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# Finding Home: Shelter Dogs And Their Stories



## Synopsis

Bold, retiring, serious, sparkling, quirky, or lovable—the dogs in Traer Scott's remarkable photographs regard us with humor, dignity, and an abundance of feeling. Scott began photographing these dogs in 2005 as a volunteer at animal shelters. Her first book, *Shelter Dogs*, was a runaway success, and in this follow-up, Scott introduces a new collection of canine subjects, each with indomitable character and spirit: Morrissey, a pit bull, who suffered from anxiety-related behaviors brought on by shelter life until adopted by a family with four children; Chloe, a young chocolate Lab mix, surrendered to a shelter by a family with allergies; Gabriel and Cody, retired racing greyhounds; and Bingley, a dog who lost his hearing during a drug bust but was brought home by a loving family that has risen to the challenge of living with a deaf dog. Through extended features we become better acquainted with the personalities and life stories of selected dogs and watch as they experience the sometimes rocky and always emotional transition to new homes. The portraits in *Finding Home* form an eloquent plea for the urgent need for more adoptive families, as well as a tribute to dogs everywhere. Traer Scott and Princeton Architectural Press are donating a portion of the proceeds from *Finding Home* to two dog rescue organizations: Providence Animal Rescue League and Handsome Dan's Rescue.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

*Finding Home: Shelter Dogs and Their Stories* I have worked with Traer professionally and can attest to the acute connection that she makes with her canine photographic subjects. Clearly, she

has been a dog in a past life and I say this with absolute conviction and only the highest regard for that quality. Without sentimentality or anthropomorphology, Traer is able to capture the essence of the spirit of the dogs she photographs. In many instances, that spirit has been considerably dampened but somehow she is able to find the pathos and latent generosity inherent in each dog. Beyond the beauty and reality of the portraits, is her accompanying text. Without blame or grandstanding, Traer presents the facts of shelter life and how both dogs and rescue volunteers are hanging on hope. Will we see an end to pet overpopulation in our lifetime? With perspectives such as those of Traer Scott's, we may just see real progress.

I'm a sucker for dogs and especially rescue or shelter dogs. I have a 9 year old Lab/Rhodesian Ridgeback named George who was a shelter dog, that no one wanted. Every time someone would come up to his cage he would snap at them. Until there was me. Shelter Dogs and their stories are always fascinating to me. This book has a permanent place on my coffee table.

As if the pictures aren't moving enough, the stories that go along with them are beautifully written. It's an incredible journey that some of these shelter dogs take and touched me personally since I remember some of these pups going through the system when my girl rescued us!

Traer Scott's book Finding Home comes a decade after her book Shelter Dogs. She strikes the same note of poignancy in her photos, but now we hear more of the dogs' stories. Traer chose five dogs to follow from their surrender at the shelter through adoption, and her words provide the abstract to her haunting photos. In her photos, the souls of these dogs are seen through their eyes. I fell in love with Roman and Sophia, but all of the dogs of Finding Home will touch your heart. The best thing about this book is what an advocate Traer is for shelter rescue and adoption. She dispels many myths about shelter adoption. The other best thing about the book is that a percentage of all proceeds will be donated to Handsome Dan's Rescue and Providence Animal Rescue League.

I was delighted to find Traer Scott!!! She is an "old soul" as anyone can tell by viewing her work. She has done some very hard work and started when there wasn't much backing in a society that would like to turn their backs because it is too painful to see. With her great works and determination we are lucky to have these wonderful photos. I am saying her work, in my humble opinion is just unbelievable, as she captures the dogs emotions. She has educated so many and from there it seems to be paying it forward thru many. Thank You Traer, I have bought many and

you have been so kind as to sign them for me. I have given them to friends and local rescues for fundraisers.

Besides being one of the most beautifully photographed books I have seen in a very long time, the book follows several dogs through the local shelter system from intake to completion, whatever that may be. The book does not sugar coat the plight of the shelter dog but tells each story with dignity and honor that Traer is famous for giving all of her canine subjects. Finding Home is a must have for anyone involved in the rescue world.

I recently brought a new dog into my home. A month of living alone after putting down my wonderful Standard Poodle who had run out his string with cancer of the nose. I resonated with these stories and feel so blessed that after a month of searching , I found Rio, a beautiful, trained, affectionate apricot Standard Poodle at Standard Poodle Rescue of the Southwest, in Chaparral, NM. After extensive vetting (of me, not the dog) the kennel agreed to a personal interview (again me, not the dog) and I drove 350 miles to their grooming salon and kennel to see him. We both passed our inspections and now Rio is being spoiled in Abilene, Tx with a new forever home. This book represents my feelings completely. I plan to re-read it often to remind me how lucky Rio and I am, having found each other in this wide , wide world.

Finding home is both a beautiful book with gorgeous photos and great book with moving stories of dogs from shelters and their stories. I cried as I read many of the stories and found myself filled with happiness as the dogs herein were adopted. Finding home is a stunning little gem that will reward those lucky enough to read it.

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