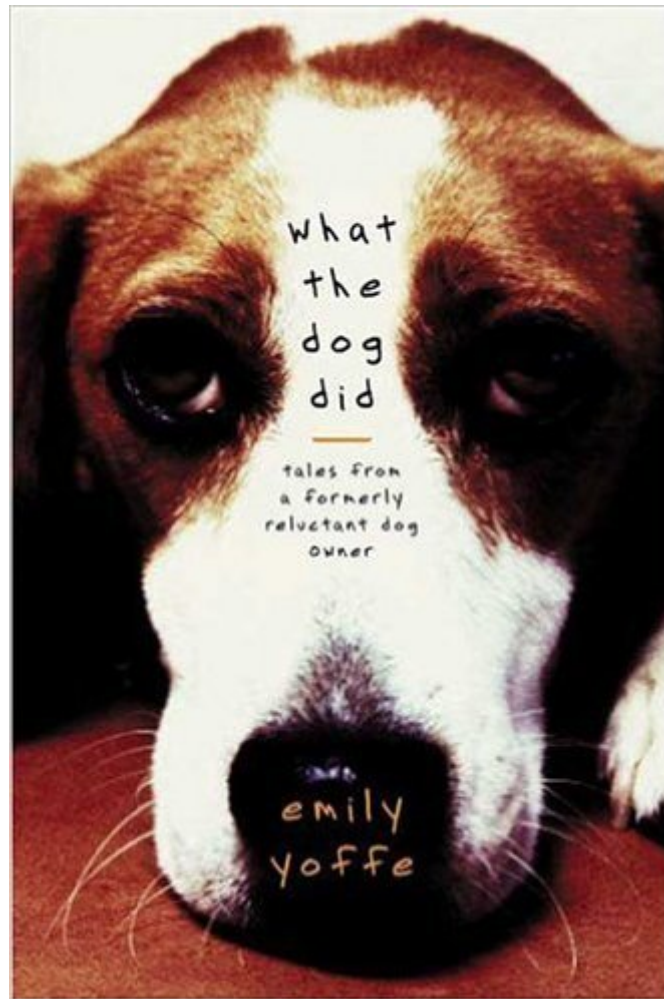


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What The Dog Did: Tales From A Formerly Reluctant Dog Owner



Synopsis

A playful look at all things dog. Emily Yoffe never thought she'd find herself extracting her bra strap from a dog's rear end; in fact, she never thought she'd have a dog at all. This cat devotee was in for some unexpected surprises when she took in a neurotic rescued beagle named Sasha to satisfy her daughter's desire for a dog. *What the Dog Did* chronicles Yoffe's journey from cat person to dog lover. The transformation begins with consternation and culminates with real affection: she becomes a foster mother to a series of homeless beagles; she studies (without success) to be a pet psychic; she visits the Department of Homeland Security to watch sausage- and incendiary device-sniffing canines in action. Everyone who has ever owned a dog, has a story to tell and Emily unwittingly becomes the repository for modern-day dog lore. Filled with adventures of heroic dogs, lovable and lazy dogs, malodorous dogs, phlegmatic and incontinent dogs, *What the Dog Did* delivers some of the most outlandish and certainly the funniest dog stories on record. But at its heart, *What the Dog Did* tells the story of how Yoffe's family turned Sasha, the skittish stray, into a wonderful pet-and how Sasha transformed Yoffe into a dog-lover for life. Winner of the 2005 General Interest Dog Book of the Year from the Dog Writers' Association of America

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Two things. One, I am not a dog person. Two, there can never be too many dog books. As long as they're funny and at least somewhat informative. Slate columnist and lifelong "cat person" Yoffe's account of how she became a dog person easily fills these requirements. It's packed with enough information to confirm a healthy resolve never to own a dog, at least not a beagle, and the self-conscious are cautioned against reading it in public lest you attract stares for continuous eruptions

of solitary laughter. Yoffe starts from the lowest point of dog ownership, the night when she single handedly removed the strap of her favorite bra from the rear-end of her relieved beagle, Sasha. The chapter goes on to share stories about other canine culinary feats. One dog wolfed down the entire rubber gasket from a refrigerator in one piece; another swallowed a seven-inch knife. This latter was discovered only because the uncomplaining dog had stopped sleeping in her customary curled-up position. Sasha's special cat litter treat gets mentioned in a later chapter. While most dogs will eat just about anything, beagles have other drawbacks. The beagle-rescue website has an upfront buyer-beware. "Getting a beagle after this was like reading about a car model in Consumer Reports: 'If you want an automobile that will start reliably, requires little maintenance, runs in all kinds of weather and has a good safety record, then this model is not for you,' and then running to the dealer to put down a deposit on an Osie." Incontinence is a recurring theme, a common trait of beagles. "When Sasha first arrived she did live up to the promise of being completely unhousebroken."

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