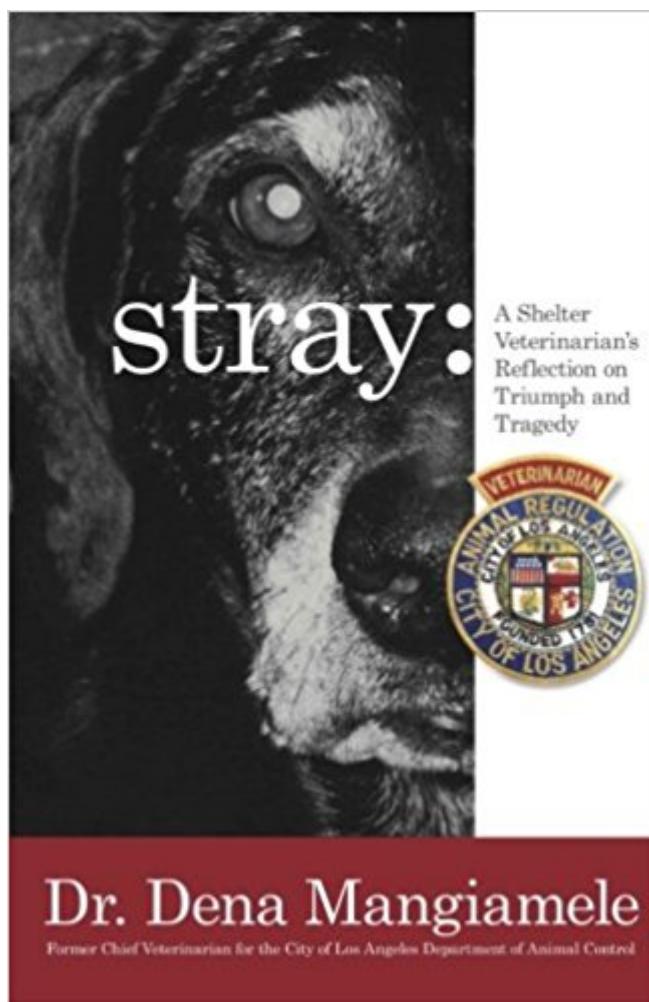


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# Stray - A Shelter Veterinarian's Reflection On Triumph And Tragedy: (Black And White Edition)



## **Synopsis**

"stray" is a straightforward and sometimes hard hitting narrative of an animal shelter veterinarian in the late 1990's in one of the largest animal control departments in the country, the City of Los Angeles. Dr. Mangiamele relates her journey concerning shelter animals and the people that care for them as she works in six city animal shelters. Never before has a reader had the opportunity to explore the inner workings of an animal shelter during the height of pet overpopulation and to learn about the post-traumatic stress this work creates for employees, rescuers, and adopters. The City of Los Angeles with its ethnic diversity, wide range of socioeconomic status, local community influences, and celebrities serves as the backdrop for each chapter. The animal characters are sometimes loving and comic, sometimes dangerous, and often misunderstood. The human characters are dedicated and at times unconventional in their actions and ideas. This book is by no means an easy journey for the reader. These stories are filled with realism that will empower you, fill you with joy, make you cry, make you angry, and maybe change your views; but they will be stories you will cherish. Dr. Dena exhibits courage and honesty as her experiences and stories bring the reader into the true world of animal control. If you have ever loved an animal, or respected someone for doing a job you could never do, this is the book for you.

## **Book Information**

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## **Customer Reviews**

Dena Mangiamele DVM, MPVM, MFS, is an animal shelter and forensic veterinarian. She received her degree in veterinary medicine from the Ohio State College of Veterinary Medicine. She earned her Master's in Preventive Veterinary Medicine from the University of California, Davis,

College of Veterinary Medicine. She was selected as a Preventive Medicine Resident with the California Department of Health Services, Veterinary Public Health Unit. She received her Master's in Forensic Science from National University. In 1995, she became the Chief Veterinarian for the City of Los Angeles Department of Animal Regulation. In 1998, she was awarded Shelter Veterinarian of the Year by the American Humane Association, and prior to her departure from Los Angeles to become the Director of San Diego County Animal Control, she received several Resolutions and Commendations by the Los Angeles City Council. Dr. Mangiamele currently operates a veterinary consulting business, providing animal sheltering agencies with operational assessments, writing Manuals of Policy and Procedure, and providing expert witness testimony in animal cruelty investigations, with specialization in dog fighting cases across the country. She has also created a training division that provides classes for animal shelter employees on animal handling, medical care, and humane euthanasia. The division also provides classes for animal control officers and veterinary medical staff on conducting circus inspections and dog fighting investigations. Dr. Dena is a vegan athlete with great interest in nutrition and fitness. She also has entrepreneurial experience gained through the creation of a vegan/raw snack company that successfully provided products to Whole Foods Markets. She lives in San Diego with her husband (also a veterinarian) and their dog and cat children. She continues to write about her veterinary and animal experiences in the hope of raising awareness about pet overpopulation and how the responsible behavior of every person can reduce animal cruelty and suffering.

Stray: A Shelter Veterinarian's Reflection on Triumph and Tragedy was a WONDERFUL read!!!! Dr. Dena's true account of her years as the former Chief Veterinarian for the city of Los Angeles is an amazing tale of the inner workings in an animal shelter. This excellent book shares the reality of pet overpopulation, yet gives a hopeful and realistic look at how we as pet lovers can help with this important dilemma. It is an easy read with many very interesting stories of loving animals and the people who came into contact with them. I was completely intrigued with the stories of celebrity adoptions from her shelters and cried as I read about "the one that got away". This is a must read for anyone who is a pet lover! I highly recommend this honest and well written book! You won't be disappointed!

I am enjoying the book

This is such a Must read for anyone who has ever owned a pet. Dena is such an honest writer from

the heart. You will definitely laugh at some of the stories and you will also cry at some of the stories. Stray, really opened my eyes to what Animal Shelter's are truly about. I keep going back and reading sections of the book, because I can't believe that some of these stories actually happened. Not only will the pets amaze you, the people in this book will amaze you too. Can't recommend Stray enough; amazing book, Dr. Mangiameli

Well written, uncompromising, inspiring and filled with important anecdotes. STRAY is an important read for anyone working in the shelter system, and any aspiring veterinarian, period. But it's also essential reading for anyone interested in what life is really like out there on the front lines of companion animal overpopulation and care.

I loved this book. I read it in 2 sittings and laughed cried and learned so much from Dena's wisdom and easy narrative. It is a jewel for us animal lovers.

Dena is brilliant. A MUST READ for anyone who wants to be a vet, especially a shelter vet!

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