From a Freethinking Dog
by Kerasote, Ted
636.7092 KER
Merle and Ted found each other in the Utah desert--Merle was living wild and Ted was looking for a pup to keep him company. As their bond grew, Ted taught Merle how to live around wildlife, and Merle taught Ted about the benefits of letting a dog make his own decisions.

Oogy: The Dog Only a Family Could Love
by Levin, Larry
636.7009 LEV
The Levin family is approached by the ugliest dog they have ever seen - a dog missing an ear and half a face. The dog had been used as bait for fighting dogs when he was just a few months old. He had been thrown in a cage and left to die until the police rescued him and the staff at Ardmore Animal Hospital saved his life. The Levins, whose sons are themselves adopted, were unable to resist Oogy's charms, and decided to take him home.

Pack of Two
by Knapp, Caroline
636.7088 KNA
Knapp tells of the relationship with her dog, Lucille, that filled the gaping hole in her emotional life after her parents died and she quit drinking.

The Rhino with Glue-on Shoes: and other surprising true stories of zoo vets and their patients
by Mashima, Ted Y. and Spelman, Lucy H.
636.089 RHI
A collection of 28 stories from wildlife and zoo veterinarians. Each story is very different, yet captivating in its own way.

A Small Furry Prayer: Dog Rescue and the Meaning of Life
by Kotler, Steven
636.7 KOT
The author chronicles his adventures at Rancho de Chihuahua, the New Mexico sanctuary he and his wife created for the dogs they have rescued from death row.

Tell Me Where it Hurts: a day of humor, healing and hope in my life as an animal surgeon
by Trout, Nick
636.0897 TRO
Trout is a surgeon at an animal medical center. He has one story for each hour of the day, illustrating the challenges and successes of his work and ultimately showing that despite the possible heartbreak and expense, the bond with an animal is worth the risk.

Travels with Charley: in search of America
by Steinbeck, John
917.3049 STE
With his poodle, Charley, John Steinbeck set out in his truck to explore and experience America in the 1960s. As he talked with all kinds of people, he sadly noted the passing of region speech, fell in love with Montana, and was appalled by racism in New Orleans.

The Wild Parrots of Telegraph Hill: a love story ... with wings
by Bittner, Mark
636.6865 BIT
A story of one man's finding his way through interacting with parrots. Bittner moved into an apartment on San Francisco's Telegraph Hill to find he shared the neighborhood with a flock of wild parrots. He befriends the birds and finds himself, and love.

The Wilderness Family: at home with Africa's wildlife
by Kruger, Kobie
639.9096 KRU
Kobie Kruger tells her story of marrying a game warden and moving deep into some of South Africa's wildest country. She has encounters with lions, hyenas, elephants, pythons, and an orphaned lion cub who she adopts and names Leo.