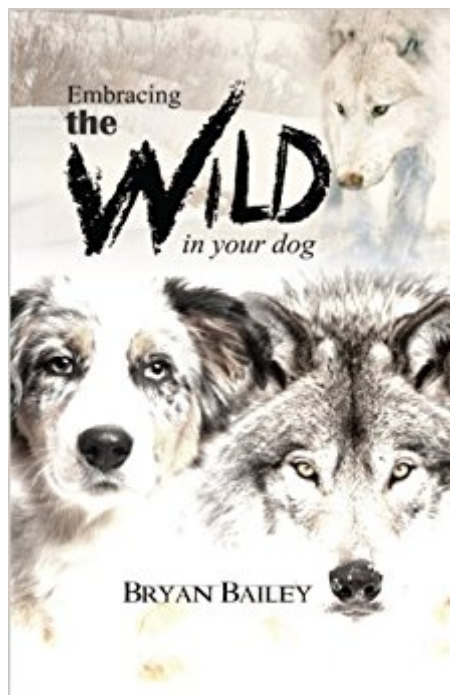




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# Embracing The Wild In Your Dog: An Understanding Of The Authors Of Your Dog's Behavior - Nature And The Wolf



## Synopsis

Some time ago, dogs became as interwoven in the American culture as baseball, apple pie and the Fourth of July. In fact, in most households, the dogs have even trumped evolution itself and jumped straight to being four legged humans where they are adorned with human names, designer outfits and fed diets that would confound even the best nutritionist. In most cases, we've granted them our human intelligence and our sacred human emotions as well. They are no longer dogs to us, they're family! Yet, for all that man has done to carve the wolf from the wild to create a surrogate human, today's dog is still a wolf at heart and the accompanying instincts borne from such ancestry defines how the dog approaches its world. The ontogeny of anthropomorphism, where we attach our human traits to our pets, is the most damaging and paralytic problem associated with dog ownership today. Believing in a fairy tale world where dogs possess the same moral consciousness and sense of altruism as attributed to humans has led to a drastic increase in leash laws, dogs being outlawed in a rising number of city and national parks, some breeds being banned in several states, an alarming escalation of aggression to humans, a rising cost in homeowner and business insurance, and a record number of clinically maladaptive dogs. This book is not a training book. It does not cover obedience topics such as heel, sit, down, stay, and come. Instead, it's about righting the ship of American dog ownership by changing our perception of our dogs. It is about the author growing up in the Alaskan wild under the tutelage and guardianship of a Special Forces survival instructor who introduced him to the ways of wolves and the similarities they shared with dogs. It is about the wisdom and splendor of nature and the many life lessons she provides. Mostly, it about developing a deep understanding of the authors of your dog's behavior; nature and the wolf. In doing so, you will truly learn who and what your dog really is and the whys and hows of its behavior. You will learn the tools that nature gave them to survive and coexist in both the mountains and in our homes. You will learn how activating and deactivating natural impulses and mechanisms in your dog will lead to the harmonious existence and the control you always dreamed of. Most of all, you will come to embrace the wild in your dog and the grace and the peace that is breathed into its acceptance.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"[T]his book represents much more than a simple training guide. There is an undeniable power and beauty to the author's musings as he weaves into the text vital lessons learned from his mentor during intense survival training in the Alaskan wilderness." - Kirkus Reviews

"Rarely does a book come along that so positively mesmerizes me that I read it from start to finish in a single sitting. Yet that is exactly what I did with *Embracing the Wild in Your Dog* by Bryan Bailey. Bailey's work is truly worthy of the attention of others and, in my estimation, of an award or two! If you are a dog owner, this one is definitely worth your while." ~ 5/5 Patricia Reding, Reader's Favorite Reviewer and Award Winning Author

"*Embracing the Wild in Your Dog* is a highly readable and informative volume that incorporates personal anecdote with researched study and artfully peppered quotes, helping dog owners to understand why their pets act the way they do, and how to best relate with them." Indie Reader Approved! 4.5/5 ~ IndieReader

"Overall, *Embracing the Wild in Your Dog* is captivating, well-written, and very informative. It allows people to come to a better understanding of dog behaviors, how dogs originate from the wolf, and why they continue to portray many of the same survival mannerisms today. It also points out how our misperception of our pet dog as a small, furry human is completely incorrect." ~ 4.5/5 Portland Book Review

"*Embracing the Wild in Your Dog* is a wealth of insight from a vastly experienced dog trainer. While not a training manual, when setting out to train your own 'puppy pal' or 'furbaby', this is a valuable book to help you to perhaps understand why your dog loves your kids, but goes berserk when the neighbor boy shows up." ~ 4/5 Manhattan Book Review

Raised in Fairbanks, Alaska, Bryan Bailey grew to appreciate the wildness of the land and its abundant wildlife. In particular, he developed a fondness for the gray wolves that roamed the vast mountain ranges and forests near his home. Under the guidance of a Special Forces Survival

Instructor, he spent years studying the social interactions of wolves in their packs and discovered that, beyond obvious physical similarities, there were also behavioral similarities between the wolves and the sled dogs that were his family's pets. Bryan has traveled to over thirty countries in Europe, Africa, the jungles of southeast Asia and the remote regions above the arctic circle in his pursuit of learning the behaviors of hyenas, lions, tigers and the gray wolf, with an emphasis on how instinct, passed from the gray wolf, has affected the behavior of our domestic dogs. Bryan is currently busy writing his second book, "The Hammer" Understanding Canine Aggression. He hopes the book will educate readers about the most dominant tool in the wolf and dog's bag of survival equipment Aggression (The Hammer). This tool has allowed for ingestion, digestion, reproduction and survival by wolves for thousands of years in a very hostile and competitive world and it was passed to our dogs. Its use by our dogs is often misinterpreted and misunderstood and this has led to an increase in avoidable attacks to dog owners and their children. Bryan and his wife, Kira, reside on the banks of the Mississippi River in Memphis, TN, with their children, dogs, and cats. Together, they own ProTrain Memphis and Taming the Wild. In their free time they enjoy excursions into the wild, traveling, and exploring new places.

This is an important book. It includes numerous examples of ignorance about instinctive dog behavior causing injury or even death for both humans and dogs. We have been anthropomorphizing dogs. To effectively illustrate the perspective of Embracing The Wild In Your Dog, the cover shows a wolf and a dog side by side. Bryan Bailey wants us to know that dogs and wolves are genetically identical, and that we can only understand dogs by studying wolf behavior. I first encountered this revelation in The Man Who Lives With Wolves by UK wolf researcher Shaun Ellis. Due to prejudices about wolves, many people refuse to believe that dogs have not diverged genetically from wolves. Once we accept that dogs should not be treated as if they were human children, I would think that the reverse should also apply. I found only one editing error, but there are a number of passages in this book that seem to imply that humans would be better off if parents and others in authority treated everyone the same way that alpha wolves treat the members of their packs. Bailey seems to favor military dictatorships. It doesn't appear to me that military dictatorships are more orderly and peaceful precisely because of some significant differences between humans and canines. Although I very much disagree with Bailey's approach to human social organization, I did learn a great deal about dogs and the increasingly troubled relationship between humans and dogs. I was shocked to find out that

some animal shelters were concealing the violent pasts of dogs from people who seek to adopt them. Bailey very rightly points out that people don't have any hope of successfully integrating a dog into their households unless they know what to expect. He wants to help us to develop into pack leaders for the dogs in our lives.

I really don't want to like this book and here is why. I have to admit that I am one of those dog owners whose pooch owns more clothes than I do, has his own Christmas stocking from Santa, and has an overflowing toy box. According to this book, my tiny seven pounder is really a wolf in Yorkie clothing and should be treated accordingly. Mentored as a teen by a Special Forces instructor in Alaska, the author scatters the wisdom of this unnamed gentleman throughout the book and it was these parts that I found to be the most useful and interesting. I can't say I liked all of what the author had to say but after reading his reasoning and checking out a few of his sources which he listed in the back, I have to grudgingly agree with his conclusions. This is not a book about how to train your dog but it does provide insight as to why your dog does some of the things that may drive you crazy, such as jumping up. After reading why he does this I thought how obvious it was when the behaviour was explained. I read the digital version of this short book and it formatted well, as did the beautiful pictures throughout the book. The cover is a good representation of the book. This is a must read for dog owners even though you may not like what you find out.

This is a wonderfully written book about a boy and a man and their relationship and how the man shows the boy the relationship between the wolf and the dog. We get so caught up in living with our dogs and emotions that we connect with them, but we forget about the dogs needs and their natural behaviors and emotions that they have in our day to day living. This book explains how much more our dogs are and can be if we acknowledge this. This book shows through relationships between each other and dogs (wolves) we can walk a clearer path, a path that benefits all involved. I encourage everyone to read this, I really have told everyone that this book is one to read. I have read many books on wolves and many books on dogs, but this one brings it all together in a very easy and understandable way. My dogs, all 5 from Chihuahua to Pit Bull, have benefitted from me reading this. I look forward to the next book.

I've had 6 dogs in my live from grade school to the present. As my kids are adults now, I've spent more time with my current dog than the others. We hunt, dock dive and he is my photography buddy. All of the trainers I've dealt with are like the ones mentioned in this book. This book has

open-end my eyes and I see his inner wolf now.

A little tedious at times, But a GREAT read, that must be read by anyone BEFORE getting a dog, even IF you think your dog is already trained

Bryan Bailey nails it! This is the best, most accurate book on dog behavior I've read in 60 years! Dogs ARE modified wolves, their genetic instincts are darn close to wolves', and understanding those instinctive behaviors makes all the difference in having a dog you can live with! Good job, Bryan, keep up the good work!

good read - "animal wise" is a better book and I think it's because I was expecting more about dog behavior/intelligence and less about Bryan. I still recommend it as I think you'll enjoy and learn about dogs, Bryan and yourself.

Bryan Bailey is a great trainer and this book really helps clarify that dogs are not human, they are their own species and need to be treated differently than you would a child!!

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