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Rescuing Sprite: A Dog Lover's Story Of Joy And Anguish



Synopsis

From the New York Times bestselling radio personality Mark Levin and his family comes the true story of the two years of joy and anguish they had with a rescue dog named Sprite. Mark Levin, while known as a lawyer and nationally syndicated broadcaster, considers himself first and foremost a dog lover. In 2004, Mark's family added a new member to their bunch—a beautiful, Spaniel-mixed dog they named Sprite. With his beautiful face and soft, huggable fur, Sprite immediately bonded with the Levin family. But on Halloween night, just three weeks after being adopted, Sprite collapsed and had to be rushed to the animal hospital in what would turn out to be the first of many such visits—and a difficult, heart-wrenching journey for the entire family. Over the next two years, Sprite's health deteriorated, but his spirit remained high and his beauty and grace continued to inspire, until the holiday season of 2006, when the Levin family had to say a final goodbye to their beloved pet. Rescuing Sprite is a stunningly intimate revelation of the strong love that can develop between a family and a pet, and the realization, as Mark Levin puts it, that in the end, we humans are the lucky ones. •

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Customer Reviews

Mark R. Levin, nationally syndicated talk-radio host, host of LevinTV, and chairman of Landmark Legal Foundation, is the author of *Liberty and Tyranny*, the thirty-eight-week New York Times bestseller that spent three months at #1 and sold more than one million copies; and the #1 New York Times bestsellers *Plunder and Deceit*, *Ameritopia*, and *The Liberty Amendments*. His books *Men in Black* and *Rescuing Sprite* were also New York Times and national bestsellers. He was a

top adviser to several members of President Ronald Reagan's cabinet, including serving as chief of staff to the Attorney General of the United States. He holds a B.A. from Temple University, where he graduated Phi Beta Kappa and Magna Cum Laude, and a J.D. from Temple University Law School. Follow Mark Levin on Twitter or visit MarkLevinShow.com.

Introduction Who would have thought I'd write a book about a dog named Sprite? Well, actually, about a dog named Pepsi, too, and another one named Griffen. Every dog lover has a dog story. This is mine. For most of my life, my passions have involved big goals and big thoughts. I've spent my career as a lawyer and broadcaster working on constitutional issues, writing about public policy, and talking about current events. I've served at the highest levels of our government, and I've even written a book about the Supreme Court. So why write this book? Because I am, first and foremost, a dog lover. Few things in life have given me the kind of joy and, frankly, sorrow, as my relationships with my dogs. And this is especially so with an older dog we rescued from a local shelter. We called him Sprite. Sprite was found one day roaming the streets of Silver Spring, Maryland. We believe he lost his original family -- or they lost him. He was taken to a local shelter and later handed over to foster parents while awaiting a family to adopt him. We were lucky to be that family. Sprite was so beautiful. He had big brown eyes and the softest fur I'd ever touched. As we soon learned, Sprite also suffered from serious and ultimately debilitating health problems, but he never let any of it get him down. Despite life's curveballs, he was a dignified, graceful, and courageous dog. He was friendly to all, humans and canines alike. Sprite touched me in ways I could never have expected. He taught me to better appreciate the simple and more important things in life. He quickly became an irreplaceable member of our family and a fixture in the neighborhood. Even with all his setbacks, Sprite was full of life. He appreciated life. He cherished every moment, seeming to understand that his time left on earth would be too brief. I loved this dog. Writing this book was both painful and cathartic for me. Reading it may be emotional for you. I hope it brings you some smiles. I know it will bring you some tears. I hope, when you're done, that you are moved to hold your dog closer in your arms -- or in your memories. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

This is one of two really great books about man's relationship with his dog and the deep sorrow felt when that dog leaves this earth. Until I read this book, I had only read one really great book like it, it was called "Racing in the Rain". This one was a close tie with that book. I also have a new and deeper understanding of the author of this book. I have listened to him on the radio for years, and this book makes me respect him even more.

Mark R. Levin loves dogs, loves the loyalty and devotion given by dogs. He has adopted dogs, he and I came from essentially the same area of Phila.,PA. We are not talking about adopting pure-bred dogs, our dogs had the five letter title of "Mutts." As we came up in life, so did the dogs we adopted. They were strays, but survivors. They really appreciated love and security, once rescued. And, they returned love, devotion, and loyalty many times over....which is what these animals are all about. "Man's Best Friend" is the title they have well-earned. Get Mark's book, it was written with love and respect for a dog he adopted.

This is by far one of the best dog books/memoirs I have ever read (and I've read a lot of them). Levin writes in a clear, succinct, and from-the-heart style that brings the reader into his home and his family's touching life with Sprite.

I bought this book several years ago, after hearing Mark talk about it on the radio. I bought it, but could not bring myself to read it. That's part of what is covered in this book. The fact that we know that day will come, but don't want to face it. Well, now, as I type this, my faithful mixed mutt is laying beside me on her doggie bed, unable to move, and no longer eating. It breaks my heart. Today, I knew her life was ending soon. She stopped eating yesterday, and today won't even take a nibble of cheese, ham, or chicken. I can't get her to drink. She knows her time has come. I am facing that fact too. So today I finally read the book, and yes, Mark, you are completely right, and have expressed all of our fears, loves, hopes, and sorrows. Tomorrow I make the final trip to the vet with Malik, my rescue who has been my faithful friend for eleven years. She and I, along with her housemate Blue (going blind now), have walked hundreds of miles along the beach and sand dunes every single day for the past six or eight years. Not missing a single day, rain, storm, heat, or fog. Every single day she and her pal kept me company as we walked and greeted each day. Now, her life is ending. I am so terribly sad, and dread the final event she and I will share. Thank you for this book, and a place to share. I will update when I come to grips with the final moment.

I received this book from my husband before I even knew about Mark Levin. Mark as become my favorite radio talk show host. This is a true story written by Mark about his life with his familyand precious dogs. He is a huge dog lover and for anyone that loves dogs, this book is a MUST.I now give this book as gifts and it is loved byeveryone I have given it to Ã Â Â'Â'Ã Â Â'Â

Without doubt, this is one of the best, most memorable dog stories that I've read in a long time. Dogs go to special place of unconditional love in our hearts, and Sprite and Pepsi were there with the best. I had my own unforgettable mutts, Benji and Sandy, that added so much to my life and they became so much part of my life, and to everyone in the family. They were our entertainers, our friends, and the watchdogs of the house and family members. No one could close to any of exit/entry doorways without our mutts letting us know, and if the party was acceptable, the visitor would get overwhelmed with joy and love. I liked Mark's down-to-earth writing, easy to follow and very personable and a rhythm of transition that any dog lover could relate to. There's a lot of emotion in this little tale, so be ready to shed a tear or two. I liked this book and have recommended it to others. It inspired us to get a mongrel/boonie puppy who we have named Sogu, a little dog of questionable heritage and many personalities, and able to chew up a rug or just vacuum it, if some food has been dropped.

A delightful yet poignant story about rescuing and loving a dog till that awful decision must be made...It's heart wrenching to have to say a final goodbye to a dog whose life just isn't long enough, but somehow after we pick ourselves up again, we come to find that it's time to love another one for who they are and not to do it as a replacement for the one we lost....

My girlfriend reads a lot of fiction but I wanted to introduce her to Mark Levin books. He is truly an animal lover and so is she. I have read many reviews and heard him talk about Sprite on his show. So happy to provide a sale for Mark and so happy to provide a nonfiction book to a wonderful friend. (It made her cry , by the way) lol

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