



## My Life in Dog Years

By Gary Paulsen

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Gary Paulsen has owned dozens of unforgettable and amazing dogs, and here are his favorites--one to a chapter. Among them are Snowball, the puppy he owned as a boy in the Philippines; Ike, his mysterious hunting companion; Electric Fred and his best friend, Pig; Dirk, the grim protector; and Josh, one of the remarkable border collies working on Paulsen's ranch today.

*My Life in Dog Years* is a book for every dog lover and every Paulsen fan--a perfect combination that shows vividly the joy and wisdom that come from growing up with man's best friend.

*From the Hardcover edition.*

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## My Life in Dog Years By Gary Paulsen Bibliography

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### Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Grade 4 Up?Paulsen reveals bits and pieces of his own life story through his experiences with eight of his dogs. After a heartfelt dedication to Cookie, the sled dog who saved his life, the author introduces readers first to Snowball, the puppy he acquired when he was seven years old and living in the Philippines, and then follows chronologically with profiles of other canine companions. He concludes with tales about Josh, the border collie with whom he currently shares a home. Paulsen is a master storyteller with a dry wit. His description of his dog Fred, whom he claimed was actually "nuclear in his capacity for destruction," and his account of his Great Dane Caesar, who was so petrified of trick-or-treaters that he would hide in the bedroom closet every Halloween with a housecoat over his eyes, are sure to elicit smiles. Paulsen can also make readers sigh when he relates how Snowball saved him from being bitten by a poisonous snake and how Cookie pulled him out of the water when he fell through the ice while trapping beaver. The statement, "Josh...is a person. I do not think in my heart that he is a dog," gives youngsters a real sense of how the man looks at these animals. An attractive pen-and-ink sketch of the profiled animal opens each chapter. This well-written, readable reminiscence serves as a tribute to the dogs in one person's life, written by someone who considers them his best friends.?Carol Kolb Phillips, The Library, East Brunswick, NJ  
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From [Booklist](#)

Gr. 5<sup>^</sup>-10. Paulsen's style has been smoother, but this honest, unpretentious celebration of dogs further entrenches his reputation as an author who is as successful at writing nonfiction as he is at writing novels. In roughly chronological chapters, he introduces eight memorable canines he has known and loved over the years. Some were pets, others he knew as trusted partners or protectors--from Snowball, the first, to Josh, who "if possible . . . is always with me." Although the chapters are linked by small details and references (often easy to recognize from his previous books), each can stand alone, with several, including a wildly funny one devoted to an adopted Great Dane named Caesar, promising good read-aloud material. Paulsen differentiates his canine friends beautifully, as only a keen observer and lover of dogs can. At the same time, he presents an intimate glimpse of himself, a lonely child of alcoholic parents, who drew strength and solace from his four-legged companions and a love of the great outdoors. Poignant but never saccharine, honest, and open, these engaging canine character studies are guaranteed to charm animal lovers and Paulsen's fans, especially those who know *Woodson* (1990) or *Father Water, Mother Woods* (1994). There's something to please at every turn of the page. *Stephanie Zvirin*

From Kirkus Reviews

Paulsen paid loving tribute to the sled dogs in his life in *Puppies, Dogs and Blue Northerners* (1996) so gives eight more canine companions equal time: Snowball, who saved his life when he was seven, to Caesar, an enthusiastic Great Dane who "overwhelmed the furniture" but was gentle with children, to Fred, who did battle with an electric fence, to Quincy, who did battle with a bear that attacked the author's wife. Thoughtful, ironic, often hilarious, these vivid character portraits not only make winning stories, but convey a deep respect for all dogs: "They are wonderful and, I think, mandatory for decent human life."  
(illustrations, not seen) (Memoir. 10-13) -- *Copyright ©1997, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.*

### Users Review

From reader reviews:

**Paulette Cantu:**

Does one of the book lovers? If yes, do you ever feeling doubt if you are in the book store? Make an effort to pick one book that you find out the inside because don't assess book by its deal with may doesn't work is difficult job because you are scared that the inside maybe not because fantastic as in the outside seem likes. Maybe you answer can be My Life in Dog Years why because the great cover that make you consider regarding the content will not disappoint anyone. The inside or content is definitely fantastic as the outside or perhaps cover. Your reading 6th sense will directly make suggestions to pick up this book.

**Dwight Bailey:**

The book untitled My Life in Dog Years contain a lot of information on this. The writer explains her idea with easy means. The language is very easy to understand all the people, so do not really worry, you can easy to read the idea. The book was published by famous author. The author provides you in the new period of literary works. It is possible to read this book because you can read more your smart phone, or product, so you can read the book inside anywhere and anytime. If you want to buy the e-book, you can open their official web-site along with order it. Have a nice learn.

**Lillie Stein:**

That publication can make you to feel relax. This book My Life in Dog Years was multi-colored and of course has pictures on there. As we know that book My Life in Dog Years has many kinds or type. Start from kids until young adults. For example Naruto or Private investigator Conan you can read and feel that you are the character on there. Therefore , not at all of book tend to be make you bored, any it offers you feel happy, fun and loosen up. Try to choose the best book to suit your needs and try to like reading this.

**Elizabeth Villalobos:**

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