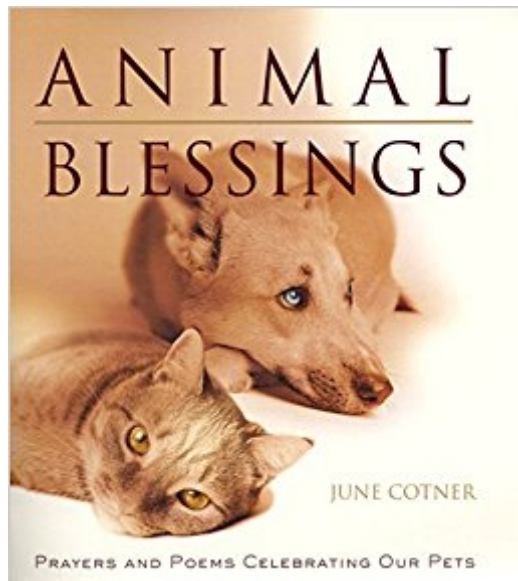




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# **Animal Blessings: Prayers And Poems Celebrating Our Pets**



## Synopsis

Our pets. They are our loyal companions and our faithful friends, a constant source of joy and inspiration. In this endearing anthology of prayers and poems, June Cotner has handpicked choice writings by some of the world's most notable animal lovers to celebrate the playful, the poignant, and the profound ways these wonderful creatures touch our daily lives. Selections include Emily Dickinson's astute observations of her cat, Roger Caras' thoughts about the love a dog brings to a home, and a cat's rules for running a house. Readers will be delighted by Anne Porter's poem exalting a spring symphony of peepers and Rumi in praise of birds in flight. The section "Partings" includes Annie Dougherty's lovely poem "Time to Say Good-bye" and Lord Byron's epitaph to his dog. "Reflections" includes the words of St. Francis, Jane Goodall, and Chief Seattle, reminding us that we are all interconnected beings, and James Herriot and Walt Whitman honoring the humble dignity of all creatures. *Animal Blessings* makes a wonderful gift for all animal lovers. This delightful volume is a charming companion that reminds us to be grateful for everything our pets and all the other animals of the world bring to our lives.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Sometimes it's easy to find the right gift for that difficult aunt: if she's devoted to her cat or dog, ship her a copy of *Animal Blessings*. The latest in a line of inspirational books from dog lover June Cotner (she also wrote and edited *Graces*, *Bedside Prayers*, and *Get Well Wishes*), this one, like the others, is slim, compact, and filled with entries that melt into the mind as easily as M&M's in the

mouth. The writers range from the great (Whitman and Keats, Eckhart and Dostoyevsky) to children and Anonymous. So too do the entries vary widely. Rarely extending beyond half a page, they move from the humorous ("Say something idiotic and nobody but a dog politely wags his tail") to the sublime (Eckhart's "If I spent enough time with the tiniest creature ... I would never have to prepare a sermon. So full of God is every creature") to the silly ("scratch a dog and you'll find a permanent job"). Given that there are more than 100 million cat and dog owners in the United States alone, this book should fill a niche in many of their lives. And where else can you find Doris Day next to Elizabeth Barrett Browning? --Doug Thorpe

"Bless yourself with love, joy, and inspiration by reading "Animal Blessings!"--Mark Victor Hanson, co-author, "Chicken Soup for the Soul series..".an adorable collection of special thoughts on our animal friends."--"USA Today

I purchased this book to use as for a pet memorial. As a veterinarian, sometimes part of my job is helping pets pass on, and I was using this for a memorial to pets that had passed on this past year. I purchased this book to use as part of the memorial. I picked out several prayers and poems and was very happy with this book. The prayers and poems were easy to read and many were a page long. I had several comments from families at the memorial about them liking the prayers and poems that I read. I think this book will serve me in many areas of veterinary medicine and is a great piece to have in my book collection. I could see this being a great addition to any pet lover.

Filled with wonderful suggestions for a variety of pet celebrations, from St. Francis Day pet blessings, to prayers for pets that have passed or are sick. Wonderful thanksgiving prayers for the animals who share our lives, and good suggestions of how to plan and execute a variety of celebrations. I used some of the prayers for a pet memorial service, and some for my personal Pet Blessing commemoration for my pets on the Feast of St. Francis of Assisi. Variety of non-denominational prayers, and prayers that can be tailored to suit any faith/belief background.

I was hoping that it would be useful for reading sections during our Pet Ministry. I don't think it'll be as useful as I hoped. It is fine for home reading.

Precious beyond words. Moved me to tears with the first poem. Highly recommended for any animal lover. Beautiful tribute to the unconditional and constant love and devotion of our four legged

companions!

This book was helpful as I was creating a service of animal blessing. Beautifully presented and illustrated.

This book is a very special read, it is so fun and really makes animal lover's think just how wonderful each and everyone is. Each and every poem is so true and tells that if you treat animals good, you are likely to be kind to people. Loved this book. JAN

This book is a must have for anyone that has ever loved or lost a pet. Some of the selections reminded me so much of some of my "fur kids". This book is funny, sad, & heartwarming- all at the same time. I know I will re-read it many times!

This is a most charming book put together by June Cotner with various prayers and poems from lots of varied folks who all obviously love their animals. Anyone who loves God's critters will appreciate it.

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