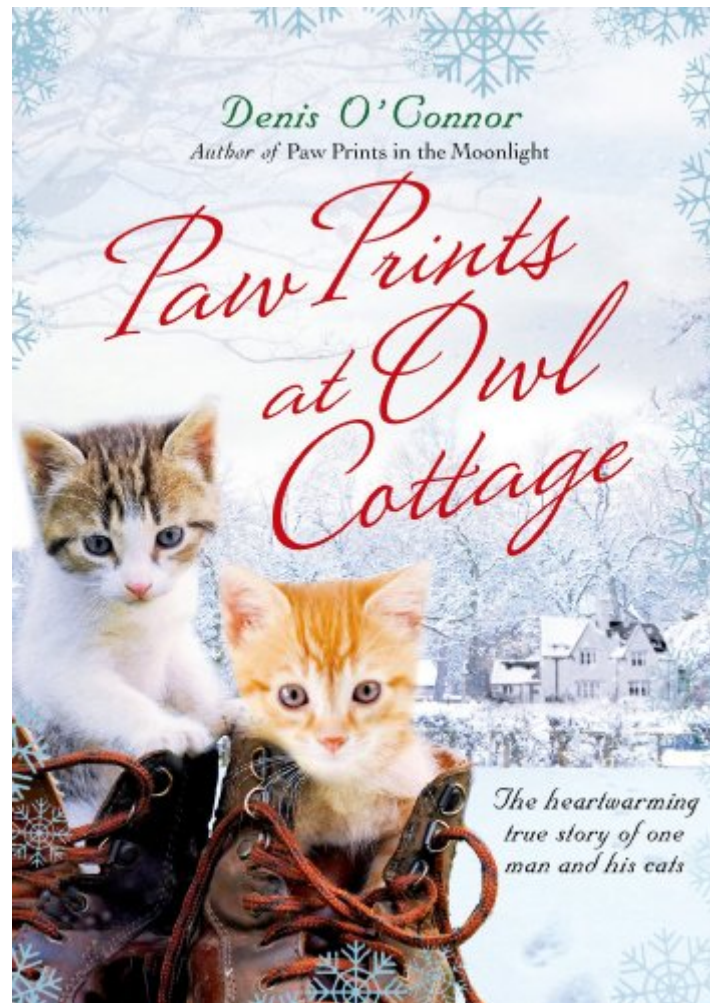


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Paw Prints At Owl Cottage: The Heartwarming True Story Of One Man And His Cats



Synopsis

The ideal book for fans of *All Creatures Great and Small*, this sweet and touching tale about the power of pets will touch the hearts of all who read it. Readers who fondly recall James Herriot's *All Creatures Great and Small* will applaud the second coming of this beloved author in Denis O'Connor, who charmed cat lovers everywhere with *Paw Prints in the Moonlight*. Now, in *Paw Prints at Owl Cottage*, O'Connor returns with another heartwarming and timeless tale of the power of pets. When Denis and his wife Catherine return to Owl Cottage, their former home, only to find it in a dilapidated state, they decide to restore this charming house. But the memory of Denis's beloved cat, Toby Jug, still lingers on. On impulse he buys a Maine Coon Kitten, Pablo, who proves to be such a wonderful companion that he decides to buy three more and names them Carlos, Luis, and Max. Set against the wilds of the Northumbrian coast, Denis tenderly and humorously charts the ups and downs of life with his mischievous cats in this warm and touching tale.

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Customer Reviews

If you have ever shared your life with a cat, then *PAW PRINTS AT OWL COTTAGE* is a must read. This is the delightful memoir of Denis O'Connor and his devotion to four wondrous Maine Coon

cats who shared his life. Each cat, in its own special way, help the author recover from the loss of his beloved cat, Toby Jug. O'Connor and his wife, Catherine, return to Owl Cottage where he had once lived with Toby Jug. While restoring the cottage, O'Connor was filled with memories of his faithful cat. At the suggestion of his wife, O'Connor decides to get another cat to help fill the void. Soon Pablo comes to live with them followed by Carlos, Luis and Max. O'Connor tells how each kitten created their own space in his life, as well as his heart. He tells of their adventures and the impact they made in his life. From a cat lover's perspective, there will be tears of sorrow and joy found throughout this book. O'Connor beautifully describes how the felines became a part of his family and much more than just pets. His soulful expressions of loss, as well as the jubilation of day-to-day living will ring true for animal lovers, especially those caring for cats. While you may need a box of tissue handy when reading this, you'll also find yourself laughing at the cats' antics. Set against the wilds of the Northumbrian coast, PAW PRINTS AT OWL COTTAGE is a story of warmth and love. It's an amusing and tender look at how cats and humans connect. FTC Full Disclosure - This book was sent to me by the author's publicist in hopes I would review it. However, receiving the complimentary copy did not influence my review.

If you love cats, then you will love this book. And, Yes, the story brought me to tears at times...but life is always bittersweet. Still, I enjoyed reading about the antics and personalities of those wonderful Main Coon Cats. I learned about how intelligent they can be...among many other things. Makes me want a Main Coon Cat. I have two cats that are sisters...4 years old now....and they just amaze me with their intelligence too although they are not Main Coon cats. Calico cats are they. But, that is not telling you how great this true story is....and how tender the story of love between cats and humans. Many people don't realize how special cats are. This story certainly tells you how special they are. Yes, I do recommend this book. I do believe it deserves a 5 star rating also because I felt like I was there while reading the story. And I think that is the mark of a good writer or story teller. The thing I did find fault with Denis O'Connor, was that he allowed his cats to roam in the beginning of having cats....which I feel lead to their eventual early demise. Mr. O'Connor realized too late for several of their cats, that to allow his cats to roam was not a healthy choice....even if the cats loved it. And of course they would. But, he did train them to walk on leashes, etc...which was pretty cool to do. I enjoyed reading how he eventually found a way to allow them outside without them getting beyond the boundaries of their home by building a place for them to go and roam safely. It is indeed a very "heartwarming story of one man and his cats".....just as the cover of the books states. Very touching.

I have Maine Coon cats and they are every bit as intelligent and loving as Mr. O'Connor describes in his story. The descriptions of Owl Cottage are also lovely and make a reader feel as if they are right there before the fireplace with a cup of tea and a cat supervising the activity in the house. Mr. O'Connor does seem to be somewhat obsessed with these cats and his attempt to impose his will on them is disturbing to one who loves these cats also and would never try to change them. Also cats and dogs belong in the human companion's home and in a safe enclosed outside space where they are free to play and stalk each other without the danger of being hit by a vehicle. As intelligent as they are they don't understand the danger that comes from humans and/or their vehicles. People who have visited the British Isles or who would like to will love the detailed descriptions of the areas that surround the Owl Cottage.

The sheer innocence and honest relationship within the story is lost in this book. It now comes across as more of an authority on how to train and treat the cat, especially if it does not love you or misbehave. I just could not love this book as he seems to contradict himself,, on one hand he believes in the cat retaining it's true wild nature, letting Pablo roam free every night, yet the other two Don't get let out for two minutes without the harness and lead. This book does not come near the beauty of the previous book when Toby Jug and him just live an honest relationship, creating the free flowing journey through the pages.

This is a great sequel to Denis, first book about his years with Toby Jug. This book begins some years later when Denis, who is now married, and his wife return to Owl Cottage. Before very long they have their first new cat. Others follow before very long. Denis shares many adventures and misadventures with his cats. As with his earlier book, his love of cats comes through constantly. It is obvious that Denis believes that animals have hearts and souls like us and deserve to be treated with much more compassion than they often are. How right he is. Another great book. Many happy moments but some sad ones too.

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