



Start a **FAMILY BOOK CLUB** with **W. BRUCE CAMERON** Titles

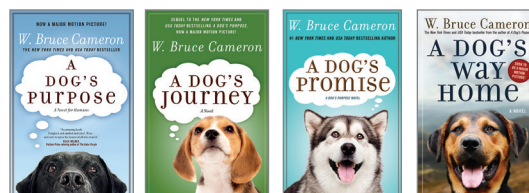
INTRODUCTION



W. Bruce Cameron's adult and children's novels offer the comforting notion that love between souls is everlasting. His canine heroes never truly die; they are reborn as new puppies with a new purpose. Eventually we learn that all good dogs do go to heaven, where they cross the rainbow bridge to be reunited with all the humans they have loved. These heartwarming, family-friendly novels speak to the incredible power of love, resilience, and the spirit of hope that ties us together. *A Dog's Purpose* and *A Dog's Journey*, the first two novels in Bruce's inspiring *A Dog's Purpose* series, along with *A Dog's Way Home* have been adapted into major motion pictures. Families can enrich their reading experience by pairing the novels and films together. From celebrating friendship to exploring the idea of "home," W. Bruce Cameron's novels offer engaging conversation starters for the entire family. There's no better time to bring the uplifting world of W. Bruce Cameron into your home.



DISCUSSION QUESTIONS



The following questions can be used to spark conversation about any of Bruce Cameron's canine novels.

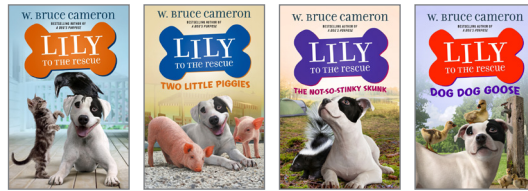
1. If you were going to be reborn as one of the dogs in Bruce Cameron's novels, which dog would you want to be, and why?
2. The humans in the novels struggle with many challenges—physical, emotional, and economic. How do their concerns compare to the challenges experienced by the dogs in the novels? What actions do the characters take to solve problems together? What do the novels teach us about the power of love?
3. As the characters try to journey home, how are they defining "home"? In what ways is it much more than a place on a map? What are the various homes you have found during your life's journey?
4. What is it like to see the world from a dog's point of view? How did the narrators change the way you see the world?
5. Sometimes a dog's purpose is to save a life. Sometimes it's simply to bring more happiness into the world. In your life, how have you been able to tell when you were fulfilling your purpose? Talk about a scene from one of the novels that opened your eyes to a new purpose and a new path for yourself.



Families can gather to discuss a new puppy tale each week, focusing on such questions as:

1. In the novel, how do the dogs communicate with humans and with each other? What kind of information do they receive through their noses and their ears?
2. How do the puppies and the humans in the novel make friends and begin to trust each other? Talk about a time when you developed a special friendship, either with a person or a pet.
3. The narrator was a very good helper. As you read the book, what did you discover about all of the helpers in our world? Who would you like to help, today and when you are grown up?
4. In your opinion, what was the most challenging part of the novel? What would you have done in that situation?
5. What has the narrator learned through this journey?





1. Maggie Rose tells the children at school that Lily is a rescue dog. What is a rescue dog? What does Lily do at work to help other animals?
2. Lily is a good observer. Discuss what she notices about the following animals at the dog park: a chipmunk, a hawk, a flock of crows, and the crow she calls Casey.
3. Lily feels proud to rescue others. Share your proud moment. How have you helped another person or animal?
4. To rescue means to save a person or an animal from danger, distress, suffering, or worry. Do you agree that “rescue dog” is a good description of Lily? Why?
5. Since Lily shares her thoughts about the other characters in the book, it’s interesting to think about what these characters might say about her. Discuss what these characters think about Lily: Maggie Rose, Mom, Dad, Bryan, Craig, Casey, Brewster, Kitten, and the kids at school.

ACTIVITIES

1. In *The Puppy Tales*, W. Bruce Cameron’s canine narrators share their perceptions (and sometimes misperceptions) of what a person is thinking or doing. Create a comic strip with panels alternating between a dog’s perspective and a person’s perspective. Everyone can come up with funny names for their canine comics, too.
2. Make a paper-bag “PUP-pet” of your favorite dog from the series. Write short sketches or scripts for puppet shows, depicting important or funny scenes from a favorite *Puppy Tale*. Perform the puppet shows for family members.
3. Play charades! In *The Puppy Tales*, dogs have to learn skills and commands, without speaking the same language as their trainers. Prepare strips of paper with a simple task or action (such as waving, or opening a notebook) written on them. Pair up and set a timer to one minute for one of the partners to perform the specified action, without saying the word or phrase written on the card. You can use other words, visual cues (no contact), or point to related objects. If the answer isn’t given within time, other pairs can guess to steal the point. Take turns and switch roles.
4. Family members can create a drawing, painting, or sculpture of their favorite dog from the series. Each “artist” should prepare an index card with a brief explanation of the moment they were trying to capture (such as “Rescue dog at work” or “First visit to the dog park”). Arrange the artworks to create a *Puppy Tales* art show.



Photo Credit: Ute Ville

W. BRUCE CAMERON is the #1 *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author of *A Dog’s Purpose*, *A Dog’s Way Home*, and *A Dog’s Journey* (all now major motion pictures), *The Dog Master*, *Ellie’s Story*, *Bailey’s Story*, *Shelby’s Story*, *The Dogs of Christmas*, *The Midnight Plan of the Repo Man*, and others. He lives in California.

**For more discussion questions, visit BruceCameronBooks.com
and for *Puppy Tales* and *Lily to the Rescue* downloadable activities,
visit BruceCameronKidsBooks.com.**

