



Rose in a Storm

Jon Katz

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From *New York Times* bestselling author Jon Katz comes a moving and powerful novel, the first one inspired by life on his celebrated Bedlam Farm—and perceptively told from the point of view of Rose, a dedicated working dog.

Rose is determined and focused, keeping the sheep out of danger and protecting the other creatures on the farm she calls home. But of all those she's looked after since coming to the farm as a puppy, it is Sam, the farmer, whom she watches most carefully.

Awoken one cold midwinter night during lambing season, Rose and Sam struggle into the snowy dark to do their work. The ever observant Rose has seen a change in her master of late, ever since Sam's wife disappeared one day. She senses something else in the air as well: A storm is coming, but not like any of the ones she's seen over the years. This storm feels different, bigger, more foreboding.

When an epic blizzard hits the region, it will take all of Rose's resolve, resourcefulness, and courage to help Sam save the farm and the creatures who live there.

Jon Katz consulted with animal behavior scientists to create his unique and convincing vision of the world as seen through the eyes of a dog. Poignant, thrilling, and beautifully wrought, *Rose in a Storm* is a wonderfully original and powerful tale from a gifted storyteller.

Rose in a Storm Details

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Author : Jon Katz

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From Reader Review Rose in a Storm for online ebook

Roxanne says

Received this through Goodreads First Reads giveaway and was very pleasantly surprised to be engrossed in the story (as I would never classify myself as a lover of dogs). Both heartwarming and heartrending, the story is a pleasant diversion.

Amy R says

Raw and powerful, especially since I read most of it this morning, after experiencing our own terrible storm (thunder and tornadoes) last night. An amazingly well told story from the dog's perspective.

Shukri Abdullah says

This is the first book from Jon Katz that I read and I LOVED it! I went into this prepared. I knew I will lose it somewhere along the plot and I would get emotionally invested -- both did happen. Something about Sam's innocence and Rose's loyalty and determination that stuck out to me from every chapter. Certain parts remain muddled to me (due to my incompetence) but overall it was a solid 4.

Sharman says

Wonderful, touching story of a working dog, a farm and a blizzard. Loved it.

Karen says

My mom loved this book! I read five chapters and quit. I'm a dog lover but can't do books narrated by dogs.

Kristen Schrader (Wenke) says

The story of one small farm's survival during a blizzard, as told from the dog's point of view.
Great for animal lovers.
1 star taken away for the deus ex machina resolution to the conflict.

Carolw says

This is an amazing story about an amazing dog. Although Jon Katz usually writes non-fiction I loved his

fiction story told from both a human's perspective and a dog's perspective. It shows a glimpse of what a working dog on a farm feels and does in a horrible and desperate snow storm. It shows the relationships between man and animals and the relationships between different species of animals. I definitely have a greater respect for working dogs.

TheIron Paw says

I finally finished it - I got too emotionally involved and has to stay away from it for several days. Where this book really shines is providing an insight into how the world must appear from the perspective of a dog, without excessively anthropomorphizing the view, though some amount is necessary to enable us humans to understand it. For example Katz describes the dog's view of the farm and her thought processes as an "image" (implying visual image)- we humans would be hard pressed to understand an image based largely on scents, as a dog's most likely would be. While the plot may be a bit heavy handed, a number of the incidents I have seen earlier in Katz's non-fiction work (e.g. Dogs of Bedlam Farm)enhancing the believability of this.

This book will appeal immensely to those who love dogs for what they are: dogs. It will appeal less to those who prefer to see dogs in anthropomorphic terms (e.g. themselves as "mommy" to the dog).

As an aside - I wonder if "Flash" is a reference to Footrot Flats dog.

Maureen Mullis says

An interesting story about a farmer and his dog (Rose) as they deal with a severe storm on the farm. It's told from both the point of view of the farmer as well as from the point of view of the dog. Pretty good, but a rather strange ending. If you like dogs you might like this book.

Kathy Andrews says

I feel so fortunate to have received an advance copy of this book. It is a book I could relate to. I read it with my faithful black lab at my feet. Having worked at a free-range veal and lamb farm which employed a couple of sheep dogs, I could easily envision Rose as she went about her work on the farm. Jon Katz does a great job of putting the reader into the story. His descriptions are so vivid, one can almost feel the strength of the wind and imagine the effort necessary to manage a farm during a blizzard. Even though the story line takes place under harsh conditions, happier times are interwoven into the book adding to the enjoyment of the book. I have often tried to figure out what goes on in a dog's mind, but have given up trying to put human thoughts into a dog's behaviors. Mr. Katz's interpretation of Rose's antics is logical and pleasing. I wish I had this book to read during this past winter when I was housebound by the blizzards - it is the kind of book that you want to read beginning to end in one sitting.

Lori says

Jon Katz has devoted most of his writing to his animals on the farm he lives. I have read several of them. "Rose in a Storm" is about his real life dog border collie Rose. Although this is in fiction form. The story is around Rose who looks over the farm and animals that reside there. She is wondering what happened to Sam her owner's wife Katie{ she does not understand that Katie died} it is winter time and a storm is coming. a big blizzard. Rose has to chase off coyotes and other dangers. she also helps an old stray dog referred to as the "wild dog" who once lived on a farm nearby and ran away years ago when his owner died. Sam her owner has an accident where he is taken away to a hospital and Rose is left to manage the farm and blizzard and dangers that go with it.

I liked this book very much. I enjoyed that it was seen through the eyes of Rose the border collie dog. anyone who likes to read about Dogs may like this touching book. Jon Katz is good at getting into the thoughts a dog may have.

Amber Eats Books says

I read this in one sitting which is unheard of lately. I thoroughly enjoyed this story of Rose, a border collie, who protects a farm during a massive snow storm. I think the author did a great job of getting us inside Rose's thoughts without it feeling forced or gimmicky. I have also read Saving Simon by the same author which is a nonfiction work. Both books were wonderful!

Amy says

Katz has his strengths, but there's a separation of species that irks me when he's describing the human/dog bond. In "A Dog Year," I felt such impatience in Katz toward a dog he adopted knowing the dog was troubled. In "Rose," I felt so annoyed that the farmer felt keeping a distance between himself and Rose implied they worked better that way. Also understand that the majority of farms operate on a shoestring, but would a solo farmer in a farming area really take no steps to augment group communication with a blizzard rolling in? Sam just seemed stubborn and short-sighted. And some of the things Katz wrote into Rose's ability to accomplish seemed a stretch too unlikely. Herding breeds are amazing independent thinkers, but it got pushed a bit too far. And it was twisted to have Rose bred after the injuries and lengthy recovery she'd suffered. Really? Nice reward, to stress her body in all new ways. Ugh. The Flash subplot was my favorite, a "found" dog finding new comfort, stability and love. But, again, a rather typical Katz disconnect. One dog rewarded, another put to more work....

Robert says

An Exceptional Book...written by Jon Katz, a gifted writer, that takes you into the world of Rose, a border collie/shepherd mix. The bond between Rose and her owner, a farmer, and the raw world of nature that is theirs, is vividly portrayed. The story flows with the rhythms and events of the natural world, from skittish sheep, driven by fear, to hungry coyotes.

A major blizzard disrupts the farm in multiple destructive ways, bringing a snow driven struggle for survival to this powerful story.

An extra dimension is provided throughout by Katz's informed knowledge, from both research and direct experience with his own dogs -- Rose, Izzy, Lenore and Frieda -- when he takes you into Rose's mind and reveals the canine soul.

Not for kids, but excellent for adults and young adult readers, I found this gripping book to be totally engaging.

Julie Griffin says

I really loved this book. Books written from an animal's point of view can be treachly or cute, but they can succeed as in the marvelous *Three Bags Full*, a mystery from the point of view of sheep. In *Rose*, we see the world through the eyes of a working farm dog. Rose does not do treats or petting, she lives to work. Which is a good thing for her human Sam, who is trying to keep his farm going after the death of his wife, Katie. Rose and Sam share a bond as they care for the sheep, cows, chickens, goats, and donkey on the Massachusetts farm. But one day a very bad snowstorm threatens to defeat them both. Rose uses her canine wits and instincts and saves Sam, as well as an old wild dog who chose to run wild after his own human died years before. The book is not a cute attempt at an adult version of a child's book, but rather a grasp of how the amazing working dogs do their job on a farm. The last part of the book is the author's retelling of the grief he felt after a companion died. Great for dog or animal lovers.
