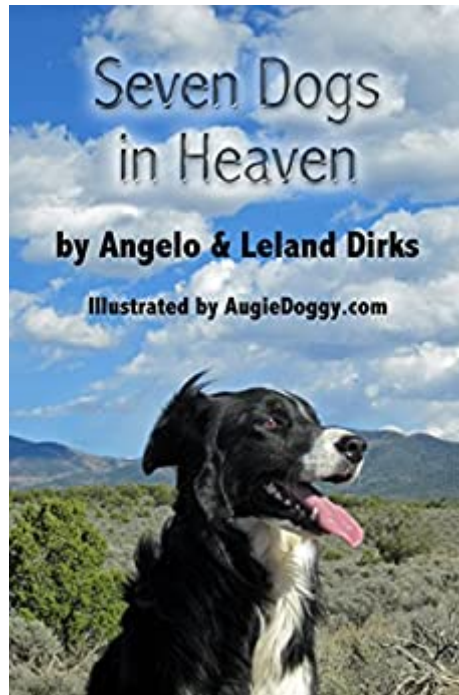




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# Seven Dogs In Heaven



## Synopsis

Part memoir, part fable, and part fantasy, this is the story of a man who dies unexpectedly and makes his way to Paradise with the help of the canine friends who shared his life. What if you lived in the middle of a beautiful nowhere, with a dog who mysteriously appeared at your door? What if you were out hiking one winter day, you broke your leg, and you froze to death? And what if the angels who met you had four feet instead of wings? Would you listen to the lessons they wanted to teach you? This edition also includes a bonus short story, Christmas with a Collie.

## Book Information

File Size: 1681 KB

Print Length: 118 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publication Date: September 15, 2011

Sold by: Amazon Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B005NIASBA

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #401,182 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #120

in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Pets & Animal Care > Pet Loss #359 in Kindle Store > Whispersync for Voice > Crafts, Hobbies & Home #525 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Death & Grief

## Customer Reviews

I love Leland Dirks' writing, so I was prepared to like *Seven Dogs in Heaven*, but truthfully, I wasn't prepared to love it. I'm a bit of a hard-headed realist, so a story about dogs in heaven struck me as, well, a bit hard to swallow? Perhaps a little too sentimental an idea? Mr. Dirks, however, has the gift of taking the improbable and making it completely palatable with his elegant, simple prose and his avoidance of the sentimental. The story is inspirational, funny, sad, sweet, and completely engrossing. He never stoops to using the obvious cliches that other authors of dog books use to

bring a tear. When I cried--and I did--I felt truly touched and not manipulated. I whole-heartedly recommend this book. It left me feeling uplifted and hopeful. That's a lot for this hard-headed realist to say. :)

Seven Dogs In Heaven is a wonderfully entertaining tale of oneman's experiences come "Judgement Day." It is thought provoking, illuminating, and thoroughly engrossing. You don't have to be a dog lover to appreciate this story, although dog lovers will recognize how truly unconditional a dogs love can be when trying to teach by example lessons such as fidelity, imagination and duty. In the end, everyone will relate to how man's daily struggle to do the right thing leads eventually to a final justice, one validated by the love he shares in life and beyond.

I had already fallen in love with Angelo when I purchased this book so I knew I would probably like it. However the concept, while it seemed a little strange at first, began to grow on me. I've always believed there are animals in Heaven but to "become" an animal, and the best animal there is, a dog, would indeed be like a dream come true. Dogs are teachers to all of us if we will but pay attention to them. I believe God can use anyone OR anything to teach us about Himself. That is what this book essentially does...it teaches us that God loves everything, and everyone, He creates and there is a usefulness in all of it. Beyond this dogs are also a great enjoyment for us. Another lesson learned - life is not all about work. We must take time to enjoy what God has given us. Leland Dirks is the kind of author that sees deep into the nature of dogs and their ability to mentor us in so many ways. I'm sure I can say with confidence that he has grown in many ways because of his relationships with his dogs. To be able to write about it in such a way as to make everyone else want to be a dog is an absolute gift. I hope he has many more books in his future as I simply love his style of writing. Thanks Leland and Angelo (and all the other pups too).

I don't know why I started this book. I don't know if there was any significance in when I read this book. I only know that, after several pages, I became immersed in it. Eagerly I read, enjoying the scenery as much as the characters themselves. And when it was done, I felt something I cannot describe. Peace? Not exactly. Close, maybe. It was a strange feeling, not good nor bad. I am still pondering. Did I enjoy the book? Most certainly! The timing? Hmmmm....I picked it up and read it 3 weeks before I would, unknowingly at the time, have to have my nearly 15 yo 4 legged princess put to sleep. That, too, has left me with a somewhat eerie feeling. Not good, but not bad either. If you're a devout canine fan, read this book!

Knowing Leland and Angelo personally and the land where this story takes place was a big plus for me; but to other readers, it will identify a place, a man and some dogs that spring life very easily in your imagination. In his simple approach, Leland created something profound and allowed Angelo to be one of the leading characters amongst a group of other dogs -each bringing its own thought-provoking approach and making the reader dig back into their own head for the dogs of their own lives and what they meant - how they changed us and how we changed them. It's a great story but be prepared for your emotions to bubble out and take you to places you didn't know you had. Really enjoyed this and will re-read often.

After reading Angelo's Journey, this is another wonderful story. The story of the dogs in the author's life really brought up memories of my past dogs and how I might meet up with them in Heaven. A few tears, reflections and smiles, this is great book for all pet lovers and owners.

This book was surprisingly good. I am an avid reader and also a real dog lover so I am sometimes disappointed by the 'sameness' of some of the books on the market. This book is quite different in the approach the author takes. You will be taken on an interesting journey of both man and his dogs. Those of us who have been fortunate enough to share our lives with dogs know only too well the unconditional love they offer, irrespective of our shortcomings. A love not often found in the human population but almost always in the canine species. Our dogs have much to teach us if we let them. This book, written from both perspectives of a man and his dogs explores this concept. I hope you enjoy this book as much as I did.

I found this charming book *Seven Dogs in Heaven* after losing the dog that taught me how to love dogs. The title caught my eye since I very much wanted to believe that I would meet my little guy again in heaven. This tale confirmed that belief in my mind but brought me so much more. It creates a heaven where the pups that had shared the life of the protagonist of the story are the angels that guide him through the process. Very believable, very real, not sickly sweet and very genuinely touching at many turns. A marvelous reminder of the many gifts dogs bring to our lives and a crisp telling of the lessons we can learn in their presence.

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