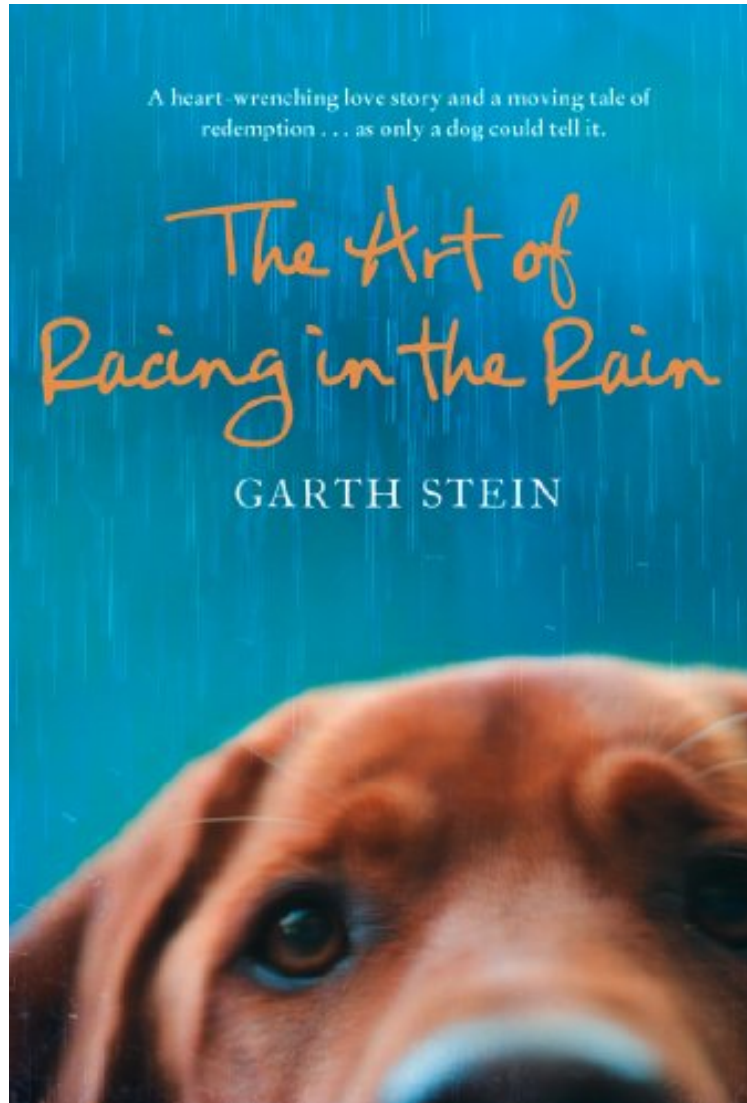


The Art of Racing in the Rain

Von Garth Stein

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Von Garth Stein : The Art of Racing in the Rain before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Art of Racing in the Rain:

KundenrezensionenHilfreichste Kundenrezensionen0 von 0 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Dog zen, very enjoyableVon Jason MatthewsThis book went through our family of dog lovers. My brother and dad read it then passed it on to me. Easy read, very creative insights into a dog's view of the world as the story is narrated by the dog (Enzo). The liberties taken by the author from Enzo's perspective will stretch any imagination, but it's done in good fun and mostly enjoyable. For my taste, that went over the top a few times. It's one thing to detect human emotions and

even illness and another to go into great nuances about famous films and actors that the dog enjoys watching on TV. Or is it? Well, you can decide. I believe it would have been more effective if kept a bit subtler with the insights into the human world. Enzo clearly is a grand master of deep thought. I also felt there was a bit too much of the world verses Denny (the main character). At times you may wonder how many evil people are conspiring against him, but life can feel that way. Maybe Enzo could have shared more wisdom with Denny of how to understand people expressing fear. I did love the cars and racing elements. I also thought of my best friend often, as many dog lovers will when reading this enjoyable book.

3 von 3 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Did not really convince me. Von KrankyKat Don't get me wrong: I love dogs and I love the idea of telling a story from the perspective of a dog. (Not a new idea, but a good one.) I'm not particularly interested in racing cars - but... if a story is well told, I can get interested in just about anything. I bought this book based on the raving reviews on .com. I know a lot of people seem to get very enthusiastic about this story. Many find the perspective well rendered and the book full of humor. I disagree. I find Enzo, the dog narrator, is really a bit of a bore. I understand that he is an old dog as he is telling the story, but he tells it in retrospect so that he was young when he was experiencing it. He is so concerned with behaving like a human that he forgets his dogginess... there is no goofiness about him, he never has fun with other dogs, does not get as happily excited as dogs do nor as upset as they can... Also, I find his perspective is not credible. If you choose to write from a dog's perspective, you really need to imagine the different sensory perception that dogs have. For dogs, the world is full of exciting smells and sounds. The dog in this novel only sees and thinks and describes. As to the human characters - where is their development? There seems to be clear cut good (Denny, who really behaves very irresponsibly towards his wife and daughter) and bad (Eve's, the wife's, parents). And not much change in between. If the book gets much better in the second half, please forgive me - I managed to finish a little more than half of it and then decided to give up. I decided to write this review for people who want to hear a different opinion - I'm glad so many people love it, but I was disappointed. Three stars because the style and general composition are clear and convincing. I find the following authors do a much more convincing job of rendering a dog's perspective: Melvin Burgess in "Lady - My Life As a Bitch" and Alexander McCall Smith in the 44 Scotland Street series (Angus's dog Cyril).

2 von 2 Kunden fanden die folgende Rezension hilfreich. Einfach wundervoll. Von T. Hcker Abgesehen davon, dass ich in diesem Buch meinen eigenen Hund erkannt habe, ist dieses Buch sehr empfehlenswert für nicht Hundebesitzer. Es denkt sich wunderbar in die Empfindungen von Lebewesen hinein, die sich uns nicht mitteilen können. Die technischen Informationen über das Rennfahren nehmen auch immer Bezug auf Lebenseinstellungen und Verhaltensweisen. Im Gegensatz zu anderen Büchern brachte mich dieses Buch nicht zum weinen, weil der Hund sich auf den Bergang zum Menschen freut und es eine Erlösung für Enzo ist. Der Humor in diesem Buch ist das Wundervolle. Selbst mit den ganzen Ereignissen, die nicht zum Lachen sind, hat es der Autor geschafft, Beschreibungen von Enzo, sehr witzig klingen zu lassen. Ich habe nur die englische Version gelesen. Die Kritiken bei der deutschen Übersetzung kann ich nicht beurteilen.

Kurzbeschreibung A heart-warming and inspirational tale in which Enzo, a loyal family dog, tells the story of his human family, how they nearly fell apart, and what he did to bring them back together. Enzo knows he is different from other dogs: he thinks and feels in nearly human ways. He has educated himself by watching extensive television, and by listening very closely to the words of his master, Denny Swift, an up-and-coming race car driver. Through Denny, Enzo realizes that racing is a metaphor: that by applying the techniques a driver would apply on the race track, one can successfully navigate the ordeals and travails one encounters in life. Enzo relates the story of his human family, sharing their tragedies and triumphs. In the end, despite what he sees as his own limitations as a dog, Enzo comes through heroically to preserve the Swift family.

The Art of Racing in the Rain is a testament to a man's life, given by his dog. But it is also a testament to the dog, himself. Though Enzo cannot speak, he understands everything that happens around him as he bears witness to his master's problems. His enforced muteness only refines his listening ability, and allows him to understand many of life's nuances that are lost on most humans. With humour, sharp observation, and a courageous heart, Enzo guides the reader to the bittersweet yet ultimately satisfying conclusion: there are no limitations to what we can achieve, if we truly know where we want to be.

From Publishers Weekly If you've ever wondered what your dog is thinking, Stein's third novel offers an answer. Enzo is a lab terrier mix plucked from a farm outside Seattle to ride shotgun with race car driver Denny Swift as he pursues success on the track and off. Denny meets and marries Eve, has a daughter, Zo, and risks his savings and his life to make it on the professional racing circuit. Enzo, frustrated by his inability to speak and his lack of opposable thumbs, watches Denny's old racing videos, coins koanlike aphorisms that apply to both driving and life, and hopes for the day when his life as a dog will be over and he can be reborn a man. When Denny hits an extended rough patch, Enzo remains his most steadfast if silent supporter. Enzo is a reliable companion and a likable enough narrator, though the string of Denny's bad luck stories strains believability. Much like Denny, however, Stein is able to salvage some dignity from the over-the-top drama. (May) Copyright Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights

reserved. Pressestimmen Praise for *The Art of Racing in the Rain*: 'The Art of Racing in the Rain is the perfect book for anyone who knows that some of our best friends walk beside us on four legs; that compassion isn't only for humans; and that the relationship between two souls who are meant for each other never really comes to an end. Every now and then, I'm lucky enough to read a novel I can't stop thinking about: this is one of them.' Jodi Piccoult 'The Art of Racing in the Rain has everything: love, tragedy, redemption, danger, and-best of all-the canine narrator Enzo. This old soul of a dog has much to teach to us about being human. I loved this book.' Sara Gruen, author of *Water for Elephants* 'The Art of Racing in the Rain takes you on an unforgettable journey through another kind of mind, through the eyes - and nose - of a dog. I found it fascinating.' Temple Grandin, author of *Animals in Translation* Praise for *How Evan Broke His Head*: "An engrossing family drama." Publishers Weekly "A powerful story" Seattle Times