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## Wisdom for life and love from our cats

### *Chicken Soup for the Soul celebrates feline lessons in new book*

**COS COB, Conn.** - Brianne Schwantes was born with a rare bone disease, but learned the true meaning of perseverance from her equally disabled-yet-courageous cat. For dog-lover Joe Atwater, a wariness of cats turned into a lifelong trust after the family cat, Benny, saved their newborn baby through his feline intuition. Carolyn R. Bennett's cat Percy warned her of an oncoming epileptic seizure, then stayed with her until she regained consciousness. And Bobbie Shafer received a lifelong lesson in the value of inner beauty from a burned, ugly cat that turned out to be a loyal and loving friend.

From the health benefits cats offer their owners, to the special connection we share with them, to the examples they provide for savoring life, these pets not only brighten and enrich our lives, but they are also amazing teachers.

In the new book, *Chicken Soup for the Soul: What I Learned from the Cat* (Chicken Soup for the Soul Publishing, LLC, September 22, 2009, 978-1-935096-37-5, \$14.95), cat lovers, both lifelong and reluctant, share the inspiring life lessons they learned from their feline companions and family members, as well. This collection of real-life stories will delight readers with humorous, heartwarming and uplifting tales of what we can learn from our pets, friends and family.

Humorous stories like a futile yoga session alongside a cat and a disastrous kitty potty training experiment are paired with touching memories of beloved cats that have acted as pet therapy for hospice patients, encouraged a baby to crawl and walk for the first time, and even saved a dog from an attacking coyote. The secret to life? Eat, sleep, play – as contributor Monica A. Andermann learned from her tuxedo cat, Chuck. Feeling down and out with life? Open up to the sense of hope and possibility only a cat can provide, as Ronda Armstrong did in her story "A Feline Wonder."

With all-new inspirational stories for the cat lover in all of us, *Chicken Soup for the Soul: What I Learned from the Cat* is the latest addition to the popular, bestselling collection of pet books from Chicken Soup for the Soul. These 101 true tales offer insight about life, love and the fundamental wisdom we can learn from our cats.

In a special foreword by "Today Show" correspondent and editor of *Animal Fair Magazine*, Wendy Diamond, pet owners are urged to look to their animals for wisdom, support or a much needed laugh. As Petsmart's lifestyle expert, Diamond works tirelessly to promote the efforts of non-profit animal organizations. Diamond is a sought after pet expert and has offered her practical advice to pet owners appearing on numerous television shows including, "The View," "The Oprah Winfrey Show," "MTV," "CNN" and "Animal Planet." Her expert advice has been featured in *Forbes*, *The New York Times*, *People* and *Vogue*.

*Chicken Soup for the Soul: What I Learned from the Cat* (Jack Canfield, Mark Victor Hansen & Amy Newmark) releases September 22, 2009. Chicken Soup for the Soul Publishing, LLC, publishes all the latest titles in the famous Chicken Soup for the Soul book series which are distributed through Simon and Schuster, Inc. Since 1993, books in the Chicken Soup for the Soul series have sold more than 112 million copies, with titles translated into more than 40 languages. Chicken Soup for the Soul Publishing also licenses the right to use its famous trademark to high quality licensees through IMG, the world's premier licensing agent. The company is currently implementing a plan to expand into all media, is working with TV networks on several TV shows and is developing a major Internet presence dedicated to life improvement, emotional support and inspiration. In 2007, *USA Today* named *Chicken Soup for the Soul* one of the five most memorable and impactful books in the last quarter century. For more information visit: [www.chickensoup.com](http://www.chickensoup.com).

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To receive a review copy of *Chicken Soup for the Soul: What I Learned from the Cat*, or to schedule an interview with Wendy Diamond, please contact Maia Levenson at (512) 478-2028 ext. 245 or [mlevenson@phenixpublicity.com](mailto:mlevenson@phenixpublicity.com).