



# The Philosopher and the Wolf: Lessons from the Wild on Love, Death, and Happiness

By Mark Rowlands

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**The charming and poignant story of the relationship between a philosophy professor and his pet wolf.**

Mark Rowlands was a young philosophy professor, rootless and searching for life's greater meaning. Shortly after arriving at the University of Alabama, he noticed a classified ad in the local paper advertising wolf cubs for sale, and decided he had to investigate, if only out of curiosity. It was love at first sight, and the bond that grew between philosopher and wolf reaffirms for us the incredible relationships that exist between man and animal.

When Mark welcomed his new companion, Brenin, into his home, but more than just an exotic pet, Brenin exerted an immense influence on Rowlands both as a person, and, strangely enough, as a philosopher, leading him to reevaluate his attitude toward love, happiness, nature, death, and the true meaning of companionship.

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**The Philosopher and the Wolf: Lessons from the Wild on Love, Death, and Happiness** By Mark Rowlands **Bibliography**

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### Editorial Review

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“The wolf . . . is the clearing in the human soul. The wolf uncovers what is hidden.” A philosophy professor and author (*Body Language*, 2006), Rowlands grew up with dogs, big dogs, so when he saw an advertisement for wolf cubs, he went to have a look. When he saw the soft, fluffy cubs and their imposing parents, he took one home that day. Since his new pup, called Brenin, could not be at home alone without leaving utter destruction in his wake, Rowlands began to take him everywhere. By training the wolf to take his lead, Rowlands taught Brenin how to be comfortable with all sorts of circumstances. Their remarkable closeness, both physical and mental, led to this book—a sort of autobiography mixed with wolf philosophy, human philosophy, and an exploration of the bonds between human and animal. Discussing what humans can learn from wolves, Rowlands elevates the run-of-the-mill memoir about life with an exotic pet into something more, a treatise on the meaning of true companionship. This one moves well beyond the Rascal mode. --Nancy Bent

Review

“Not everyone can blend wildlife lore and Wittgenstein in an entertaining manner, but Rowlands has no trouble. Delightful and eye-opening.” (Connie Ogle - Miami Herald)

“A snarly misanthrope, Rowlands recovered his own humanity by loving a noble beast and (with a little help from Aristotle, Descartes, and Jack Daniel's) learning to howl at the moon.” (O, The Oprah Magazine)

“One of the most intense reading experiences of my life. It is a profound and beautiful book.” (Jeffrey Masson, author of *When Elephants Weep: The Emotional Lives of Animals*)

“This moving account will be recognized as a seminal work of philosophy that forces us to re-evaluate our view of the human animal.” (John Gray, author of *Men Are from Mars, Women Are from Venus*)

About the Author

Mark Rowlands is a Professor of Philosophy at the University of Miami and the author of *The Philosopher and the Wolf*. His books have been translated into fifteen languages.

### Users Review

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**Eric Totten:**

As people who live in the particular modest era should be change about what going on or details even knowledge to make these individuals keep up with the era which can be always change and advance. Some of you maybe can update themselves by reading through books. It is a good choice to suit your needs but the problems coming to an individual is you don't know what kind you should start with. This *The Philosopher and the Wolf: Lessons from the Wild on Love, Death, and Happiness* is our recommendation so you keep up with the world. Why, as this book serves what you want and need in this era.

**Matilda Greiner:**

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