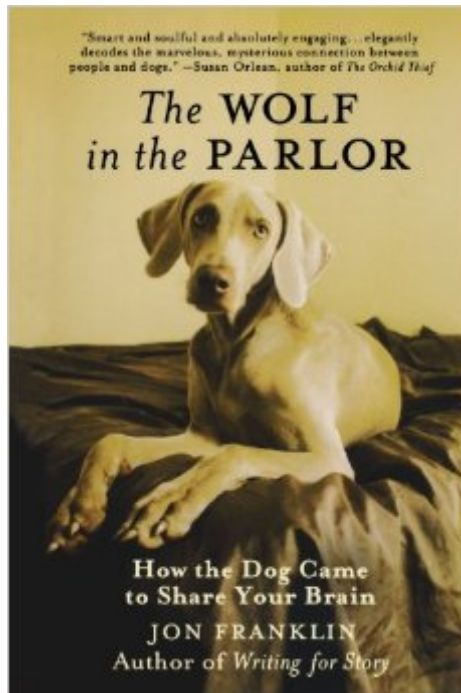


The book was found

The Wolf In The Parlor: How The Dog Came To Share Your Brain



Synopsis

There is no question that the dog inhabits a singular position in relation to humans, a position no other animal occupies. But where did this extraordinary bond originate, and what distinguishes it from the way we feel about other animals? And why is it that humans are as important to dogs as they are to us? Jon Franklin set out to find out and ended up spending a decade studying the origins and significance of the dog and its peculiar attachment to humans. As the intellectual pursuit of his subject began to take over Franklin's life, he married a dog lover and was quickly introduced to the ancient and powerful law of nature, to wit: Love me, love my dog. Soon Franklin was sharing hearth and home with a soulful and clever poodle named Charlie. And so began an odyssey, from a 12,000-year-old grave to a conclusion so remarkable as to change our perception of ourselves. Building on evolutionary science, archaeology, behavioral science, and the firsthand experience of watching his own dog evolve from puppy to family member, Franklin posits that man and dog are more than just inseparable; they are part and parcel of the same creature. Along the way, *The Wolf in the Parlor* imparts a substantial yet painless education on subjects as far-ranging as psychological evolution and neurochemistry. In this groundbreaking book, master storyteller Franklin shatters the lens through which we see the world and shows us an unexpected, enthralling picture of the human/canine relationship.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

This book was a disappointment. I knew enough about the theme - the symbiotic relationship between people and dogs - to know that a very interesting and enlightening book could be written

on the subject. In this one I was expecting a fairly thorough review and presentation of the scientific evidence and theories on the subject, but that is not what I found. If you are looking for nonfiction in the sense of a sober presentation and assessment of what scientific evidence there is on the subject, you will find informative writing of that sort only in relatively small snatches scattered here and there in the book. If you are looking for a personal story of the author's experience with his dog or other dogs, you will find writing of that sort only in relatively small snatches here and there. What the majority of the book consists of is the author's philosophical musings, and stories about his efforts to learn more about the origin of dogs. An example of the "how I found it" material: "Eventually I found an outfit at the University of Michigan that was pioneering the on-demand reproduction of rare books. I called them. We haggled, and I sent them a check. In due time my mailbox yielded up a very thin little volume of copied and bound pages. Olsen's book. Finally! I tore open the package like it was a Christmas present. It was just what I'd wanted; the book was packed full of detail." If you want to read this sort of personal-quest narrative, you will not be disappointed by the book. An example of the "philosophical musing" material, this one about how ancient humans invented religion: "The knowledge of death was depressing. Depression made us less able to cope."

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