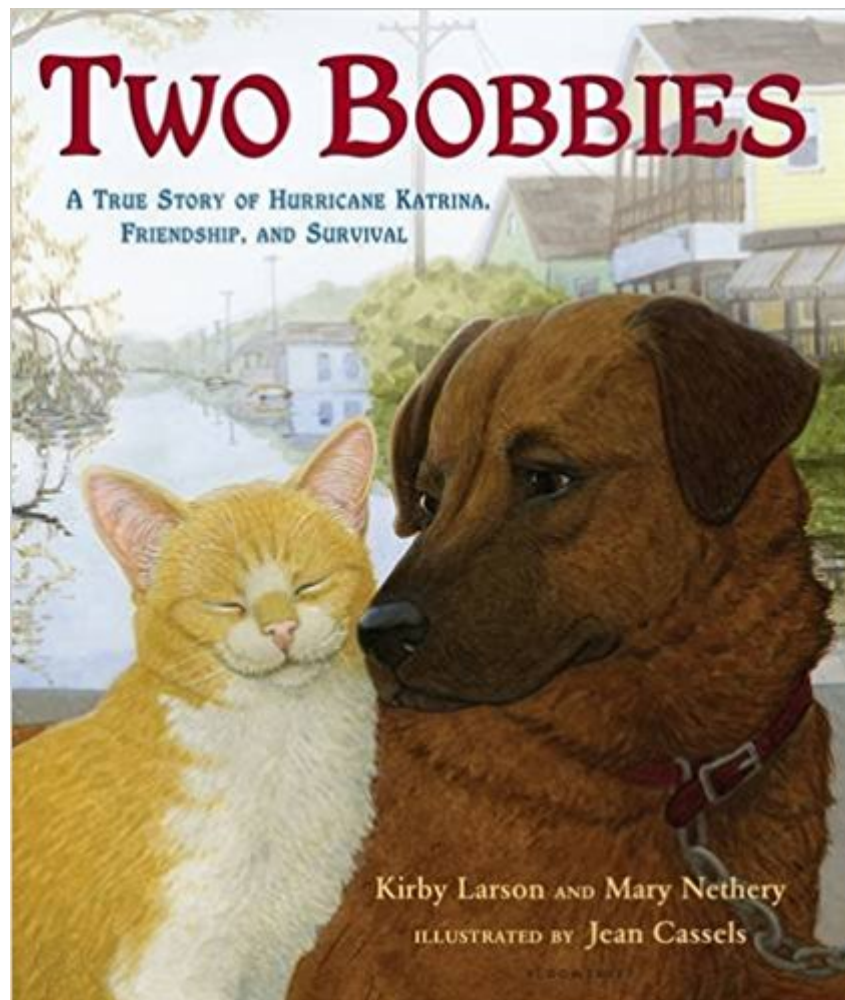




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# Two Bobbies: A True Story Of Hurricane Katrina, Friendship, And Survival



## Synopsis

During Hurricane Katrina, evacuating New Orleans residents were forced to leave their pets behind. Bobbi the dog was initially chained to keep her safe, but after her owners failed to return, she had to break free. For months, Bobbi wandered the city's ravaged streets-dragging her chain behind her-followed by her feline companion, Bob Cat. After months of hunger and struggle, the Two Bobbies were finally rescued by a construction worker helping to rebuild the city. When he brought them to a shelter, volunteers made an amazing discovery about the devoted friends-Bob Cat was actually blind! He had survived the aftermath of the storm by following the sound Bobbi's chain made as she dragged it along the ground. At the shelter, the two bob-tailed friends refused to be parted, even for a moment. Could rescue workers find the Bobbies' owners? Or could they find a new home that would take them together? This remarkable true story of devotion and survival is a testament to the spirit that defined post-Katrina rescue missions, and is a perfect way to commemorate the this day in history.

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: 810 (What's this?)

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Average Customer Review: 4.6 out of 5 stars 80 customer reviews

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Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

Kindergarten-Grade 3  
•Simple prose introduces two animals, a cat and a dog, that survived Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans, and, after four months of wandering, were rescued by the Best Friends Animal Society. The narrative is obviously part supposition as the original owners were

never found, despite efforts to locate them. Since both pets had bobbed tails, a shelter volunteer named them Bob Cat and Bobbi, hence the book's title. It was soon discovered that Bob Cat was blind, making his survival even more amazing and underscoring the idea that the two critters relied on one another during their ordeal. The terrifying event is told about in a matter-of-fact way, with the text concentrating on the "feel good" aspect of the two Bobbies. The gouache illustrations, done in soft pastel shades, present realistic glimpses of the devastated city that serve as a backdrop for the animals' struggles. An afterword includes a photo and additional information. An excellent introduction to Katrina for young children, this touching animal tale memorializes a modern catastrophe and pays tribute to the many volunteers who traveled to New Orleans to help.

— Judith Constantinides, formerly at East Baton Rouge Parish Main Library, LA

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“Neither Bobbi the dog nor Bob Cat has a tail, and some say that’s what brought them together. Abandoned during the Katrina evacuations, pets Bobbi and Bob Cat wander dangerous, debris-strewn streets seeking food and water. Eventually taken to a rescue shelter, the Bobbies show distress when separated but remain calm when together. Workers then discover that Bob Cat is blind and that Bobbi seems to serve as his seeing-eye dog. A national news appearance ultimately results in the animals’ shared adoption in a happy new home. The descriptive, sometimes folksy prose and realistically rendered gouache illustrations accessibly convey the Bobbies’ experiences and mutual devotion. An afterword, with a photo of the real-life furry friends, notes the parts of the narrative that are speculative, such as the animals’ pre-shelter experiences. This moving story about the importance of friendship and home highlights the plight of the hurricane’s lost and left-behind animals, as well as the value of animal shelters. Grades K-3. --Shelle Rosenfeld

Kirby Larson and Mary Nethery have written a great story of friendship. We can only hope to have the level of love and compassion in our lives Bobbi the dog and Bob Cat experience. The tale is about two furry survivors of Hurricane Katrina and can be enjoyed by almost any age group. I read the book to a three year old, but enjoyed it as much as she did. I highly recommend this book.

Like Lost and Found Cat, this is a very touching story. Even though it is really too young for her, I read it out-loud to my now 11-year-old granddaughter because of her deep love for a feral cat she "adopted" when she was 2 - a cat that then roamed away about a year ago and came back to her

just a few months ago.I offered to give the book to kids a few grades behind her in a school that needs books - but no way would she let it go.She just loved it.

I read this book for the first time today and can only hope that everyone that can read would have a copy of this book. It is awesome and surprising as you read the book and learn more about each of these "Bobbies"....A beautiful book and story with a most wonderful ending!

It is an amazing story of friendship and survival between unlikely allies during tough times. We check out books by the dozens every week at the local library, and to have my daughter say to me for the first time after reading *The Two Bobbies* to her: "mom, can we buy that book? I just loved that story!" was touching. The story was meaningful to me because I was in New Orleans for nine months after Hurricane Katrina running a relief camp. So, to have my daughter feel the same sense of compassion, made me proud.

I really liked this book. It's a story of two animals, a cat and a dog, who are left behind during Katrina. The story has a twist at the end, and you find out something about the animals that brings them together. The story is heartwarming, and the best part- it's true. The pictures are great as well and the story is written very well. The book covers many topics- abandoned animals, friendship, compassion, hope and Hurricane Katrina. As a teacher, my students love this tale of companionship. It did make me want to cry, so be careful reading it aloud!

Great!

The child for whom this was purchased lives in New Orleans but is too young to have memories of Katrina. I have friends from USA and Canada who rescued pets from homes there who had been abandoned. She will appreciate the tragedy and the inherent goodness of animal lovers.

I read part of this book at a library & had to have it. It's great story about the love of animals and discusses natural disaster in a way that allows children to begin to understand how hard they are on people and animals. Great for children & animal lovers!

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