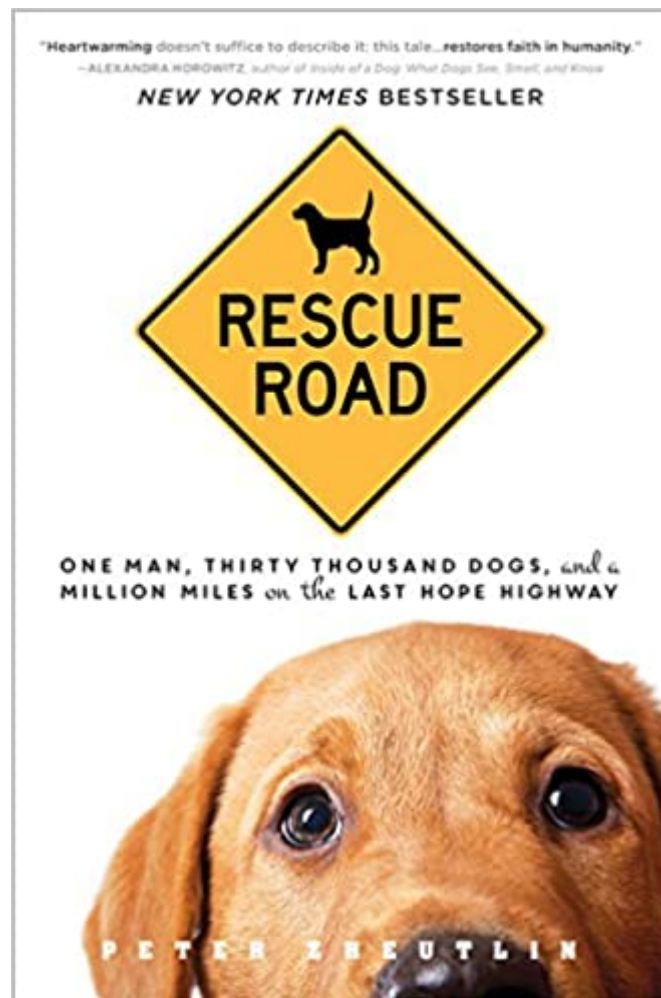




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Rescue Road: One Man, Thirty Thousand Dogs, And A Million Miles On The Last Hope Highway



Synopsis

"Peter Zheutlin has written a lovely, moving, important book about a subject that is both heartbreaking and joyful." - Dean Koontz

How far would you go to save a life? This is the extraordinary story of one man who has driven more than 1 million miles to rescue thousands of dogs from hunger, abuse and neglect and give them a second chance at life and love. For years, Greg Mahle struggled to keep the last of his family-run restaurants afloat in Ohio. When it finally closed, he was broke and unsure what to do next. Then a stranded van-load of puppies changed his life forever. Join journalist Peter Zheutlin as he travels with Greg from Ohio to the Gulf Coast on his Rescue Road Trips to bring hard-luck dogs from the deep South to loving "forever families" up north looking to adopt a pet, with the help of many selfless volunteers along the way. From Houston's impoverished Fifth Ward--where thousands of strays roam the streets--and high-kill animal shelters in Louisiana, to joyous scenes of adopters embracing their new pups in the Northeast, Rescue Road is full of heart: an inspiring story about the unique bond between dogs and humans, and how going the extra mile can make a life-changing difference for these loyal canines--and for us all. A heartwarming, awe-inspiring story of how one man can impact so many lives, human and puppy alike. Fans of *Marley and Me*, *Oogy: The Dog Only A Family Could Love*, and *You Had Me At Woof* will be inspired and touched by this story.

What readers are saying about Rescue Road: "I stand in awe of those who can do this kind of rescue work, for their persistence, compassion and willingness to get dirty in the service of animals." "a heartwarming & eye opening journey into the world of dog rescue." "I highly recommend this book if you are looking to restore your faith in humanity." "a heart-warming story that reaffirms there are many compassionate people who work tirelessly to save dogs."

What reviewers are saying about Rescue Road:

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Customer Reviews

"Peter Zheutlin has written a lovely, moving, important book about a subject that is both heartbreaking and joyful. Greg Mahle, the central figure of this story, is now a hero of mine. Dogs are not just property. They are one way God tests our compassion." - Dean Koontz

"An unabashedly sentimental and affecting portrait of a modern-day animal-loving hero." - Kirkus

"Peter Zheutlin takes us on a dog lover's ultimate road trip. Rescue Road is a canine caravan with heart and soul, sharing with the reader the bittersweet reality of dog rescue today. Even the most intrepid of dog rescuers will find a new hero in Greg Mahle who is, without a doubt, dog's best friend." - Teresa Rhyne, author of the #1 NYT bestseller *The Dog Lived (And So Will I)*

"Journalist Peter Zheutlin, who joined him for hundreds of miles, tells this inspiring story about the unique bond between dogs and humans and how going the extra mile can change our loyal companions' lives." - ForeWord Reviews

"Heartwarming doesn't suffice to describe it: this tale of stray, unwanted, and abandoned dogs, and the people who devote their lives to saving them, restores faith in humanity." - Alexandra Horowitz, author of *Inside of a Dog: What Dogs See, Smell, and Know*

"A tender, inspiring homage to the people and one giant of a man in particular who save dogs in need and deliver them to their forever homes. These heroes bring hope when there seems to be none, and Peter Zheutlin beautifully captures their great devotion and generosity." - Matthew Gilbert, author of *Off the Leash: A Year at the Dog Park*

"This is a spot-on portrait of the rescue community. Readers who are involved in this work will recognize the characters and emotions as their own. Those who are curious about the realities of animal rescue have an excellent resource in Zheutlin's book." - Library Journal

"Learn how [Greg] Mahle has embraced the unique bond between dogs and humans and brought immeasurable joy to everyone he encounters." - Parade.com

"Inspiring and riveting new book...a must-read for anyone who wants to learn about some of the heroes on the front lines of animal rescue-what inspires them and how, miraculously, they pull it all together." - The Bark

"This is a must read for all dog lovers!" - Teena in Toronto

Peter Zheutlin, the author of *Around the World on Two Wheels*, is a freelance journalist whose work has appeared regularly in the *Boston Globe* and the *Christian Science Monitor*. Peter has also written for the *New York Times*, the *Los Angeles Times*, *AARP The Magazine*, and other

publications. He lives in Needham, Massachusetts. Barry Abrams has narrated and produced audiobooks for a variety of publishers. Since 2012, he has also hosted and produced ESPN's In the Gate podcast. Based in Danbury, Connecticut, Barry engineers and calls live webcasts of his son's ice hockey games. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

Disclaimer: I have personal involvement with the subject matter as my own dog was adopted from Kathy Wetmore at Houston Shaggy Dog Rescue and brought from Houston, TX to NY using Rescue Road Trips in May 2013. I continue to be involved with RRT by taking photographs at one of Greg's many stops. I have purchased a copy arriving this week, however, I also received an advance copy as a surprise from Greg & Adella for my volunteer work with the group. Needless to say, I have a biased opinion...BUT if you read this book, you'll see why.

"Rescue Road" is a heartwarming & eye opening journey into the world of dog rescue. Peter Zheutlin was able to experience life with Greg on the road during his biweekly journey to help him better understand and research the ins & outs involved with rescue groups, as well as the successful, well-organized transport that Greg operates. Many people don't realize that there is a whole culture of rescue groups who work tirelessly to save as many dogs as possible from euthanasia, yet it's still never enough. More often, people in the north don't even realize the severity of issues that plague animals in many southern states. "Rescue Road" helps bring to light the desperate conditions of shelters with insanely high euthanasia rates due to sheer volume of animals due to lack of spay/neuter, injuries, and not to mention lack of vaccination that leads to diseases. The dogs that end up in the shelters are often perfectly adoptable animals that have been abandoned for a multitude of reasons. Various rescue groups claim these animals to save them from certain death and work diligently to find them suitable homes. Those who are placed with families in New England states generally make their "freedom ride" with Greg. Those who have met Greg would agree that he doesn't consider himself a modern day hero, but the truth is -- he is. In their few short days together, he shows the dogs such compassion, friendship and loyalty -- exactly what they will provide their new family with for the rest of their lives. Greg & the dogs establish a mutual trust and truly bond. I have seen first hand the way the dogs absolutely adore him. Animals know good people...and Greg Mahle is good people. He doesn't have a hidden agenda -- merely wants to help as many dogs as possible to live the lives of love and happiness that they deserve. Speaking from my firsthand experience of Gotcha Day and the excitement leading up to it, I can say that RRT does it best. Greg and the Angels keep the Facebook followers involved with pictures and status updates to build the anticipation for Gotcha Day to arrive. There is something so very special about

this whole process that you simply have to witness to understand. To see the dogs come off the trailer and meet their new family...to see the amazing signs, followed by the first introductions, photos and follow-up kisses and hugs -- it's a true celebration of the first day of the rest of the dogs life. In his book, Mr. Zheutlin also speaks of several individuals and their respective rescue organizations that Greg Mahle often works with. One of the stories that brought tears to my eyes was the story and subsequent follow-up about Teddy. Keri should be commended for her strength and efforts in her willingness to work towards socializing and trying to help Teddy. Zheutlin also speaks a great deal about Kathy Wetmore of Houston Shaggy Dog Rescue. As he even pointed out, Kathy runs a tight ship and has strict guidelines of who she allows to adopt her rescues. Some people criticize this, however, like Greg, their focus is placed solely upon the dogs. My own dog came from Kathy and her amazing organization. I will forever be grateful for the incredible work she does, but after reading this book and finding out more about her willingness to help Greg in such dire times, in my opinion, she continues to be one of the most selfless and well-respected people in dog rescue. I strongly urge you to seek out Houston Shaggy Dog Rescue to adopt or even donate, but you can also check RescueRoadTrips.org for many other rescues that also use Greg's Rescue Road Trip transport. Rescue Road is a testament to the blood, sweat, tears and thousands of miles involved in making our world a better place. Not only forever changing the life of the dog, but also of the adoptive family. We need more people like the RRT crew and every single person involved along the way, right down to the RRT Facebook followers and readers of this book. One person CAN make a difference and when these people band together -- amazing things happen. Dog lovers and animal lovers will definitely appreciate this book...

We adopted our dog in October of 2011, it changed our lives. I could not understand how there are so many dogs, and this guy drives this truck every two weeks, all year long? We are now very involved in rescue and this is my thoughts based on personal experiences on Rescue Road: Very well written. The author uses accurate and thoughtful descriptions of the places and people, the "un-sung" heroes of dog rescue in the Southern States and the counterparts in the Northeast. I am amazed at the authors ability to take a complex issue and effectively touch on topics including why there is an over population of dogs in the South and what different rescues are doing to try to change that including education. I like that he covered 5 different rescues across two states and how they are different but all making a contribution. I hope there will be a future book where he can go a little more in depth on some of his footnotes. (Like the misconception that rescues are "making money" on adoptions). If you read this book you will never "shop" for a dog I can promise you that! I

would also recommend anyone who has adopted a dog to buy the book you will have an appreciation for the hard work, dedication and love that went into saving your dog and transporting him to his forever home.

I loved this book. It made me cry and smile all at the same time. I have 3 labs from Labs4rescue who were all throw away dogs with no chance at a life until L4R and Greg saved them. They are my treasures and the sunshine in my days. We have a real problem with animal over population and people thinking it's ok to throw dogs away. It's not. This book told the amazing story of these amazing people who work endlessly to save these precious creatures. Thanks Peter for writing such a heartwarming story to show case a real problem and the real heroes who are trying to make a difference. My life is changed because of rescue. This is a MUST read!!!!

Loved the book. I'm a huge fan of Greg Mahle and the people involved with Rescue Road Trips. Due to the fact that I'm a sensitive animal lover, I cried through the stories of the poor victim dogs located at various kennels and shelters in the South. So hard to believe that there are places like that in our country. The author, Peter Zheutlin must be commended on his thorough research into the story. I could not have gone to all those locations, and witness those poor dogs, some barely alive, left in deplorable conditions, as Mr Zheutlin did for background to the story. Lastly, blessings to all the people who rescue, heal, foster and adopt these deserving dogs. A wonderful and heartwarming book.

This is a fantastic book! I felt like I was riding along the rescue road with the guys! This book is for anyone who loves dogs and the people who rescue them. It is both heartbreaking and heartwarming at the same time. The book provides a real look at the people who rescue dogs and the dogs who are lucky enough to become connected with the rescuers in this story and find their way to new homes in the Northeast. All people should rescue these deserving dogs...I have adopted 3 rescues from the South, and this book makes me want to do more and hopefully lots of people will read this and rescue a dog. Thank you, Peter, for shining light on this huge problem, and thanks to all the wonderful people in the book whose hard work saves many sweet, wonderful dogs.

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