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# DOGTOLOGY™

Live. Bark. Believe.



## **Dogtology: Live. Bark. Believe.**

*Jeff Lazarus*

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**Dogtology: Live. Bark. Believe.** Jeff Lazarus

**Dog·tol·o·gy**

*noun*

1. The belief in Dog.
2. The system of rituals, practices, and behaviors engaged in by Dogtologists.

**Chew on this.** As humans, we have a deep need to believe . . . a need to relate to something greater and more ideal than ourselves. Perhaps that's why so many millions believe in Dog. Man's devotion to Dog has come to rival the great -isms and -ologies of the world. This has gone way beyond a hobby. We may not literally worship Dogs, but we come *pawfully* close. This rabid reverence for Rover has a name: It's called *Dogtology*. Dogtology is for the dog lover who has bailed on a date because they didn't want Twinkles to be left home alone, for the human whose dog owns a more festive holiday wardrobe than they do, those whose pups dine on free-range bison burgers while they live off ramen, or whose smartphones have more photos of their dog than of the humans in their family.

**Live. Bark. Believe.** *Dogtology* is a humorous exploration of man's fanatical devotion to Dog. In this book, Lazarus makes the case that Dogtology has become a bone-a-fide belief system on par with the world's great philosophies and religions.

## Dogtology: Live. Bark. Believe. Details

Date : Published June 2nd 2015 by Greenleaf Book Group Press (first published March 17th 2015)

ISBN : 9781626341388

Author : Jeff Lazarus

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Genre : Nonfiction, Animals, Dogs, Humor

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# From Reader Review **Dogtology: Live. Bark. Believe.** for online ebook

## Anne says

I got an advance copy through Net Galley, and I'm happy I did!

This is a fun, tongue-in-cheek look at "Man's best friend," and in addition to being funny was also able to make me feel about our fine furry friends.

One note: it's definitely NOT for anyone who likes cats. Like at all. But if you love dogs (or are, as they say, a "Dogtologist") then this is a fun book for you!

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## Chanel says

I received this as an ARC on NetGalley.

Cute take on how obsessive many people are about their dogs (my self included). Dog owners/lovers will get a good chuckle at most of what is included. Plus it has some righteous dog pics sprinkled throughout.

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## Jen says

*Note: This ARC was provided by Greenleaf Book Group via NetGalley in exchange for an honest review.*

Anyone who knows me knows how much I love my dogs. Heck, I love dogs in general. There's just something about the species that has me sitting up and begging for more. When I saw *Dogtology* up for review on NetGalley, I simply had to request for it. The idea of a religion or philosophy inspired by and dedicated solely to a human's devotion to the dog is creative genius and if such a thing did, indeed, exist, I'd be proud to say that I'm a believer and follower. ^^

This book contains quite a few interesting snippets--a number that may give you paws, erm, pause so you can reflect, some that will have you smiling or laughing, and others that will have you wondering if the writer's sarcasm is meant to mock dog lovers' obsession with their pooches. I have no problem admitting to people that I tend to love my dogs more than I do humans so I felt no mockery aimed my way. I found myself agreeing with several insights in the book.

The fact that the word "dog" is "God" spelled backwards is something that countless people have noticed before but it was such a creative springboard on which to launch dogtology. Author J. Lazarus has put together a dog-ma (pun very much intended) that those whose lives revolve around their furry four-legged friends (other furry four-legged creatures are not included) can easily relate to. There's a lot of humor in the book but at its very heart is our love for dogs.

All in all, *Dogtology* was a quick and entertaining read and I would recommend it to my fellow bookaholic dog lovers out there. After I read the book, I simply had to give my dog Oliver a snuggle, something which I

do often anyway, but I felt as if a lot of the stuff written reiterated why I love dogs, so my baby boy deserved a hug. While some people may think dog lovers overdo certain things, I'll happily admit that I am a leash-carrying dogtologist. ^^ Four stars! ♥

**Release Date: 21 April 2015**

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### **Christina Torretta says**

This book is adorable! Just like the pups it is talking about. Yes, I have to admit that I do most of the, what seems to be ridiculous, stuff in this book for my pups. But I do not think spoiling my pups is ridiculous at all!

"And so God said, "At last, I have created a being that reflects all that is good in me. Thus, I shall give it a name that is the mirror image of my own."

I think of my puppies as my little babies. Some, not so little. 80 pound pitt definitely is not little. Especially since he is a lap dog!

But seriously, no matter how big they get, or how much they smell like wet dog after they have baths, or even when they want to roll in some weird smelling animal stuff, I love them!

And that is what this book is all about. Why we love dogs so much today. Why we treat them the way we do. And what it all means.

"Dogs just want to know exactly what the hell humans want already. It's not about who is alpha; it's about What in the name of God are you asking me to doooo?"

As I went through God creating Dog I laughed. This makes so much sense. Such as the reason why dogs do not actually speak.

"it is Mans ability to talk that will get him into more trouble than any other capacity he possesses"

And how dogs will react to us, act with us, and change us.

It's all about our worshipping them. And if you think you do not worship Dog, look at the amount of pictures around your house and on your social media. How many are about you and how many are of your precious, cutesy pup?

This is a bit satirical but it is all fascinating and was so much fun to read!

"Dog Is Fur Real"

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### **La La - Everyone's Crazy Aunt says**

This was a DNF. Weird isn't always witty, artsy, hip and quirky; sometimes it is just weird. This book is wandering, scattered, and disconnected. Its weak attempt at humour was the only thing chuckle inducing

about this book. During our showcases at the regional community theater, some performers will audition with these strange meaningless numbers featuring a clown licking a comb while someone dressed like a milkmaid stomps on bubble wrap. They think it is artsy and avant-garde just because it is weird. Not so. I call it theatrical masturbation because the only person being entertained is the performer his/herself. I was approved for this eARC through NetGalley in return for an honest review.

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### **Connie Anderson says**

I found this book to be so much more than I expected, just another book about dogs. I couldn't even begin to believe how long it was, however. Mr. Lazarus is brilliant! First of all, his analogies will make you laugh until your cheeks and sides hurt from laughing so much. I don't know how he thinks these things up but they are amazing!

Second, he REALLY. knows dogs and their "pet parents". I was blown away from the wisdom that he possesses to be able to include ALL dog lovers, and not just certain breeds. My Mom is an absolutely bonfied Dogologist. She will buy enough dog "chicken jerky" treats for a whole month (those things are very expensive), BEFORE she pays her bills. If there is no money left for groceries, "Well that's just too bad now, isn't it". And, there are so many things listed that define her as a Dogologist. So, I know firsthand that what Mr. Lazarus writes about is dead on true. You can't tell I am a Catakist, can you? I hope not.

Third, he wrote some very profound things about traits dogs have that people lack. It almost made me ashamed to be of the human race. He really made his point loud and clear. Dogs don't scream and yell at people. People may even do that to dogs as well as other people. Dogs are forgiving, loving without expecting something in return, and are always by your side (even if you are sad). There is much more. And the way he tells it nearly made me cry.

There are so many different things, that if you are any part of a Dogologist, you will recognize and then laugh!!! I am in that category. I grew up with many neighbor's dogs, that I wish were mine. There are myriads of books about dogs out there. Why should you buy this one? It is very comprehensive as far as talking about dogs and their "pet parents" go. It will make you laugh, may make you cry, and you get something out of this book which will stick in your heart, always. And, if you know a true dog lover, like I do, this book would make the greatest gift you could ever buy them.

I was given an advance copy of this book to read and give my honest review. Thank you, NetGalley for allowing me this honor.

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### **Brandi says**

I received a copy of this book from NetGalley.

I have a confession to make: I am a Dogtologist. Of course, anyone who knows more, knows this about me.

This book was a fun, light read that I thoroughly enjoyed, probably even more so because it gave justification to some of my life decisions.

Personal attachment aside, I thought this was a great change to all the negativity flowing through the cosmos. Definitely enjoyed, and would definitely recommend.

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### **Stacey says**

Thanks to Goodreads First Reads and author J. Lazarus for the good fortune of winning this fabulous and adorable book. I totally loved this book, and plan to read it many more times! It is a tongue in cheek commentary on Man and his relationship with Dog. It is hysterically funny. But, the funniest thing is it is so TRUE. As I was reading and laughing.....I saw myself and my three dogs, and all the other dogs I have had in my lifetime. I have always believed that dogs are better people than people. And, if dogs don't go to Heaven, I want to go where they go. I highly recommend this to all you dog lovers out there!

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### **Sonia Crites says**

If your obsessed with your dog and have a sense of humor this book is for you. It was quite the fun read. Now back to dotting on my pups.

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### **Denise says**

I received an ARC from NetGalley in return for an honest and unbiased review. Unfortunately, whilst I loved the concept of this book, mainly because I have a dog I adore, it just left me underwhelmed. Lots of ideas that were repeated, yet in different ways. The idea of Dogtology as a religion appealed to me because I thought it would be amusing but the underlying message was that dogs are infinitely preferable to humans: cleverer, happier, smarter. Perhaps the author has something but I am afraid I simply got bored and stopped reading halfway through. I have kept my virtual bookmark and will go back to it one day and perhaps I will be in a different state of mind and enjoy it more. I am sorry I couldn't be terribly positive.

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### **Storyheart says**

I received a copy of this book from NetGalley.

First, some definitions

DOGTOLOGIST: A practitioner of Dogtology

DOGTOLOGY: (1) The belief in Dog, (2) The system of rituals, practices, and behaviors engaged in by Dogtologists.

I may not qualify to be a 100% pureblooded dogtologist as I'm not currently sharing my home with a dog, but I enjoyed this cute, light-hearted look at humans' relationships with our canine best friends. The sections on how to understand the world from a dog's point of view were great and the photos were fun too. This would make a good stocking-stuffer for a dog-loving friend.

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## Christine says

\* I received this ebook at no charge via Netgalley in exchange for an honest review \*

Thanks to Mr. Lazarus I can now proudly stand up  
(*Okay, sit down because I'm at the computer*)

and proclaim loudly  
(*Okay, type in all caps*)

I AM A DOGTOLOGIST  
(*Okay, non-practicing*)

I must admit that I am also a little conflicted because my current living arrangements would more clearly indicate that I am a believer in "Catakism". Despite the fact that this dual belief system was "once a boiling pot, it has now been turned down to a simmer ... this newfound détente has been the ability of some humans to embrace both beliefs". Catakism is nearly as widespread as Dogtology! At least I'm not a DUD (human who Doesn't Understand Dogtology)

Important definitions:

DOGTOLOGIST: A practitioner of Dogtology

DOGTOLOGY: (1) The belief in Dog, (2) The system of rituals, practices, and behaviors engaged in by Dogtologists.

If none of what I have written so far has elicited a small smile or maybe even a snicker "Dogtology" may not be a book you want to sniff out. This is a tongue-in-cheek "bible" explaining the "dogma" of those people who love their furry canine friends. During the reading of this book I have come to understand why "Dog" is "God" spelled backwards, why men have nipples, why wolves howl, and the sole purpose of cell phone cameras.

The book begins with a conversation between God and Dog. God is explaining how he created Dog to be his "avatar" in the world. Later He came to the conclusion that Dog needed a companion and someone to scratch behind Dog's ears, so he created man ... bit of an afterthought? Obviously Dog and man were an important combination and the rest of the book goes on to describe how man has come to "worship" dog.

I found this book funny and charming and insightful, but some might take great offense to some of the references comparing dog ownership to a religious conviction. I am not that sensitive and like to think that I have a sense of humor. Come to think of it some dog owners might find it a little offensive too, only because it could hit too close to home. Every point Mr. Lazarus makes is spot on.

On the serious side, if there must be one, despite the humorous manner in which this book is written there were "aha" moments of understanding that this is also an excellent study of human beings as a whole; covering everything from favorite sports team support to religion. It also may have convinced me that, sometimes, dogs may be smarter than man.

“Dogtology” was a fun book to read, so thanks to Mr. Lazarus (and his dog), for getting this dogma down on paper for me to enjoy.

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### **Michael Wylde says**

I must have read a different book called Dogtology...the one I read was sickeningly cutesie and pretty pointless. The term cornball comes to mind. Not at all my cup of tea. My dog even thought it was stupid silly.

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### **Cats of Ulthar February Weird Fiction says**

REVIEW: DOGTOLOGY: LIV E. BARK. BELIEVE. by J. Lazarus

Thank you, J. Lazarus, from the bottom of my heart, from me and on behalf of all the wonderful canines who have ever, do now, and will ever captivate and companion my soul! I want to give DOGTOLOGY 125 stars! Thank you for identifying and naming my belief system, for making me laugh aloud while simultaneously my heart ignited and warmed. Not just a Best of 2015, DOGTOLOGY: LIVE. BARK. BELIEVE. is a BEST EVER.

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### **Martina says**

Disclaimer: I received a free copy of this book in exchange for an honest review.

The author boldly declares his belief in Dogtology and shares his insane love for all dogkind with us in this humorous work, with the clear intention to tickle our funny bone. The result is a clever and amusing analysis of the relationship between man and his best friend. This entertaining book offers a comprehensive examination of this special bond and explains how and why dog has achieved such an important status in our lives.

It points out stunning observations and perceptions, takes a glance at the historic evolution and offers many fascinating examples around the special symbiosis between dog and man. Whether you have gone dog-stir crazy yourself or know a deserving enthusiast, this is the perfect dog Bible for your own library or makes a fine gift for any canine loving friend. Keep it on your night stand and enjoy it in form of light hearted bed time stories or read a chapter whenever you need to lift your spirits.

The books casual language, inventive wordplay and precious illustrations make it a chucklesome and interesting read and if you dare to openly declare your belief in Dogtology, you can even recite it to your best furry friend.

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