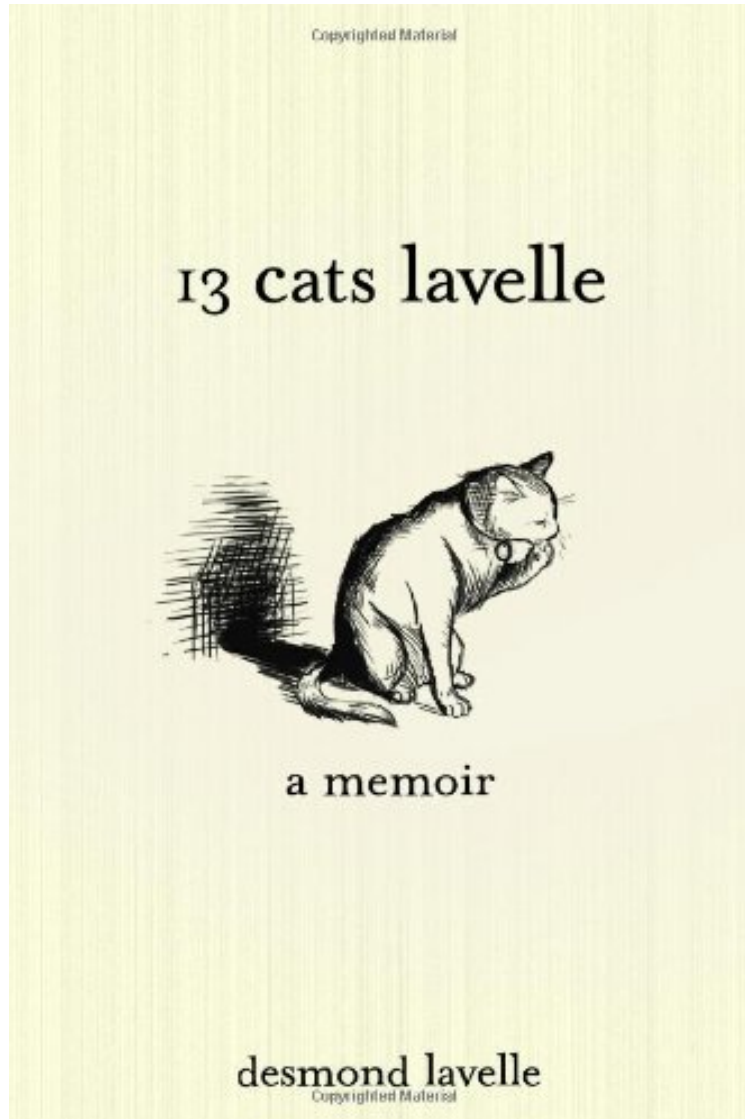


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Thirteen Cats LaVelle

Desmond LaVelle

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Desmond LaVelle : Thirteen Cats LaVelle before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised Thirteen Cats LaVelle:

1 of 2 people found the following review helpful. 14 Cat DisappointmentBy L.PinkThis book is a short collection of memoirs written by the eldest son of the title family. It follows the stories of the LaVelle family and the lives and sometimes gruesome, always untimely deaths of their family cats. I was excited about this book having read the teaser chapter "Baby Kitty" on the titles website - it turns out that the teaser chapter was the most entertaining of the entire book. There were a few giggles in the book. The family dynamics are the best part of the whole story. The so-spot-on-

it-has-to-be-true tales of his sisters and adolescence and growing up are at times, heart-warming and relate-able. Other times it gets a bit redundant and dull. The deaths of the cats come across cold and uncaring, so you really wind up disliking this family by mid-book. I don't know if its the way the author wrote them, or if the LaVelle's really are like that - its unclear. Whats more unclear is why on earth Desmond LaVelle would want to tell the things he did about his family. Also, there are 14 cats?! I don't know if its because he squished 2 cats into the same chapter so is just counting them as 1, or if its because the last cat, Hugo, wasn't dead by the end of his chapter so maybe he was saying 13 (dead) Cats... and 1 living. Either way, the title is humorously incorrect. Its definitely obvious that this is the first book of an amateur writer. In short - I wanted to love this book, but was gravely disappointed. 1 of 1 people found the following review helpful. Funny family memoir By Reba. Moshman It's like a David Sedaris book that takes place in the midwest. It's a good occasional read when you're in the mood for a short story. 2 of 3 people found the following review helpful. Very funny, very smart By Customer I'm a cat person. I've always owned cats. And this book nailed it n so many levels. No just the whole cat thing, but I could relate to the author's life - growing up in the 70's through the 90's, being a child of the post-hippie generation, and more. Reading it, at times, was like reading about my own life. So if you like cats, or if you just want to read a damn good book, this is for you.

Thirteen Cats LaVelle is a memoir that tells the story of a Midwestern family through the short lives of each of their thirteen cats. Many things change over the thirty-year rise and fall of the LaVelle family - all but their inability to keep cats alive. Every death of a cat marks another chapter in the silly and sometimes serious lives of the LaVelles. Dark, honest and very funny, Thirteen Cats LaVelle isn't your everyday pet memoir. Like in real life, all the cats in this book eventually die. But unlike real life, LaVelle is able to uncover the lighter side of losing a pet and document the concurrent family drama.

From the Author Hello and thanks for stopping by. You look great, by the way.