Caroline Knapp is head over heels in love--not with a human being, but with her mixed-breed dog, Lucille. From the moment Lucille first locked eyes with Knapp through the bars of an animal shelter cage, the intelligent, pointy-eared mutt began to transform Knapp's life. Reeling from the deaths of both her parents, a breakup with a long-term boyfriend, and her newly won sobriety after a 20-year battle with the bottle (which was skillfully chronicled in a previous memoir, Drinking: A Love Story), Knapp found in Lucille not only companionship, but consistency, continuity, connection. In a word, love. Although she doesn't regard Lucille as a replacement for alcohol and lost loved ones, Knapp does believe that in loving her she had that sense of being filled anew and essentially redirected, an old identity shattered and a new one emerging in its stead.

In Pack of Two, with the help of dog psychiatrists, trainers, breeders, and owners, explores the partnership between human and dog and the mysteries of the canine mind--how dogs love, how they think, and how they see human beings. And despite her findings that the dog will remain essentially mysterious ... unknowable, Knapp is ultimately at peace with this, still devouring the moments when dog and human can transcend the language barrier to understand what the other wants and feels. This book pays homage to the wonderful and complex relationship between one woman and her dog. --Naomi Gesinger

My Personal Review:
This book is perfect for people who own -- and love -- their dogs, yet are stymied when their non-dog lover friends say, Sure, Barkey is cute, but he is JUST A DOG.
Caroline Knapp has truly communicated the joys of dog cohabitation (as opposed to dog ownership) in a way that even non-dog people can appreciate. Her largely anecdotal work will both resonate with those who have a dog, and will help to shade in mysterious and perplexing areas for...
those who don't -- and who wonder how people can get so darn attached to an animal.
And, perhaps best of all, Ms. Knapp avoids most of the preposterous dog-as-human-in-little-fur-coat anthromorphism that many writers of less talent and intelligence have used to convey that difficult to describe feeling of being engaged in a reciprocal love relationship with a dog.
As a writer myself, I am impressed -- and a little bit jealous of -- Ms. Knapp's use of language and phrasing to convey both complicated concepts and strong emotions. And, there are quite a few instances of humor in the book as well -- any dog owner who, as Ms. Knapp recounts, is convinced that a neighbor overhearing him or her speak to the dog would think I'm a goon will certainly empathize.
Again, the tone of this book is appropriate for both dog people and those indifferent to dogs alike. And, for those individuals (you all know who you are) who have fretted while dining out -- or, better yet, refused a dinner invitation altogether -- because of not wanting to leave Rover home alone, this book will speak to your soul.

For More 5 Star Customer Reviews and Lowest Price:
Pack of Two: The Intricate Bond Between People and Dogs by Caroline Knapp – 5 Star Customer Reviews and Lowest Price!