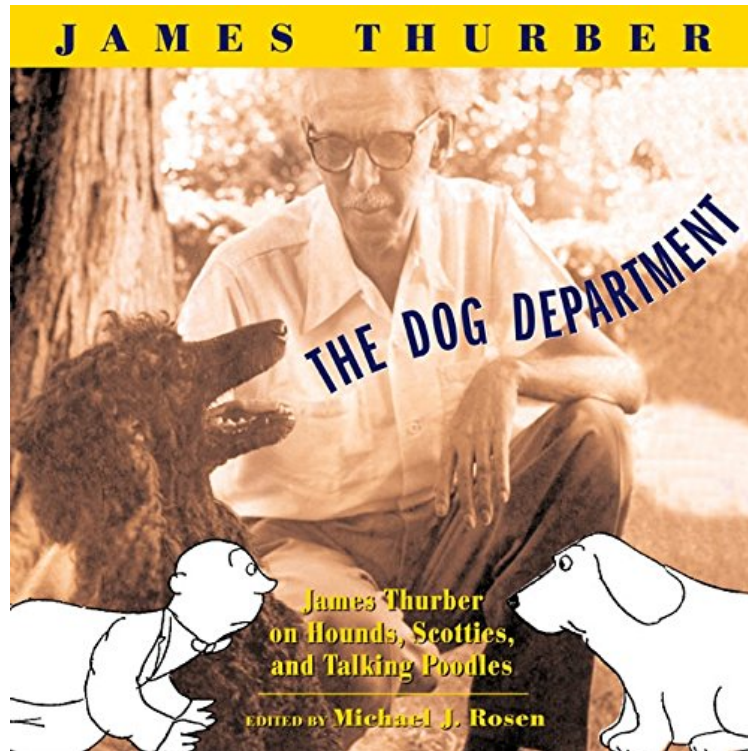


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The Dog Department: James Thurber on Hounds, Scotties, and Talking Poodles

James Thurber, Michael J. Rosen, Rosemary Thurber

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James Thurber, Michael J. Rosen, Rosemary Thurber : The Dog Department: James Thurber on Hounds, Scotties, and Talking Poodles before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Dog Department: James Thurber on Hounds, Scotties, and Talking Poodles:

9 of 9 people found the following review helpful. I am pleased to get this Compilation of wonderful dog stories by James Thurber!By Kindle CustomerI own a yellowed, dog-eared copy of the original "Thurber's Dogs", published in 1955. I don't remember where I got it, but I still read these stories from time to time, and they never cease to cheer me up and get me smiling! Now I can get a nice, new copy of "The Dog Department", a collection of mostly the same stories that Thurber(1894-1961) wrote decades ago, but have not lost their appeal. The stories are warm and witty--very personal accounts of his many dogs and their personalities and antics. The cartoons are great, too. His drawings seem primitive, yet universal.His iconic dog sketch was rounded, with floppy ears, a wrinkle in this brow, is usually low to the ground, as if he were resting on the floor. I always thought that he looked like my dear old yellow, floppy-eared, Labby, Muggsy. But after reading the essays again today, I have concluded that Thurber's dog drawing was modeled after the Bloodhound, an uncommon breed of which he was uncommonly fond. Nevertheless, he had owned a standard Poodle who was a show dog; a Airdale who bit people, a Scotty who "knew too much"; and a "cockeyed Spaniard" (Thurber was always fond of words.), among others.I discovered Thurber in my youth, whereupon I read all of his works that I could get my hands on. His stories are simple, yet perceptive. His tales are sometimes rather tall and

accented by hyperbole. He was also very imaginative, not unlike his famous "Walter Mitty". I recommend "Thurber's Dogs" to anyone who loves dogs and satiric wit. It offers a perceptive view of life, but at the same time, a break from harsh reality. Be careful, though, you just might get addicted! 0 of 0 people found the following review helpful. The Dog Department should be a pleasant gift for a friend to read. By Customer This was a gift to a brother. I trust the book is worth reading. 7 of 7 people found the following review helpful. dogs By peter barry No one can write better about dogs than James Thurber. The chapters about Mugsy the airedale and about his poodle are incomparable. My stomach muscles were sore for days after reading about the airedale. My youngest son read it aloud and could not contain himself either. If you have an airedale or a poodle or ever owned one, this is must reading. Peter

"On the lawns and porches, and in the living rooms and backyards of my threescore years, there have been more dogs, written and drawn, real and imaginary, than I had guessed before I started this roundup." Here is James Thurber, arguably the greatest humorist of the twentieth century, on all things canine. In *The Dog Department*, Michael J. Rosen, a literary dogcatcher of sorts, has gathered together Thurber's best in show. Here we have the stylish prose and drawings from Thurber's *Dogs* (which connected the words "Thurber" and "Dog" as inseparably as "Bartlett" and "Quotation," as "Emily Post" and "Etiquette"), along with unpublished material from the Thurber archives, a great sheaf of uncollected cartoons, and two dozen "Talk of the Town" miniatures from *The New Yorker* — the consummate dog book from an artist of extraordinary pedigree. What other author can claim to have penned his own personal breed? The Thurber hound is a creature as unmistakable as Disney's mouse or Playboy's bunny. In *The Dog Department* you'll find standard poodles, Scottish terriers, an Airedale, a rough collie, an American Staffordshire terrier — all Thurber family members who inspired quintessential dog tales. For instance, there's Mugsy, "the dog that bit people," an avocation that, each year, required Thurber's mother to send her famous chocolates to an ever-growing list of Mugsy's victims. There's also a fair share about bloodhounds, German shepherd dogs, and pugs. But what you'll find remarkable and comforting is that reading Thurber from fifty or even seventy-five years ago is akin to reading about dogs today — or about dogs from the previous century, as Thurber grew up reading — or about dogs, we hope, from this new century we've just entered. *The Dog Department* is proof that Thurber's work defines the canine canon.

From *The New Yorker* This omnibus brings together the artist's signature hounds with previously uncollected material. Thurber disdained "sentimental woofumpoofum," and his unpoetic dogs, with their expressive ears and baffled faces, surprise us with a vision of our sloppy selves. Copyright © 2005 *The New Yorker* From Booklist Thurber fans and dog lovers everywhere will appreciate this fine collection of the esteemed humorist's canine-related drawings and musings. James Thurber—author, cartoonist, renowned wit, and founding staff member of the *New Yorker*—contributed articles and cartoons in that magazine from 1927 until his death in 1961. This delightful compilation of his work (on the subject of dogs) includes pieces from the classic and hugely popular *Thurber's Dogs* (1955), which is now out of print, along with some previously unpublished materials and a large selection of "Talk of the Town" miniatures from the *New Yorker*. The collection is edited by Rosen, literary director of the Thurber House, a literary center in Columbus, Ohio, and author of such books as *Speak* (1993), *Dog People* (1995), and *The Company of Dogs* (1996). Thurberphiles, of which there are many, will clamor for copies. Kathleen Hughes Copyright © American Library Association. All rights reserved "Thurber is...a Landmark in American Humor...he is the funniest artist who ever lived." -- -- *New Republic* "What a joy to have *THE DOG DEPARTMENT*, in which are found so many...pleasures." -- -- *The Washington Post*