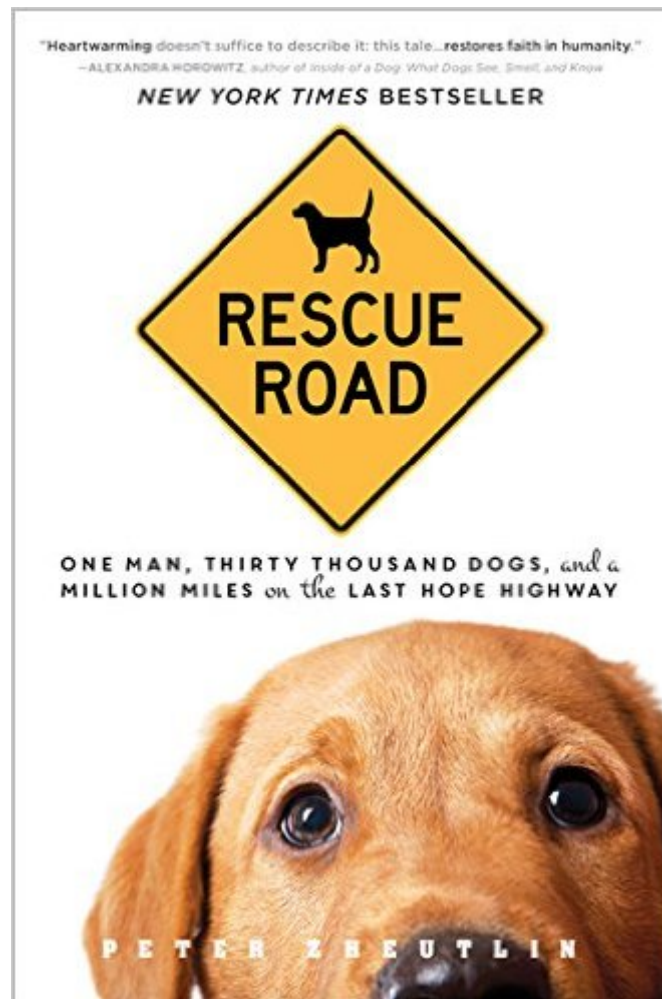


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# Rescue Road: One Man, Thirty Thousand Dogs, And A Million Miles On The Last Hope Highway



## Synopsis

"Peter Zheutlin has written a lovely, moving, important book about a subject that is both heartbreaking and joyful." - Dean Koontz How far would you go to save a life? This is the extraordinary story of one man who has driven more than 1 million miles to rescue thousands of dogs from hunger, abuse and neglect and give them a second chance at life and love. For years, Greg Mahle struggled to keep the last of his family-run restaurants afloat in Ohio. When it finally closed, he was broke and unsure what to do next. Then a stranded van-load of puppies changed his life forever. Join journalist Peter Zheutlin as he travels with Greg from Ohio to the Gulf Coast on his Rescue Road Trips to bring hard-luck dogs from the deep South to loving "forever families" up north looking to adopt a pet, with the help of many selfless volunteers along the way. From Houston's impoverished Fifth Ward--where thousands of strays roam the streets--and high-kill animal shelters in Louisiana, to joyous scenes of adopters embracing their new pups in the Northeast, Rescue Road is full of heart: an inspiring story about the unique bond between dogs and humans, and how going the extra mile can make a life-changing difference for these loyal canines--and for us all. A heartwarming, awe-inspiring story of how one man can impact so many lives, human and puppy alike. Fans of Marley and Me, Oogy: The Dog Only A Family Could Love, and You Had Me At Woof will be inspired and touched by this story. What readers are saying about Rescue Road: "I stand in awe of those who can do this kind of rescue work, for their persistence, compassion and willingness to get dirty in the service of animals." "a heartwarming & eye opening journey into the world of dog rescue." "I highly recommend this book if you are looking to restore your faith in humanity." "a heart-warming story that reaffirms there are many compassionate people who work tirelessly to save dogs." What reviewers are saying about Rescue Road:

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Disclaimer: I have personal involvement with the subject matter as my own dog was adopted from Kathy Wetmore at Houston Shaggy Dog Rescue and brought from Houston, TX to NY using Rescue Road Trips in May 2013. I continue to be involved with RRT by taking photographs at one of Greg's many stops. I have a purchased copy arriving this week, however, I also received an advance copy as a surprise from Greg & Adella for my volunteer work with the group. Needless to say, I have a biased opinion...bUT if you read this book, you'll see why. "Rescue Road" is a heartwarming & eye opening journey into the world of dog rescue. Peter Zheutlin was able to experience life with Greg on the road during his biweekly journey to help him better understand and research the ins & outs involved with rescue groups, as well as the successful, well-organized transport that Greg operates. Many people don't realize that there is a whole culture of rescue groups who work tirelessly to save as many dogs as possible from euthanasia, yet it's still never enough. More often, people in the north don't even realize the severity of issues that plague animals in many southern states. "Rescue Road" helps bring to light the desperate conditions of shelters with insanely high euthanasia rates due to sheer volume of animals due to lack of spay/neuter, injuries, and not to mention lack of vaccination that leads to diseases. The dogs that end up in the shelters are often perfectly adoptable animals that have been abandoned for a multitude of reasons. Various rescue groups claim these animals to save them from certain death and work diligently to find them suitable homes. Those who are placed with families in New England states generally make their "freedom ride" with Greg. Those who have met Greg would agree that he doesn't consider himself a modern day hero, but the truth is -- he is. In their few short days together, he shows the dogs such compassion, friendship and loyalty -- exactly what they will provide their new family with for the rest of their lives. Greg & the dogs establish a mutual trust and truly bond. I have seen first hand the way the dogs absolutely adore him. Animals know good people...and Greg Mahle is good people. He doesn't have a hidden agenda -- merely wants to help as many dogs as possible to live the lives of love and happiness that they deserve. Speaking from my firsthand experience of Gotcha Day and the excitement leading up to it, I can say that RRT does it best. Greg and the Angels keep the Facebook followers involved with pictures and status updates to build the anticipation for Gotcha Day to arrive. There is something so very special about this whole process that you simply have to witness to understand. To see the dogs come off the trailer and meet their

new family...to see the amazing signs, followed by the first introductions, photos and follow-up kisses and hugs -- it's a true celebration of the first day of the rest of the dog's life. In his book, Mr. Zheutlin also speaks of several individuals and their respective rescue organizations that Greg Mahle often works with. One of the stories that brought tears to my eyes was the story and subsequent follow-up about Teddy. Keri should be commended for her strength and efforts in her willingness to work towards socializing and trying to help Teddy. Zheutlin also speaks a great deal about Kathy Wetmore of Houston Shaggy Dog Rescue. As he even pointed out, Kathy runs a tight ship and has strict guidelines of who she allows to adopt her rescues. Some people criticize this, however, like Greg, their focus is placed solely upon the dogs. My own dog came from Kathy and her amazing organization. I will forever be grateful for the incredible work she does, but after reading this book and finding out more about her willingness to help Greg in such dire times, in my opinion, she continues to be one of the most selfless and well-respected people in dog rescue. I strongly urge you to seek out Houston Shaggy Dog Rescue to adopt or even donate, but you can also check [RescueRoadTrips.org](http://RescueRoadTrips.org) for many other rescues that also use Greg's Rescue Road Trip transport. Rescue Road is a testament to the blood, sweat, tears and thousands of miles involved in making our world a better place. Not only forever changing the life of the dog, but also of the adoptive family. We need more people like the RRT crew and every single person involved along the way, right down to the RRT Facebook followers and readers of this book. One person CAN make a difference and when these people band together -- amazing things happen. Dog lovers and animal lovers will definitely appreciate this book...

My husband, Paul, and I have rescued four small mutts. The last two, Jellybean (from Lafayette Animal Aid) and Mitzy (aka Rosebud) from Shaggy Dog Rescue, Houston, TX were brought to us via Greg Mahle and Rescue Road Trips. Our grandsons were present for Mitzy's \*Gotcha Day\* and both declared it the BEST DAY EVER!!! GOTCHA DAY is filled with smiles and tears of joy for everyone present. Although we no longer live in New England, when we did, Paul and I would drive an hour just to be part of the love fest that ensues. It makes Christmas morning pale in comparison. The side of Greg's transport truck says "saving lives, 4 paws at a time" but he's actually saving humans, too. Begs me to ask - Who Rescued Who??? So I preordered this book and eagerly awaited its arrival hoping that the author would be able to capture the essence of GOTCHA DAY (which is really all I knew about rescue). I was blown away by Peter Zheutlin's first hand account of rescue. It wasn't just a story of \*happy tails ever after\*. Peter delves into the reality of rescue, and much of it is heartbreaking - but necessary - to understand why Greg travels thousands

of miles every couple of weeks on his rescue mission. Many of us follow Rescue Road Trip on Facebook and know he's supported by his \*Angels\* from Birmingham, AL, Allentown, PA & Rocky Hill, CT. These \*Angels\* are Greg's faithful RRT army that greet him and help water, walk and love his precious cargo. However, many of us have no clue as to what's involved with saving a dog's life. This book was a real eye opener, and I have nothing but love and admiration for everyone involved in saving these dogs lives. Thank you all, from the bottom of my very grateful heart. With so much negativity in this world, this book brought so much love and hope via the Last Hope Highway. Greg, my husband knows I love you, and he's ok with that. He loves you too! Peter, thank you for introducing me to all the heroes who give so much of themselves to make rescue possible. Time for me to hand this book over to Paul to read. Guaranteed, he won't get past the Introduction without having leaking eyes. Gonna go give my pack - Bella, the love bug, Gidget, the uber-gooper, Jellybean, the scootch pooch, and Mitzy Bitzy, boo-boo bear a hug and a cookie, then take them out for a walk. Thank God for rescue as these girls are the center of our lives...

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