



The Dog Listener: Learning the Language of your Best Friend

By Jan Fennell

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The Dog Listener: Learning the Language of your Best Friend By Jan Fennell

You've heard of the Horse Whisperer – now meet the woman who uses similar methods to train dogs.

Jan Fennell's remarkable gifts have earned her the nickname "the dog listener". Her unique understanding of the canine world and its instinctive language has enabled her to bring even the most desperate and delinquent of dogs to heel.

This easy-to-follow guide to understanding Jan's simple techniques draws on her countless case histories of problem dogs – from biters and barkers to bicycle chasers – to show how we can bridge the language barrier that separates man from his best friend.

In The Dog Listener Jan shares her secrets, telling us how she grew determined to find a more compassionate alternative to standard "obedience" training techniques and ultimately how to communicate with canines.

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The Dog Listener: Learning the Language of your Best Friend By Jan Fennell Bibliography

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Editorial Review

From Publishers Weekly

Standard dog training has long advocated the use of force choke collars, sharp smacks, harsh language. Fennell, a dog trainer in England for 30 years, wants to change all that. Expanding upon the theories of horse trainer Monty Roberts (the basis for *The Horse Whisperer*), Fennell believes one can best train dogs by emulating natural behaviors, that is, by treating them as they would treat each other in the wild. Her intelligent, straightforward and humane method has engendered controversy and increasing enthusiasm. After Fennell's dog Purdey went manic, injured Fennell's young children and had to be euthanized, she was fearful of owning a dog again. Lured back into it by the pleasure of showing spaniels, she adopted a high-strung young shepherd, Sasha, and investigated alternative training methods. Fennell's simple and succinct method posits that domesticated dogs are confused, believing themselves to be the pack leaders, and humans their subordinates. Fennell retrains dogs to accept a human as their alpha leader. She spurns the use of force, even in training language, employing instead a system of Pavlovian rewards. Those wanting true canine companionship will find Fennell's commonsense approach attractive and easy to apply with puppies as well as with older dogs. She addresses common problems, from separation anxiety to barking at guests to the mistrust of strangers that rescued dogs often harbor. Her knowledge and love of dogs is expansive and her concern for their well-being balances kindness and appropriate discipline. (Aug.)

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From [Booklist](#)

Fennell, a longtime dog owner, trainer, and champion show-dog manager, provides a comprehensive guide for creating peaceful coexistence between dogs and their owners. An advocate of nonviolent pet training, Fennell shows readers how to successfully train their canine companions using gentle, respectful techniques and also shares anecdotes and advice from her years of experiences (both good and bad). Fennell's techniques appear to deal efficiently with canine problem behaviors by teaching owners to establish leadership while eliminating separation anxiety, nervous aggression, and destructive behaviors, such as biting. She also notes ways to reassure overprotective dogs and much, much more. Fennell emphasizes that there is no quick fix for most of these behavior issues; her methods require time and a lot of patience. Although every training technique she outlines might not work with every dog, her book contains quite a lot of useful information. Most current or prospective dog owners would benefit from taking a look at it.

Kathleen Hughes

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Review

"Those wanting true canine companionship will find Fennell's approach attractive and easy to apply."
(Publishers Weekly (starred review))

"The Dog Listener tells how to make dogs listen." (Parade)

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Ricky Streeter:

Book is actually written, printed, or created for everything. You can learn everything you want by a book. Book has a different type. As it is known to us that book is important matter to bring us around the world. Adjacent to that you can your reading ability was fluently. A guide The Dog Listener: Learning the Language of your Best Friend will make you to be smarter. You can feel much more confidence if you can know about every thing. But some of you think in which open or reading any book make you bored. It is not make you fun. Why they could be thought like that? Have you looking for best book or acceptable book with you?

Pam Wright:

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