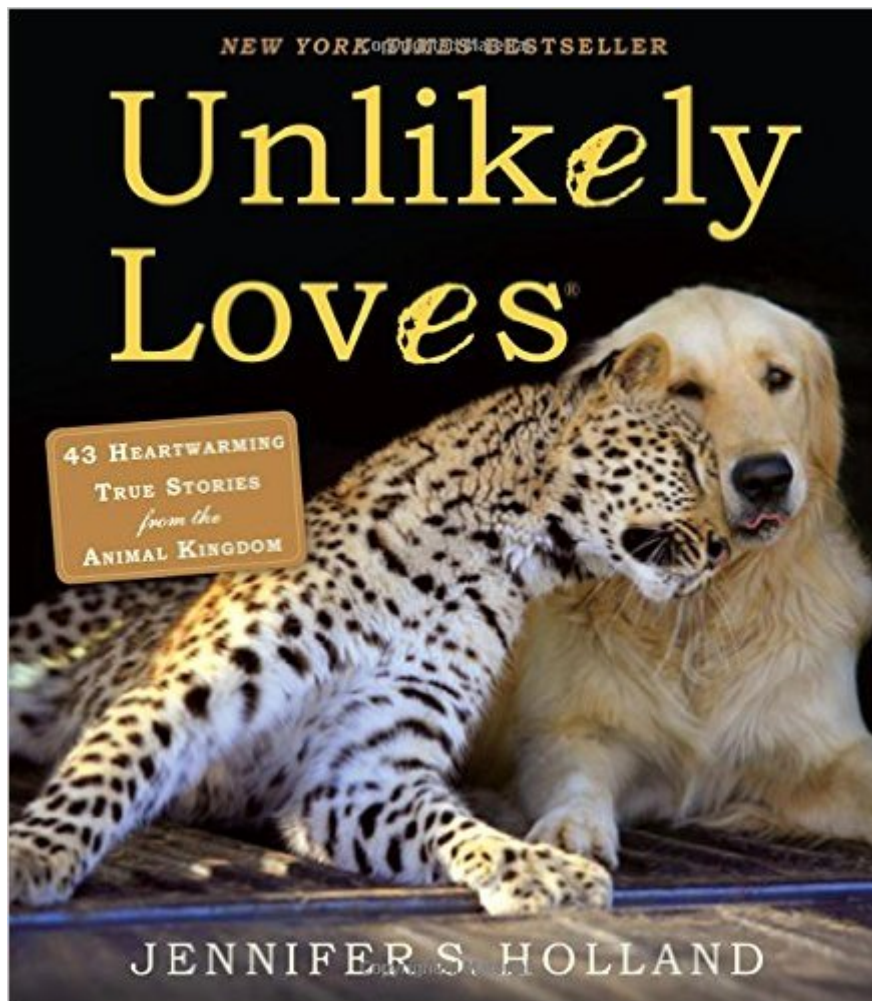


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# Unlikely Loves: 43 Heartwarming True Stories From The Animal Kingdom (Unlikely Friendships)



## Synopsis

In her inspiring New York Times bestseller *Unlikely Friendships*, Jennifer Holland introduced us to the heartwarming relationships that exist between animals of different species. Her stories struck a chord with thousands of readers, including Temple Grandin, who described the book as "amazing." Now Holland explores animal attachments that, in human terms, can only be called love. Packed with beautiful, breathtaking full-color photographs, *Unlikely Loves* is a celebration of love between species. Here are stories of parental love, like the Dalmatian who mothers a newborn lamb—a lamb that just happens to be white with black spots! Stories of playful love, including the fox and the hound who become inseparable. And stories of orphaned animals who have found family-like ties in unexpected combinations, like the elephant who's bonded with sea lions, goats, and other animals in her walks around the Oregon Zoo. Ms. Holland has interviewed scientists, zoologists, and animal caretakers from around the world, tracking down firsthand sources and eyewitnesses. The stories are written with journalistic integrity and detail—and always filled with the author's deep affection for her subjects.

## Book Information

Series: *Unlikely Friendships*

Paperback: 240 pages

Publisher: Workman Publishing Company; None edition (October 8, 2013)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0761174427

ISBN-13: 978-0761174424

Product Dimensions: 7 x 0.6 x 8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars— See all reviews— (181 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #65,397 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #57 in Books > Arts & Photography > Photography & Video > Nature & Wildlife > Plants & Animals #135 in Books > Science & Math > Biological Sciences > Zoology #297 in Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Pets & Animal Care > Dogs

## Customer Reviews

I loved "Unlikely Friendships" by the same author so was thrilled to see this sequel. These stories are remarkable, inspiring, and refreshing to my spirit. They put into words and pictures in a way I can't why I love and respect animals and am a vegetarian (basically I don't want to benefit from

they're suffering). One reviewer complained there "weren't enough pictures." I don't know how you'd squeeze more in here! On at least every other page, there are big, clear, moving photos of the animal friends. Another bonus is that the stories highlight the work of humans who devote their lives to rescuing and caring for animals. These revive my faith and love of people, too. Another complaint here is that some of the stories end sadly. Well, the author works for National Geographic, which is dedicated to preserving animal species. I appreciate the facts she provides about endangered species and the impact we humans have on other species. It moves me to do something about it! Also, these stories are true, in every sense of the word. She wants us to know what animals really experience, and part of that world is death and suffering, often at the hands of humans. Finally, another reviewer states that "most or all of the stories are about dogs." (As if that would be a bad thing.) Actually, a third of the 47 stories involve dogs. There are stories here about cats, warthogs, donkeys, horses, zebras, giraffes, kudus, eagles, ducks, sheep, rhinos, llamas, moose, lions, pigs, and rats. While it's true that many of the friendships formed while the animals were under the care of, or at least the protection of, humans, that does not make these loves any less touching to our hearts or meaningful to the animals.

This is a touching book. It gives you a perspective on life and love. If only humans could interact with such blindness to shape, color and size and live a life of such compassion. Great book

Many, possibly most of the stories involve dogs - the author speculates that dogs may be the most empathetic of all animals. The first involves a Great Dane and a fawn - both 'abandoned,' though the fawn literally so. She grows up and becomes a mother herself, and periodically returns to where she was raised with the dog. Then it's a terrier and a duckling, a girl and a moose (meet at an Alaska Wildlife Conservation Center), a dolphin and a sea lion (Australian marine park). My favorite was a young boy and his marmot friends in an Austrian nature preserve. On to a tortoise and puppies - the tortoise likes the warmth afforded by sleeping among them, and actually likes to eat their food and be with them as well. Then it's a black cat and an owl that many of us have seen on U-Tube - the owner was training the owl to hunt, and the cat just joined in on his own. The most dramatic - a leopard and a dog in an African rehabilitation center. The common denominator seems to be that at least one of the animals was very young when brought into contact with the other; setting frequently involve nature preserves or animal parks. And best of all - each story is documented with at least one photo, usually several of the two animals.

Loved all of this except snake and dog picture. Don't know why dog would allow such a thing and does anyone think this is going to end well. All other pictures and articles illustrate why people shouldn't say in a derogatory manner that some people act like animals. If we acted more like most animals world would probably be a nicer place!

Not nearly enough photographs and I stopped reading the text because it was sad and most of the stories did not end well. I won't buy any more of these. Sad and I don't know why sh couldn't just have just written about the good parts and not all the deaths, etc. I don't recommend it.

I suppose i should have read the title better. since, as they say, a picture is worth a thousand words, i was more hoping for lots of pictures of adorable mismatched creatures, and granted, there are a few, but this was not the "coffee table book" i was looking forward to.it is well written and the stories are engaging, just not what i was expecting.

I enjoyed the book. I enjoy watching animals of different species interacting peacefully. I think that it is perfectly possible that the animals pictured do love each other. Certainly they enjoy spending time together. But I do not think that the fact that the animals enjoy spending time together is PROOF that they love each other. I have seen kids play video games at any opportunity and be very delighted while doing so, and they might even say that they love playing video games but they are not in love with a video game, they are just having fun.I tried writing a review earlier about this book that was rejected by for some reason. So I am trying to rewrite this in a way that still communicates what I am trying to say without getting this review bounced.The book has a lot of cute pictures of animals of different species that stayed together for long periods of time. The pictures are accompanied by short stories about animals that describe the situations as if the animals have the same emotions that humans would have in those pictured situations. I think maybe the animals in question do have similar feelings to the human equivalent, but the pictures do not PROVE that this is the case. One possible explanation of the pictures is that the animals do love each other, but that is not the only possible explanation. I hope the animals do love each other, and I guess that these animals do love each other, but the author is reaching conclusions that are only one of several possible conclusions.

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