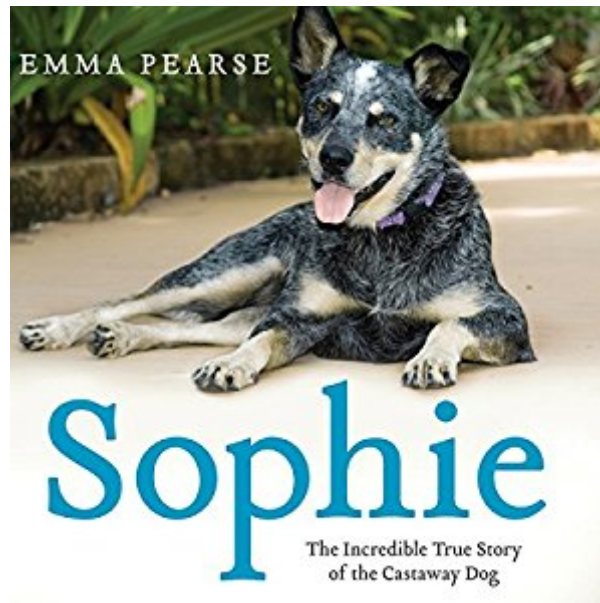


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# Sophie: The Incredible True Story Of The Castaway Dog



## Synopsis

The story that became a global sensation: Sophie, the Australian cattle dog who was lost at sea and swam six miles through shark-infested waters to a remote island where she survived in the wild for five months. It was just another day in paradise as Jan and Dave Griffith, along with their blue cattle dog, Sophie, motored out of Mackay Marina for a gorgeous weekend at sea. But when the sky suddenly darkened and the waves turned fierce, the unthinkable happened: Sophie disappeared overboard. Her heartbroken humans couldn't fathom the loss and could only hope their beloved pet didn't suffer. But this true cattle dog and devoted best friend wasn't going to give up that easily - and what followed is a remarkable tale of survival, luck, and persistence. From the first day the Griffiths set eyes on puppy Sophie through that terrible October day she was lost, to Sophie's time as a castaway and the reunion that almost didn't happen, journalist Emma Pearse recreates the incredible journey of this canine Robinson Crusoe. An inspirational story of loyalty and the resilience of the spirit, Sophie offers undeniable proof about the unbreakable bond between humans and our pets - and that if lost, they would do anything to come home to us.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

The story of Sophie and her survival is quite amazing; unfortunately, her disappearance becomes a backstory to the pain and sorrow of her human companions. I got a bit upset with their self-absorption and didn't quite believe the circumstances that led to Sophie going overboard. If the true story were to be told, I think Sophie's owners would not just have cruised the waters where she disappeared, but explored all the islands on foot, not from the vantage point of their sailboat. When

they did go ashore with friends for a picnic, sometime after Sophie disappeared, her "presence" was felt but not pursued. They had already given up on her and she, apparently, did not seek them out. The end of the book is refreshing...in that Sophie finally makes it home. If home is where your heart is...

I am an avid dog lover, especially Australian cattle dogs, and have my own incredible stories of their loyalty, expressions, intelligence, persistence, etc. It was recommended by another cattle dog owner, but my goodness the book went on and on and on and on and on and on. If you like reading details (like the color of a blue dog leash, and how it compares to the sky, and the color of grandma's eyes, the shimmer of a stone skipping on a pond, and the shoes that little Jimmy wore for Easter back in 1973, for example) then this book is for you. (Not actual example btw but sure seems like how the author goes on and on and on on every page...) Typically I read every word of every book, but it wasn't long before I found myself skimming through page after page after page, and not having lost any of the story for all the skimming. For me it was way too many dull details about people with cameo appearances in the book, and what their habits were that had little to do with the meat of the matter. Find the cliffs notes and you'll be better off. Or better still, just read the cover and make a donation to your local animal shelter.

Confession: I am not a dog fanatic, so I was not the ideal reader. Sophie's story is worth telling, but it would have benefited from some serious pruning along the way. "Repetitious" is a good one-word description.

What a wonderful story, and so well written! I remember reading a brief article in the L.A. Times a few years ago when the dog was found and have been waiting for this book. Australia has some truly remarkable animals -- and some truly amazing animal stories! It is heart-warming to read about this family and their dogs, especially Sophie the determined cattle dog who found herself overboard in the ocean and swam further than most humans could to a distant island pretty much uninhabited and nearly devoid of food and water. What she did over the next several months was survive, and it's a shame she can't tell her story, but animals don't need words, just a huge survival instinct and love for their human family. Emma Pearse has written a book that is detailed and instructive as well as a dog story for the ages. I usually can't read about the hardships of animals even when I know the outcome is a good one, but because I am so impressed with all things Australian I had to have this book. It was exciting to read and the story moved right along and, yes, it had a happy ending

but still I cried. This is a book for all dog-lovers, dog-owners, dog-people, and anyone who likes adventure.

No doubt Sophie the dog is a super-dog with an incredible story. Unfortunately much of the book is about the owner(s) and went off track about their lives in a style that did not sound very authentic.

Bought this for my mother in law because she loves to read and also just for a heeler puppy. She said it was absolutely wonderful and she will even read it again, she just raves about it! So while I haven't read it yet I think I'm going to have to borrow it from her!

Being a dog person I loved the book. I have a 12 year old, blind standard poodle. I'm 87 and Lulu presents many challenging days.

It is a heartwarming story about the loyalty of a dog. It was a little bit of a slow read as author gave too many details about dog's family - seemed like she told things over and over again, but I still enjoyed the book. Amazing story of how this dog survived and was reunited with his owners.

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