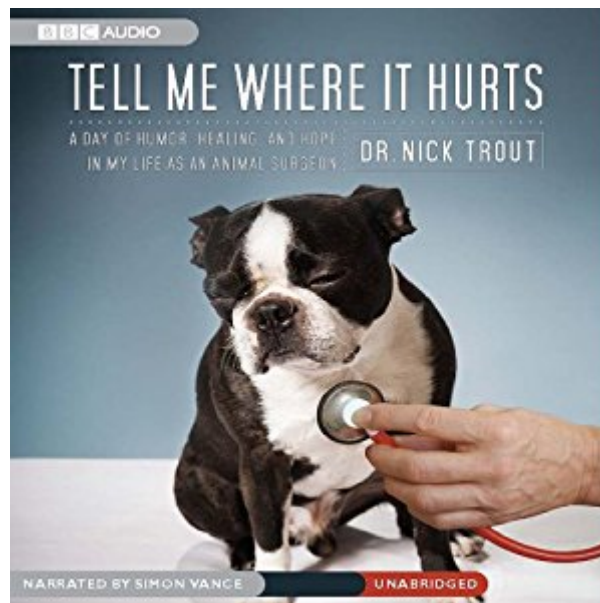




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Tell Me Where It Hurts: Humor, Healing And Hope In My Life As An Animal Surgeon



Synopsis

It's 2:47 a.m. when Dr. Nick Trout takes the phone call that starts another hectic day at the Angell Animal Medical Center. Sage, a ten-year old German shepherd, will die without emergency surgery for a serious stomach condition. Over the next twenty-four hours Dr. Trout fights for Sage's life, battles disease in the operating room, unravels tricky diagnoses, reassures frantic pet parents, and reflects on the humor, heartache, and inspiration in his life as an animal surgeon. And he wants to take you along for the ride. From the front lines of modern medicine, *Tell Me Where It Hurts* is a fascinating insider portrait of a veterinarian, his furry patients, and the blend of old-fashioned instincts and cutting-edge technology that defines pet care in the twenty-first century. For anyone who's ever wondered what goes on behind the scenes at your veterinarian's office, *Tell Me Where It Hurts* offers a vicarious journey through twenty-four intimate, eye-opening, heartrending hours at the premier Angell Animal Medical Center in Boston. You'll learn about the amazing progress of modern animal medicine, where organ transplants, joint replacements, and state-of-the-art cancer treatments have become more and more common. With these technological advances come controversies and complexities that Dr. Trout thoughtfully explores, such as how long (and at what cost) treatments should be given, how the Internet has changed pet care, and the rise in cosmetic surgery. You'll also be inspired by the heartwarming stories of struggle and survival filling these pages. With a wry and winning tone, Dr. Trout offers up hilarious and delightful anecdotes about cuddly (or not-so-cuddly) pets and their variously zany, desperate, and demanding owners. In total, *Tell Me Where It Hurts* offers a fascinating portrait of the comedy and drama, complexities and rewards involved with loving and healing animals. Part ER, part Dog Whisperer, and part House, this heartfelt and candid book shows that while the technology has changed since James Herriot's day, the humanity and compassion remains unchanged. If you've ever had a pet or special place in your heart for furry friends, Dr. Trout's irresistible book is for you. --This text refers to the Hardcover edition.

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Customer Reviews

I liked this book. I didn't love it. The author (and reviewers) continually invokes the name and justified fame of James Herriott, so I dared hope for a similar style: Herriott's books are almost wholly story, with a bit of reflection, whereas this seemed to have reverse proportions. I got tired of, and honestly bored with, all the ruminating, moralizing, defense of his profession, and desperate protestations of affection for various animals and people. I'd have preferred for Dr. Trout to primarily let the tales themselves convey these things. In 25 years of practice, one would've thought there'd be enough memorable pets to fill these 285 pages with the humor and pathos I did see shining in the recollections salted in amongst the ponderings.

This book is educational about what we can expect of the veterinarians, is very amusing, I laugh and cry. There's a fire, how strange it was for him to see so many dogs hooked up to bags of intravenous fluids, people evacuating sick animals, TV crew etc. So many stories, he is a good writer. I walk everyday in the park with two dogs, one belongs to a friend, my dog is in stroller, ha, ha, ha, when I was living in Florida was too hot, and he refused to walk, now in Colorado I can't take him out of the stroller, he does his business and jumped back, the things we do for love, to see the kid's faces when they see him in stroller it is worthy. People asking me if I let them to take a picture, I had conversations because of him, dogs are angels in this earth in different forms, my help me heal the loss of my husband. Like this book a lot, Thelma.

The book presents the relationship between the vet, the animals and the owners in a different perspective. The bond of the owner and the pet, why is so powerful and sometimes the hard decisions involved in that relationship. I am surprised how the author is capable to show how far a vet is committed for his animal. In the book I had Joy, courage, sometimes I cried and sometimes I laughed. But the best part is the final chapter. I am very happy to have the opportunity to read this book.

I read the book in one sitting. We're long past the days of James Herriot and there aren't many like Jan Pol any more, but Dr. Trout makes it clear the love of veterinary medicine is alive and well. If you love animals, if you have a couple or ten furbabies, then you need to take this book, sit down with your buddies, and enjoy.

Dr. Nick Trout is the vet you wish you had, calling your pet "sweetheart" and working with skill and compassion to keep your animal friend happy and healthy. He understands the intense depth of feeling that people can have for their pets. In *Tell Me Where It Hurts*, Trout tells fascinating stories from his quarter century of being an animal surgeon. The empathy he has for both animals and people spills from every page. I'm a sucker for books about animals, especially from a veterinary point of view. I grew up devouring James Herriot's wonderful books (*All Creatures Great and Small*, *All Things Bright and Beautiful*, *All Things Wise and Wonderful*, *The Lord God Made Them All* and *Every Living Thing*). *Tell Me Where It Hurts* is just as well-written and addictive as these classics. I forgot I was reading a book and felt immersed in the life of this caring doctor and the noble, funny animals he treats. Along the way, Trout describes the amazing progress made in the past couple of decades in veterinary science. Procedures that used to be only for humans -- organ transplants, joint-replacements, chemotherapy, MRIs -- are now available options for animals. The costs can be incredible, and pet owners sometimes have hard choices on whether to proceed or not. Dr. Trout says he is ultimately always asked the same question: "And if she were your dog? What would you do?" In the book Dr. Trout condenses his 25 years of veterinary practice into a single very busy day, which starts at 2:47 a.m. with an emergency wake-up call. A 10-year-old German Shepherd with a life-threatening stomach problem requires emergency surgery. Even with a stomach about to burst, the old dog wags her tail when they meet. The book ends late at night, at 10:02 p.m., with this same old dog. What a journey in between.

This was an enjoyable read, for the most part. Good information about health and diseases of dogs, which I dearly love. However, the author's habit of explaining his reasons/ideas about other topics or unrelated stories to the patient he was treating was distracting. This resulted in my having to look back in the book to follow the thread of which patient he was writing about. I felt the story did not flow well, which is why I gave it three stars.

The author is an orthopedic surgeon for animals. The book is taken from many different cases and

put together as if they all happened in one day. The stories are true with some names changed to protect privacy. It gives the reader a wonderful perspective of the gamut of emotions of a vet trying to do the best job for each animal while dealing with the people owners. The author has been in practice many years and so the reader gets the added benefit of how he mentors new vets right out of school.

I loved the Henriot books and this is new and improved. I knew vet care had greatly improved but my recent experiences have mostly been equine. I can see through this book that options for care have significantly grown, but the dilemma about cost and quality of life remain. It seems harder than ever to be a vet. Anyway, I laughed and cried my way through and loved it all. You will too.

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