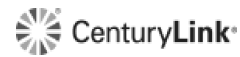




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Curling up with a good book about animals

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22 hours ago • by Wilda Lyons / Coalition for Pet Protection

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Coalition for Pet Protection members are excited to start their 24th year of service to the Lincoln community. There are great events in store for the year ahead. The busy holiday season is over. Now's a great time to stay in, keep warm, relax, and enjoy a good book.

Animal lovers are in for a treat, for there are many books available which feature animals as primary characters. I'd like to recommend two books I read this past year.

David Rosenfelt's true story of his travels cross country with 25 rescued dogs is a truly uplifting "tail." Reading "Dog Tripping -- 25 Rescues, 11 Volunteers and 3 RV'S on our Canine Cross Country Adventure" will leave one feeling there is hope for mankind. Rosenfelt is also the author of the "Andy Carpenter Mystery Series."

Another book -- a Christmas gift from a dear friend -- is "My Old Dog--Rescued Pets with Remarkable Second Acts," written by Laura T. Coffey, with endearing photography by Lori Fusar. This book reminds us that old age can bring many wonderful things to all. There is a certain sweetness that comes with the years. This will be a treasured book for my collection.

There are hundreds of book series out there, so I will only highlight a few. These are aptly referred to as "cozy mysteries," for they are light-hearted, and great to cozy up with, especially with a furry friend! So shut off the TV, let the snow fly, and cuddle up with a great mystery.

Probably the most popular series is the "Cat Who..." mysteries. They were penned by Lillian Jackson Braun, who left us in 2011 with the enchanting stories featuring the Siamese cats KoKo and Yum Yum and their human Mr. Q. There are 29 books in this series.

Another popular series is written by Rita Mae Brown and her feline Sneaky Pie. The feline characters of Mrs. Murphy and Pewter and their corgi sidekick, Tee Tucker, never fail to help their human Harry solve the mysteries in Crozet, Virginia. There are 25 books in this series. Shirley Murphy's mystery series featuring the feline, Joe Grey and his human, Clyde have been delighting readers since 1996. The series has 19 books.

One can Google "The Case of the Feline Flatfoot" and find the research behind the popularity of cat/mystery series. Dog lovers, do not despair! There are some wonderful canine mystery series to enjoy. In addition to the Andy Carpenter series, four come to mind:

Susan Conant's series features the character of Holly Winter, a writer for Dog's Life Magazine. Her canine companion is Rowdy, an Alaskan Malamute. Susan has written 20 books for this series.

Another series features a black lab, Randolph, as the narrator of the stories. Check out J.F.

Englert's Bull Moose Run stories.

Laura Child has been entertaining readers since 2001 with her Tea Shop Series, which features the canine by the name of Earl Grey. Readers can enjoy 17 books in this series.

Antique and dog lovers will enjoy Ann Campbell's "Annie O'Hara & Claudius" series. Claudius is a German Shepherd Mix.

These are just a few of the many great animal character series. I love to read, and these books and others have brought many hours of enjoyment. I hope they do the same for you.

Photo contest soon

CPP's next photo contest deadline is Sunday, Jan. 10. Animal lovers can submit their favorite pet photos; winners will be featured on CPP change jars at businesses around the city. One dog and one cat pictured will be featured.

Voting will close Fri., Jan. 15. More information is on the group's webpage.

About the Coalition

The Coalition for Pet Protection, founded in 1992, is a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization. All donations are tax-deductible and used locally. The mission is to help those in need of financial assistance for cat care. There is also an animal food pantry, offering emergency supplies for dogs and cats.

Additional information is at www.petcoalition.org, on Facebook, or by calling the hotline at (402) 434-7922.

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