

Hemingway Cats: An Illustrated Biography

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Ernest Hemingway, one of the greatest writers to have ever graced the literary world, was not only known for his exceptional writing style but also for his deep affection towards cats. In this extensively researched and beautifully illustrated biography, we embark on a journey to explore the fascinating lives of the famous Hemingway cats and the impact they had on the iconic writer's life and work.

The Polydactyl Connection:

One of the most intriguing aspects of Hemingway's life was his love for polydactyl cats, often referred to as Hemingway cats. These cats possess a genetic anomaly, causing them to have extra toes. Hemingway first encountered a polydactyl cat while visiting a ship captain in Key West, Florida, and was immediately captivated by the unique feline. This encounter marked the beginning of Hemingway's lifelong affair with these extraordinary creatures.

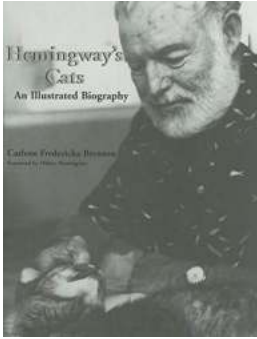
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Influence on Hemingway's Writing:

Hemingway's fondness for cats extended beyond mere companionship. They served as muses and sources of inspiration for his writing. Often found roaming around his writing studio in Cuba, these charming felines provided Hemingway with a sense of comfort and solace during his most creative moments. Their presence stimulated his imagination, giving birth to some of his most iconic literary masterpieces.

Hemingway's Cats: An Illustrated Biography

by Sarah Ashford (Kindle Edition)



★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5
Language : English
File size : 10419 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
Print length : 219 pages



“ "A man who can't write with a cat on his shoulder should not write." - Ernest Hemingway ”

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Home of the Hemingway Cats:

Hemingway's residence in Key West, Florida, became the ultimate sanctuary for his beloved cats. Today, it is a popular tourist attraction known as the Hemingway House and Museum, where visitors from all over the world can admire the descendants of Hemingway's original cats. Over 40 polydactyl felines still roam the premises, enjoying the picturesque gardens and the historic ambiance of the iconic writer's former abode.

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Hemingway Cats Today:

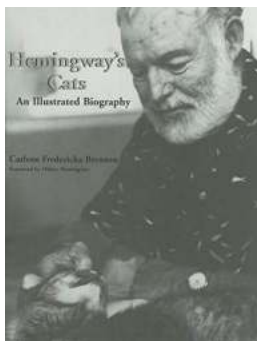
The legacy of Hemingway and his feline companions lives on. Numerous animal lovers and enthusiasts have adopted polydactyl cats or joined organizations dedicated to preserving their unique heritage. The Hemingway cats embody a beautiful bond between humans and animals, reminding us of the power of love and companionship found within these extraordinary creatures.

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Hemingway's love for cats was an integral part of his life and artistic journey. Their presence shaped his writing, provided inspiration, and offered him solace amid the chaos of the world. As we delve into the illustrated biography of Hemingway cats, we gain a profound understanding of the deep bond between humans and animals, as well as the immense impact these companions can have on our lives.

Discover the captivating world of Hemingway cats and embark on a journey through the life of a literary icon.



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Ernest Hemingway always had cats as companions, from the ones he adored as a child in Illinois and Michigan, to the more than 30 he had as an adult in Paris, Key West, Cuba, and Idaho. All are chronicled and most are pictured here, along with revelations of how they fit into the many twists and turns of his life and loves. In 1943 Ernest Hemingway, living in the Finca in Cuba with his third wife and eleven cats, wrote to his first wife:

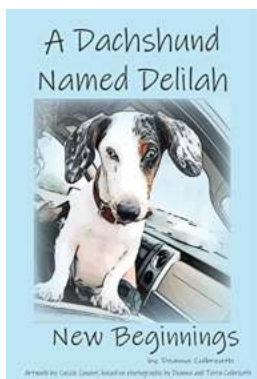
"One cat just leads to another... The place is so damned big it doesn't really seem as though there were many cats until you see them all moving like a mass migration at feeding time."

He called the cats "purr factories" and "love sponges" who soaked up love in return for comfort and companionship. He gave each a name that suited its character, including F. Puss, Fatso, Friendless, Feather Kitty, Princessa, Furhouse, Uncle Woofer, and his last cat in Idaho, Big Boy Peterson. You'll also meet his nine dogs, a cow, and a young great horned owl that he rescued not long before his death. Hemingway's Cats reveals a softer side to the writer's character than is usually portrayed by the macho image of the hunter and fisherman. He sought the cats' comfort in times of loneliness and stress, and he featured some of them in his writings, particularly in *A Moveable Feast*, *Islands in the Stream*, *The Garden of Eden*, and *True at First Light*—all written late in his life and as close to autobiography as he came.



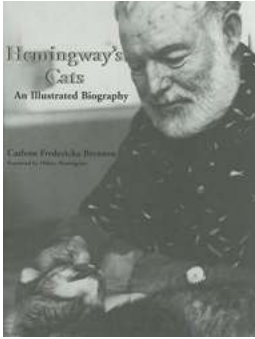
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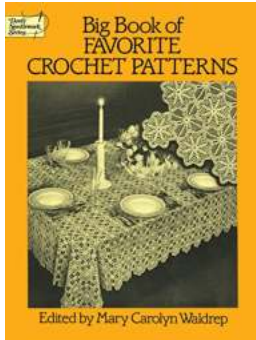
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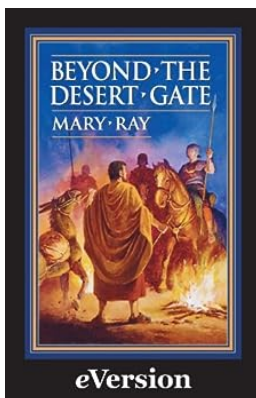
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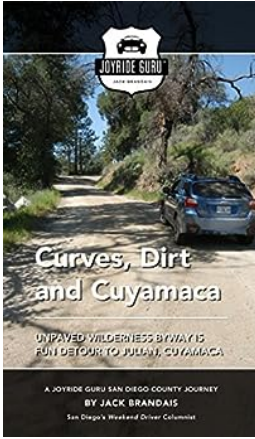
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