

Some Good Dog Advice

Dogs share their best tips for living the good life in “DogSense.”

If your life isn't quite what you'd like it to be, you might want to take some tips from the dogs in “DogSense: 99 Relationship Tips from your Canine Companion,” by Carla Genender, published by Health Communications Inc. People talk often about what they learn from their dogs, but now you can find it all in a handy book illustrated with darling photos by Amy Hill of the intelligent canines who share their advice.

“Get involved in a hobby you enjoy together” comes from a Golden Retriever who not only works as a therapy dog with his owner, but enjoys riding in a sidecar, motoring along the highway him as well. A Mastiff named Moses offers, “Enjoy being together, doing nothing at all.” He says he doesn't care where he is or what he's doing “as long as we're together.”

Of course, we all know these words of wisdom weren't channeled for the book – at least not most of them – but anyone who has spent time around dogs will recognize that these tidbits are right on. Dandie Dinmont Terrier Sam suggests, “Let her know you'll miss her when she travels without you.” What dog have you ever known who let you out the door with a suitcase without showing at least a touch of anxiety over your departure?

In addition to page after page of canine counseling, Genender provides an introduction to the dogs: their names, breeds, and a little bit about their lives, likes and loves.

If you build even 25 percent of these ideas into your own human relationships, we bet you'd be a much happier person in just a few weeks:

“Work as a team.”

“Have a regular date night for just the two of you.”

“Have your own friends and understand that he needs his own friends.”

“Allow yourself to be vulnerable.”

If those aren't a recipe for a long and loving relationship, we don't know what is.