For the Love of Dog

By Pilley Bianchi and Calum Heath

A book review by Nancy Kvorka

For the Love of Dog is a delightful, illustrated book which seeks to strengthen the human-dog bond. It is one of those books you can dip in and out of and learn something new about dogs each time. From the book's forward and on the back cover: "*For the Love of Dog* will help you answer a most important question - 'What is it like to be a dog?' - and show you how to enrich your dog's life and give them the very best life possible…" Not only does this result in a "happy dog;" it also results in a "happy human." Marc Bekoff, PhD, wrote the forward and is also an author of several books on dogs.

The authors remind the reader, through words and illustrations, that each dog is an individual regardless of the breed. Having expectations of how a dog might behave could cause humans to miss something. Training is recommended for the individual dog, not necessarily specific breeds. They also stress that each new dog in your life is a new relationship, regardless of whether it reminds you of a previous pet. Dogs are resilient and their humans must be also.

Much of the book focuses on Pilley Bianch's observations of her family dog, Chaser. Chaser, a Border Collie, was loved and trained by Dr. John W. Pilley, a behavioral psychology professor. Chaser was the subject of the New York Times best-selling book *Chaser: Unlocking the Genius of the Dog Who Knows a Thousand Words*. She was profiled in many articles and TV shows including Nova and is the face of "The Chaser Initiative" which focuses on play-based training. You can read more about Chaser on her Wikipedia Page.

I give this book the highest rating of Five Bones.