

Chick-Lit Author Is Dog-Inspired

Alison Pace's latest novel includes a homeless Dachshund named DB Sweeney.

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Alison Pace clearly loves dogs – both real and fictional.

The author has given dogs starring roles in each of her popular chick-lit novels, including her latest, "Through Thick and Thin," which features a homeless Dachshund named DB Sweeney (yes, named for the actor) who grabs a lonely restaurant critic's heart and changes her priorities.

"There are so many special things about dogs that it's impossible to list them all," Pace told The Gothamist. "But to me, dogs are always kind, and loving, and they're so happy to welcome each day, and that's a truly wonderful mindset to be around. Dogs, in general, just set wonderful examples."

Pace's dog, a 2-year-old West Highland White Terrier named Carlie, lives with the author in New York City. "I don't think anything could have prepared me for how head-over-heels in love I would fall with her," she says. "I was amazed at first how much having a dog in New York connects you to the city, and to your neighborhood."

Carlie will appear in Pace's fourth novel, which the author is working on now. "It's called 'Things To Do in the City with Your Dog,'" she says. "Carlie's greatly looking forward to her literary debut."