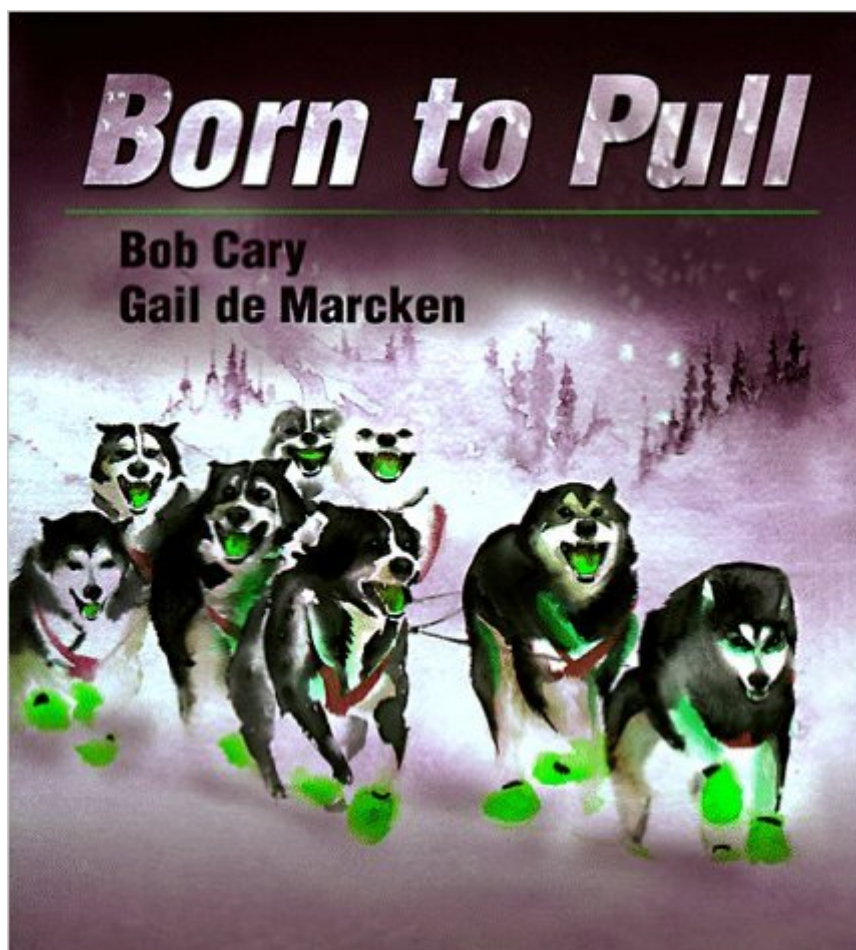


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## Born To Pull



## Synopsis

Sled dogs are a mysterious breed-unrelentingly independent. At play, they may look like any other pup, but at work they bear no resemblance to others of their species. Investigate how the fierce bond between musher and dog slowly develops until the team fuses and unleashes its collective power on the trail. Learn how these roles occasionally reverse when a "green" musher learns to trust a sled dog's experience and innate pulling instinct. *Born to Pull* is written by famed North Woods author Bob Cary. Each chapter features expert insight into dog sled team dynamics that complement Bob's lively stories about life on the trail. These narratives are vividly brought to life with stunning illustrations by northern watercolor artist Gail de Marcken who spent several months traveling with dog sled teams. Inside these pages, you'll learn everything you always wanted to know about sled dogs and their sport!

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.9 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (16 customer reviews)

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## Customer Reviews

"Born to Pull" was recommended to me by the owner of the kennel where our family would be going for our first mushing experience. Though aimed at upper elementary kids, the amount of information is amazing. The illustrations enhance the content beautifully; particularly stunning is a painting of a team pulling under the Northern Lights. Most enjoyable are the stories interspersed throughout; stories from well-known mushers such as Gary Paulsen and Jamie Nelson. Stories of dogs that decided to run the wrong way at the end of a race, and of dogs who found the way home in a raging storm. Reading this book did not guarantee that I would not wipe out on the sled, but when I did, I

knew just what the snow hook was!

I found this book in the kids' section while looking for Christmas presents. Knew nothing about it, and sled dogs are not my dog-of-choice, but was immediately compelled to buy it even tho it cost more than I'd planned. Amazingly full of good information, understanding of dogs and pulling, but there was a twinkle in the eye of the author, too. Imagine the runway team surrounding the ice-fisherman and eating all his catch!The illustrations too are extraordinary. Such obvious awareness of the inner workings of dogs is unusual. The expressions of each dog are wonderful.Highest recommendation for sled-dog enthusiast or any dog person, young or old.

This book had a lot of information about sled dogs and puppies and the equipment that is used for mushing. Details dog and puppy care and contains beautiful illustrations as well as stories about actual sled dogs. Highly recommended!

"Born to Pull" was a joyous surprise. I expected the usual photos and line drawing illustrations accompanying the "how to" text, but was delighted to see the exquisite watercolors of my favorite subject, sled dogs. The artist and author make an excellent team in this effort, rather like champion duel lead dogs! A must for any mushers' library, armchair or otherwise. Perfect for gifts.

This non-fiction book is used every year in my 4th grade class. It is a great addition to the Iditarod unit that I teach! It's loaded with artistic drawings and anecdotes. The kids love it! Highly recommend.

Bought this book before going on a dog sledding trip to Wintergreen Resort in Ely. The illustrations are beautiful and the stories are heart-warming, what else could you want! Though it does feel like an elementary school book from the 80s, but oh well, I still like having it as a memorabilia of a great trip!

This book is great, it has beautiful pictures and info. However, I did find a few things that were not to great. First of all, when describing the Alaskan Malamute, the illustration had a pure black dog... Malamutes are NEVER pure black, they can be all white but that's the only exception for all one color, the only labeled pic of malamutes are an all white and all black, no markings! They also had very vague info on them. Malamute's real name is ALASKAN MALAMUTE, no where in the book did

it say ALASKAN in front of malamute, well howcome you put SIBERIAN and ALASKAN in front of the husky? And two, I got a pup this August and I'm going to start training, so I read the chapter called "How to train Sled Dogs" it had absolutely nothing about training them except for, start training as pups! Blank spot! On what do you train them? All in all though, this was a beautiful book, I just use it for the pictures now.

"Born to Pull" is vintage Bob Cary, maybe his best work ever. As always the question is, is it Cary's marvelous prose or his illustrations that make this book great? Wait. It's illustrated by someone else - Gail de Marcken. But Bob, please don't try to tell us you had no hand in the art work. Even if the reader is a die-hard dog sled fan there are things to be learned in this book. Even die-hard Cary fans will be moved by the stories of mushers and their dogs. This is a beautifully put-together book. It even feels good to hold. The centerpiece is the collection of great stories. Cary lets his subjects speak for themselves as he guides the reader through the details; he is the master of this technique. Five paws up.

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