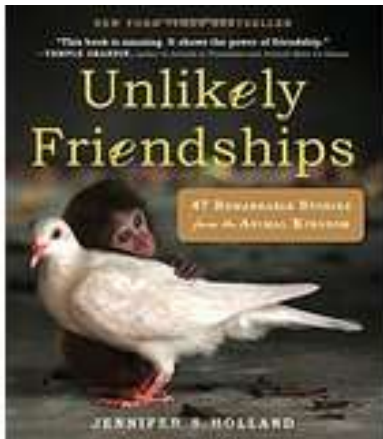


Restoring Civility in Society
CIVILITYCENTER



**CIVILITY
CENTER
BOOK
SUMMARY**



**Unlikely Friendships
47 Remarkable Stories from the Animal Kingdom**

https://www.amazon.com/s/ref=nb_sb_noss?url=search-alias%3Daps&field-keywords=unlikely+friendships

This book is not about human beings. Rather it is filled with stories about animals who bond in ways that are contrary to what we would normally expect. It seems that unusual circumstances can yield unusual friendships – ones that enrich (indeed, sometimes save!) the lives of the animals directly involved, and provide hope and inspiration to the rest of us. The author has included story after amazing story from around the world that reveal how a predator can enter into a relationship with its prey and vice-versa! She also provides insights into how these bonds change the dynamic in their habitat!

Imagine a gorilla caring and crying over a kitten! Koko, the gorilla, learned sign language and was able to listen to stories that were signed to her. So Koko

shared with her caregivers that she wanted a kitten for her birthday. When introduced to some unwanted kittens, Koko picked one and called it Ball. Koko could have easily squeezed out Ball's life by just gripping it to death, but instead she cuddled it, played with it, slept with it and essentially loved Ball with all her might.

One day, Ball disappeared from Koko's pen and ended up being run over by a car. This was communicated to Koko. What did she do? She grieved and grieved some more. Life was difficult until Koko was able to adopt two new kittens. And the circle of life continued. This is just one of the 47 truly remarkable stories in the book, and every one of them will make the heart a little lighter, the world a little brighter.

So if animals can form unlikely friendships, why not the rest of us? Can we humans reach out to others and start a new friendship? Why not? For when two opposites come together and choose to stay together, something beautiful can happen. The Institute for Civility is living proof that when two (and more!) people from different perspectives come together, they can create a powerful movement to bring a greater civility to all of our communities.

This is a charming book with wonderful stories. Take a moment and be inspired!

About the Author: Jennifer S. Holland is a science and nature journalist, and a senior writer for *National Geographic* magazine.

Unlikely Friendships is published by Workman Publishing, New York, New York, 2011.

Review completed by the team at The Institute for Civility
www.instituteforcivility.org