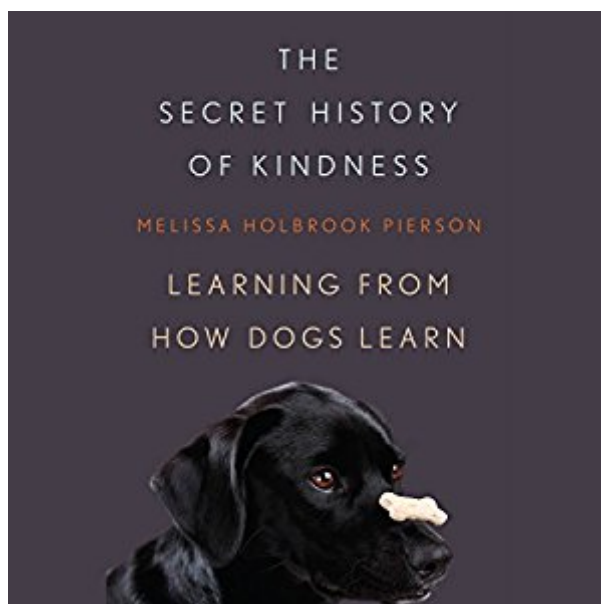


The book was found

# The Secret History Of Kindness: Learning From How Dogs Learn



## Synopsis

An intimate, surprising look at man's best friend and what the leading philosophies of dog training teach us about ourselves. Years back, Melissa Holbrook Pierson brought home a border collie named Mercy, without a clue of how to get her to behave. Stunned after hiring a trainer whose immediate rapport with Mercy seemed magical, Pierson began delving into the techniques of positive reinforcement. She made her way to B. F. Skinner, the behavioral psychologist who started it all, the man who could train a pigeon to dance in minutes and whose research on how behavior is acquired has ramifications for military dolphin trainers, athletes, dancers, and, as he originally conceived, society at large. To learn more, Pierson met with a host of fascinating animal behaviorists, going behind the scenes to witness the relationships between trainers and animals at the National Zoo in Washington, DC, and to the in-depth seminars at a Clicker Expo where all the dogs but hers seemed to be learning new tricks. The often startling story of what became of a path breaking scientist's work is interwoven with a more personal tale of how to understand the foreign species with whom we are privileged to live. Pierson draws surprising connections in her exploration of how kindness works to motivate all animals, including the human one.

## Book Information

Audible Audio Edition

Listening Length: 10 hours and 51 minutes

Program Type: Audiobook

Version: Unabridged

Publisher: Audible Studios

Audible.com Release Date: July 31, 2015

Language: English

ASIN: B0136E5FN8

Best Sellers Rank: #102 in Books > Audible Audiobooks > Nonfiction > Lifestyle & Home >

Animal Care & Pets #181 in Books > Medical Books > Psychology > Movements > Behaviorism

#259 in Books > Science & Math > Behavioral Sciences > Behavioral Psychology

## Customer Reviews

This is the most important book I've read in the last 10 years. I do not write reviews for books and am not prone to hyperbole. Unlike the reviewer who would not put this at the top of his pile (because he thought the book was about dog training -- after all, it has a picture of a dog on the cover), I believe that this book is too important not to be priority reading for anyone who leads, manages,

teaches, trains, coaches, mentors or, indeed, communicates with other living entities. For precisely the same reasons that many outside of the dog training universe dismissed (or ignored or never really read) Karen Pryor's earlier books, *Don't Shoot the Dog* and *Lads to the Wind*, the reviewer giving a less than stellar rating never really got the message. He was looking for something else (and must have ignored the subtitle, *Learning from How Dogs Learn*) and when it didn't meet his expectations, he gives it a low rating. In rating or recommending anything, I consider whether the author accomplished his or her purpose and how well. This book does, in spades. The therapeutic, training and coaching professions have largely ignored the discipline of operant conditioning while still practicing many of its tenets, though inconsistently and ineffectively. If you ignore the source of your most successful interventions and do not endeavor to learn its disciplines, you can self-perpetuate a career because your patients and clients will always have behavior problems, for which you can sell the next greatest solution that will not work in the long-term. Why? Because you never get to the source of the issue. Skinner was not ostracized by religious zealots -- and I think it's dishonest to say that this was what Pierson implied in part of her book.

[Download to continue reading...](#)

The Secret History of Kindness: Learning from How Dogs Learn All Dogs Go to Kevin: Everything Three Dogs Taught Me (That I Didn't Learn in Veterinary School) The Black Dogs Project: Extraordinary Black Dogs and Why We Can't Forget Them War Dogs: How Three Stoners From Miami Beach Became the Most Unlikely Gunrunners in History War Dogs: The True Story of How Three Stoners From Miami Beach Became the Most Unlikely Gunrunners in History Dog Lover: Adult Coloring Book: Best Coloring Gifts for Mom, Dad, Friend, Women, Men and Adults Everywhere: Beautiful Dogs Stress Relieving Patterns 2016 Dogs in the Wind Wall Calendar Australian Cattle Dog Calendar - Only Dog Breed Australian Cattle Dogs Calendar - 2016 Wall calendars - Dog Calendars - Monthly Wall Calendar by Avonside 365 Dogs Color Page-A-Day Calendar 2016 Yoga Dogs 2016 Square 12x12 Lovely Dogs Coloring Book for Adults Why Dogs Have Wet Noses The Joy of Ballpark Food: From Hot Dogs to Haute Cuisine The Dogist: Photographic Encounters with 1,000 Dogs Talking with Dogs and Cats: Joining the Conversation to Improve Behavior and Bond with Your Animals Rescue Road: One Man, Thirty Thousand Dogs, and a Million Miles on the Last Hope Highway Stay: Lessons My Dogs Taught Me about Life, Loss, and Grace Two Dogs and a Parrot: What Our Animal Friends Can Teach Us About Life Dr. Khalsa's Natural Dog: Holistic Therapies, Nutrition, and Recipes for Healthier Dogs Raw and Natural Nutrition for Dogs, Revised Edition: The Definitive Guide to Homemade Meals

[Dmca](#)