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Immerse yourself in books about animals

by Wilda Lyons / Coalition for Pet Protection Updated Nov 30, 2016

The Christmas holidays are just around the corner. This means shopping for that special someone, including yourself!

I love to give books; they're one of the few gifts that keep on giving. Stories are like old friends -- they can be revisited and cherished for many years to come.

There are many great animal books on the shelves today, I am mentioning just a few I have enjoyed and recommend. Perfect for you, and any animal lover on your holiday list. For a complete list, visit the Coalition's Facebook Page at www.Facebook.com/PetCoalition/.

I recently finished David Rosenfelt's latest in the Andy Carpenter series "The Twelve Dogs of Christmas" (Minotaur Pub.) in which Andy helps a dog rescuer accused of murder. Like the other books in the series, this will satisfy the mystery lover.

Two non-fiction books are on my favorite reads list for the year:

"The Perfect Horse--The Daring U.S. Mission to Rescue the Priceless Stallions Kidnapped by the Nazis" (Ballentine Pub). Elizabeth Letts tells the gripping, true story of the rescue of the famous Lipizzaner Stallions during the last days of WW II. This is a beautifully written, thoroughly researched book. The reader will appreciate the horror and heroism of those times, and the "Greatest Generation" even more.

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Letts has also written "The Eighty Dollar Champion--The Horse that Inspired a Nation" (Ballentine Pub.) This is the true story of the horse Snowman, saved from slaughter to become one the greatest jumpers of all time. An inspiring story from the 1950s, it is still relevant today.


The last book combines cats and books, a purr-fect combination! "The True Tails of Baker and Taylor--The Library Cats who left their Pawprints on a Small Town....and The World" is by Jan Louch with Lisa Rogak. This true story features two Scottish Fold cats who begin their careers as mousers for the library at a library in Nevada. These cats became celebrities, and in turn, the most famous library cats. This is a wonderful, uplifting read, great for book lovers, and cat lovers of all ages.

The Coalition for Pet Protection, founded in 1992, is a non-profit 501(c 3) organization whose donations are tax-deductible and used locally. The mission is to help with financial needs for emergency feline care. The group also has an emergency dog/cat food pantry. For more information call (402) 434-7922 or www.petcoalition.org.

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If Christmas gets you down, there's a sad song for you