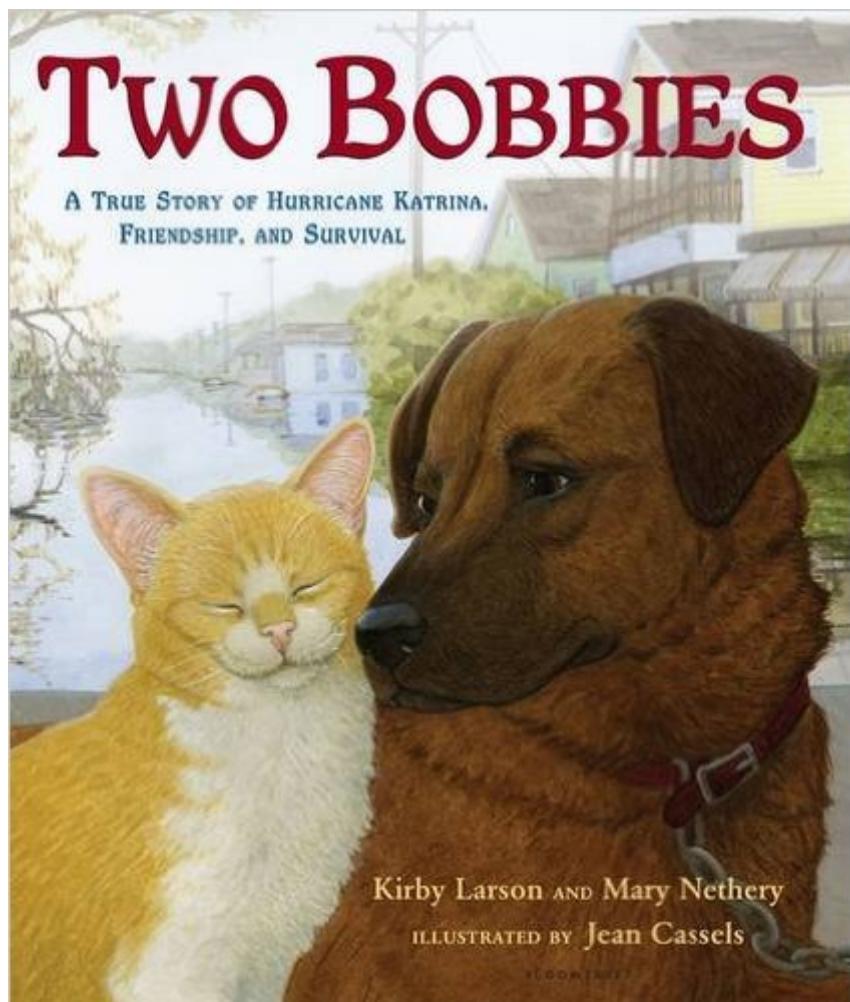


The book was found

# 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?)

Hardcover: 32 pages

Publisher: Bloomsbury USA Childrens; Later Printing. edition (September 1, 2008)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0802797547

ISBN-13: 978-0802797544

Product Dimensions: 8.8 x 0.4 x 10.3 inches

Shipping Weight: 12 ounces (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 starsÂ  See all reviewsÂ  (76 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #158,955 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #45 inÂ  Books > Science & Math > Earth Sciences > Atmospheric Sciences #244 inÂ  Books > Science & Math > Agricultural Sciences > Animal Husbandry #655 inÂ  Books > Children's Books > Animals > Cats

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## **Customer Reviews**

Children's authors have commonly found that the only way to really write about a huge recent disaster for small tykes without irreparably scarring them for life is to find some kind of human-interest story to focus on. When 9/11 happened it was "The Man Who Walked Between the

Towers" that ended up being the best picture book to make reference to the tragedy, and it didn't even talk about it all that much! Similar books like "Fireboat" and "September Roses" made their focus a boat and a delivery of flowers but somehow neither really twanged the heartstrings effectively. What's particularly interesting about these three books is that none of them involved animals in any way. Critters were few and far between around the Twin Towers that day. As a result, authors had to scramble especially hard to find something, ANYTHING, to that kids could relate to. Newbery Honor winning author Kirby Larson and her partner in crime Mary Nethery have it a little easier. Focusing on an animal interest story from the time of Hurricane Katrina, Larson and Nethery could have easily phoned in the tale of Bob Cat and Bobbi, but the story that emerges here is one of grace and delicacy. Steady hands present us with the story of this cat and dog team.

(Note: Results are just in (3-1-2011): "Two Bobbies" was picked by third through fifth graders in Louisiana as their favorite book from nominees for the 2011 Louisiana Young Readers Choice list. That same age group also selected it as favorite in my school. It was also my personal favorite. Congratulations to the author and the illustrator!) "Two Bobbies: A True Story of Hurricane Katrina, Friendship, and Survival"--this story touched my heart profoundly, beginning with the cover illustration and the title. But then I know the story of Katrina and its devastation. I know that animals were left behind, not out of indifference or neglect, but out of necessity. Who knew that people wouldn't be returning to their homes any time soon? That means animals essentially, through no one's fault, were abandoned. Artist Jean Cassels captures the essence of devotion behind this oh-so-poignant story: dog looking at cat with closed eyes. A flooded street is depicted in the background. These two were "abandoned." But there is much more to this story. Typically, when I write reviews of children's books, I test the book on at least one group of students in my school library. I am the librarian. This time the book arrived in a box of books via Fed Ex after school closed, so I am the testee. Frankly, I was moved to tears by this story. Much of it is speculation. How could Kirby Larson and Mary Nethery know exactly what Cat and Dog did during their journey to the animal shelter? But the two animals had to have a history together, so the two writers imagined one. Young cat, young dog, both bob-tailed, perhaps were taken in together by their owner as two of a kind. Perhaps the dog was chained when the floods came, when the owners left, thinking they would return soon.

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