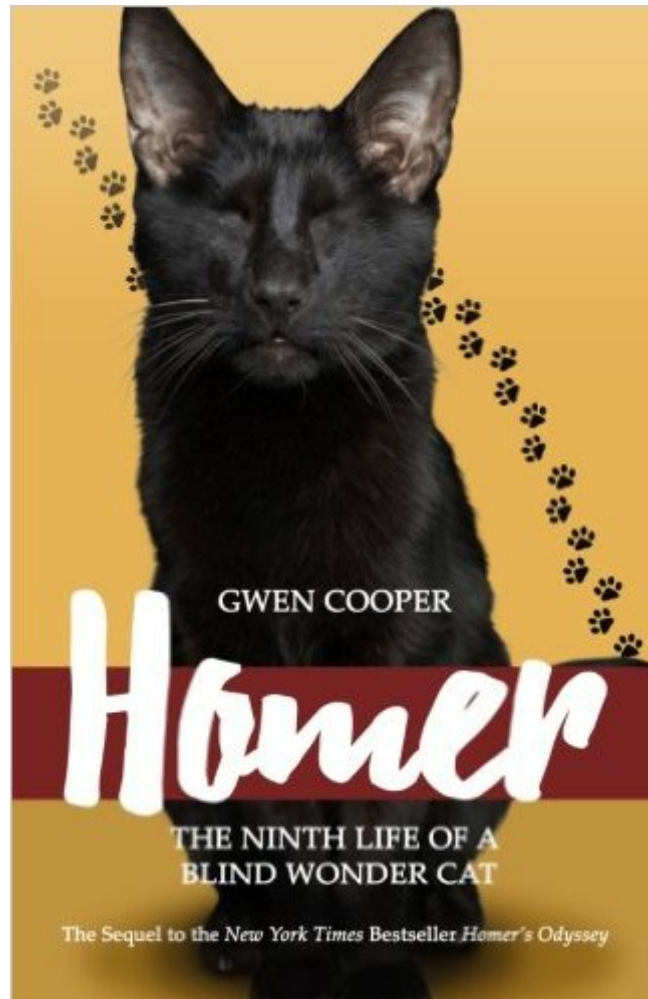


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# Homer: The Ninth Life Of A Blind Wonder Cat



## Synopsis

The odds had always been stacked against Homer, the little blind kitten nobody wanted. But destiny took a hand the day he met Gwen Cooper, and with the publication twelve years later of the international best seller "Homer's Odyssey," Homer went from beloved housecat to world-wide star. He became the scourge and darling of the reporters, photographers, videographers, bloggers, and radio hosts who clamored to meet him—dragging his hapless human behind him as he greeted fame with his usual joie de vivre and occasional attitude. He became a spokes-cat for the cause of special-needs animals everywhere, and eventually the wise older mentor to the new special-needs kitten who would enter his and Gwen's lives. Most importantly, Homer taught those who loved him best how to live and die with strength, dignity, and joy—and left behind a rescue community of Homer's Heroes that continues to save countless lives in his name. By turns humorous and tender, this beautifully written, 115-page sequel concludes the adventures of Homer the Blind Wonder Cat—the fearless feline who proved that love isn't something you see with your eyes, that even the smallest of creatures can make a big difference, and that true love lives forever.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

I enjoyed this tremendously. It also helped me. I lost a beloved cat recently to a sudden illness. Since then I have been second guessing myself about whether or not I should have gone all in and had every possible procedure done. Over the course of this book, Cooper lost her three original cats. Each situation was different. One cat could tolerate any medical procedure. Another would have found that a misery. And Homer fought until he couldn't anymore. Jackson Galaxy gave

Cooper very good advice which I also found reassuring. (You will have to read the book to see what he said.) I knew I would enjoy this book and I did. I did not expect it to actually help me, but after reading it I felt better that I made the best decision for my cat at the time.

Some books about animals warm your heart. Others touch your soul. This is how I opened my review of Gwen Cooper's New York Times bestselling memoir "Homer's Odyssey: A Fearless Feline Tale, or How I Learned About Love and Life with a Blind Wondercat," three weeks after it was first released in August of 2009. Little did Gwen know then how much this book would change her life. It hit the New York Times Bestseller List two weeks after its publication and was eventually translated into more than 20 different languages. Homer became a celebrity cat before there were celebrity cats, and Gwen and Homer made a difference in the lives of more special needs cats than anyone will ever know. When Homer passed away in August of 2013 after a prolonged illness, his legion of fans and cat lovers around the world mourned with Gwen. Homer left quite a legacy, and Gwen kept his memory going through his Facebook page, which, at this time, has almost 750,000 followers. In this sequel, Gwen covers Homer's life after the publication of the international bestseller. We learn about what it was like for Homer and Gwen to be in the limelight, and how the duo turned their fame into a vehicle to help other special needs cats. We get to visit with Homer's sisters, Scarlett and Vashti again during their final years of life, and we get to meet Clayton and Fanny, the two black kittens Gwen adopted after Homer was grief-stricken after Vashti's passing. Gwen wrestled with writing this sequel for a long time. She wanted to tell Homer's stories, but she was afraid that writing about him, while bringing back wonderful memories of their time together, would also bring back the pain of the hard times at the end, and she wasn't sure whether she could bear it. Instead, Gwen found that in writing the book, I've gotten to live with Homer again. But sharing more of Homer wasn't the only reason why Gwen wrote the sequel. She also wanted to bring clarity to some of the issues all cat parents struggle with: caring for older, often ill or frail cats, and the end-of-life issues that we all have to eventually face with our cats. Despite the fact that there are, of course, some sad passages in the book, this is by no means a sad book. There are plenty of moments that will make you smile or even laugh out loud as Gwen relays stories of Homer's photo shoots, his relationship with his sisters, and his dining preferences, which Gwen's husband Laurence catered to as befits a star like Homer. But what really makes this book special is the way it touches the reader's heart in a profound and lasting way. The best writers paint pictures with their words. Gwen does so much more with this

book. She paints an exquisite picture of her own heart, and by sharing the depth of both her joy and her grief, leaves the reader transformed. Ultimately, this book is a love story – a love story about Homer, and, by extension, about every cat who has ever changed a human’s life. “The greatest gift Homer left me with when he left me for good was fresh evidence every day – every single day – of the innate goodness of most people, even when news headlines make it far too easy to conclude otherwise,” writes Gwen in the final chapter of the book. That’s what these special cats do for us – and it’s something we need now more than ever.

Homer’s Odyssey is the first -- and only -- book I’ve read that upon finishing, I returned to the first page and read all over again. I have reread it several times since then and each time moves me with its beautiful story and amazing life lessons. When I read that there would be a sequel, I was ecstatic! Having devoured the book in a day, I can assure you that my enthusiasm was indeed justified. Homer is an exquisite gem of a book and an entirely worthy successor to Homer’s Odyssey. I was prepared for tears but couldn’t even guess at the beauty and emotion of the book. It’s as if I’m looking at the world -- and my cats -- differently since reading it. It’s that good. If you loved Homer, if you love cats, if you love your cats, read this book.

I ordered the book as soon as Gwen made the announcement. "Homer’s Odyssey" had helped me through the emotional storm of a move (after 16 1/2 years of residence) from northern Illinois to southern Maryland in late 2012. I was prepared for a good read, but I could not put down "Homer" until I had finished it in one sitting. I was, however, unprepared for the upwelling of emotion. My wife and I lost three of our beloved cats (Kestrel, her younger sister Hildiekatt, and Chesapeake) between June 2012 and June 2014, 2 to lymphoma and 1 to heart disease, leaving us with our senior cat, Miss Teia. The story of Homer, Scarlet and Vashti during their final illnesses, and the adoption of Fanny and Clayton (we adopted 2 cats boys, Buff and Cooper from a rescue in October 2014) grabbed me. The tears flowed in a catharsis I deeply needed. If you have ever loved another being, appreciated what they meant to your life, this is a must read.

There is something so moving about the author’s story and both books are written so beautifully. I love Homer as if I had actually known him. This book continues Homer’s story and I read it in a couple hours. I only put it down to dry my tears and blow my nose. Homer was so special and has touched so many lives, two legged, three legged, and four legged...

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