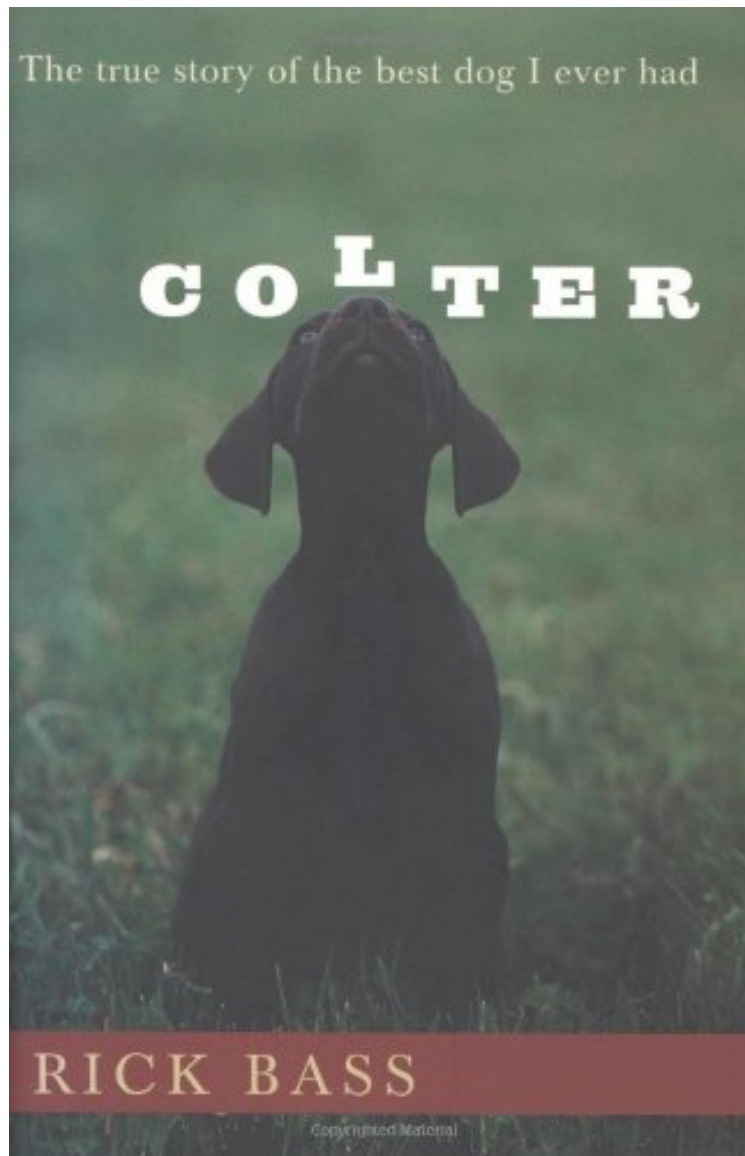


[Download free ebook] Colter: The True Story of the Best Dog I Ever Had

Colter: The True Story of the Best Dog I Ever Had

Rick Bass

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Rick Bass : Colter: The True Story of the Best Dog I Ever Had before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Colter: The True Story of the Best Dog I Ever Had:

54 of 56 people found the following review helpful. Colter: The Best Dog Book I've Ever ReadBy SanukThis is a book about bird hunting and the author's partnership with a very special pointing dog. Being a non-hunter detracted not one bit from my appreciation of this exploration of the depths of the human-canine relationship. In fact, I have

never encountered it done with such empathic insight. Rick Bass writes about emotions; his deep feelings for all living things, from turtles to ecosystems. But the focus is upon his intense love of dogs and of the intimate partnering with a dog that draws him to bird hunting. He confesses ambivalence about shooting birds, and does so mainly to reward Colter. He does quite a credible job of conveying to the reader the dog's side of the experience as well. If you love dogs of any breed, this is a "must read".

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. BeautifulBy Sonya EdwardsSo many wonderful passages to reread and savor. A master painter whose medium is a palette of words. My heart is lifted in one chapter then dashed in another. I've never understood hunting, but this book gives me an inkling of what might call one to go down that road. Truly enjoyed it. For anybody who loves the beauty of the horizon embraced by clouds and grounded by rolling fields of wheat stubble, this is a book that will bring presence of mind.

0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. Colter: Rick Bass at his best.By MartinRick Bass is a great American author and in Colter he shares his love of the West and of his beautiful dog, Colter. If you love your dog, you'll love Colter.

Colter was the runt of the litter, and Rick Bass took him only because nobody else would. Soon, though, Bass realized he had a raging genius on his hands, and he raided his daughters' college fund to send Colter to the best schools. Colter could be a champion, Rick was told, but he'd have to be broken, slowed down. Rick "could no more imagine a slowing-down Colter than a slow-motion bolt of lightning in the sky," and instead of breaking Colter he followed him. Colter led him into new territory, an unexplored land where he felt more alive, more intimately connected to the world, than he'd ever been before. In the course of telling us Colter's story, Rick Bass also tells us of his childhood fascination with snapping turtles and dirt, and of the other animals - including people - that have shaped his life. COLTER is an interspecies love story that vividly captures the relationship between humans and dogs. Like all of Bass's work, it is passionate, poetic, and original.

From Publishers Weekly"How we fall into grace. You can't work or earn your way into it. You just fall. It lies below, it lies beyond. It comes to you, unbidden," writes novelist and essayist Bass (Where the Sea Used to Be, etc.) of the arrival of his "goofy little knot-headed" genius of a pointing dog. As they roam the remote western Montana valley where Bass lives, and hunt the golden autumn plains in the eastern part of the state, Colter unfailingly ushers Bass into "an unexplored land" where the two become "as alive as we have ever been: our senses so sharp and whittled alive that we could barely stand it." Their prolonged hours of "wanting only one thing, a bird, wanting it so effortlessly and purely that [we] come the closest [we] will ever come to a shared language" are a blessing. But always, for Bass, there is the undertow of paradox: of living for the hunt but being a comically rotten marksman; of being a hunter yet an environmentalist; of his tendency to love with "a passion so intense it borders on gluttony," inevitably followed by the crushing numbness that marks the loss of what he loves. Bass's exhaustless appetite for natural beauty and his propensity for "bragging on" his dog occasionally lead to exuberant repetition ("It was just so damn great to be out in such open country with my dogs"), but more often result in luminously transcendent passages on the education and sorrowful loss of a brilliant and mischievous chocolate brown pointer that will transfix anyone who has ever loved a dog. (June) Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc.

From Library JournalThis delightful book is really a love story about the special bond and level of understanding that can exist between a man and his dog. It is also a story that celebrates nature, describing life in the Montana woods and the thrill of hunting in the never-ending fields at the foot of the Rocky Mountains. In his latest book, nature writer Bass (The Sky, the Stars, the Wilderness) tells the story of life with a very special hunting dog. Colter is the runt of the litter, and Bass ends up buying the pup because no one else wants him. But as he grows, Colter's instinct takes over, and his passion for hunting is unequalled. The dog's abilities are so outstanding that Bass, admittedly a poor shot, feels guilty when he misses a bird because he feels that he is letting his dog down. His enthusiasm is contagious and somewhat amusing: Bass loves to hunt, but does not particularly care whether he shoots anything; it is the thrill of watching his dog work that he finds exciting. Recommended for public libraries.-DDeborah Emerson, Monroe Community Coll., Rochester, NY Copyright 2000 Reed Business Information, Inc. "...luminously transcendent passages on the education and sorrowful loss of a brilliant...chocolate brown pointer that will transfix anyone who has ever loved a dog." Publishers Weekly, Starred"Bass is a masterly writer . . . Your dog loves you, Bass, and this reviewer does, too." USA Today"Bass' writing is cinematic -- he lets readers run with Colter through the fields . . . [we] feel Colter's energy as he experienced it." Denver Rocky Mountain News"Has anyone ever written so perfectly of a dog shaking water from its fur, curled up tight during sleep?" Milwaukee Journal Sentinel". . . A book to be savoured. . . on a lazy summer afternoon, with your dog asleep on the ground below." Bookpage". . . A book to be savoured. . . on a lazy summer afternoon, with your dog asleep on the ground below." Bookpage"Colter is a dog of boundless spirit, all grace and wild genius. And his terrific master, Rick Bass, happens to be a national treasure. What a terrific team they make!" -- Carl Hiaasen, author of SICK PUPPY