



Publication date **Thursday, August 01, 2013**

Price **£14.99**

ISBN-13 **9781782431244**

Binding **Hardback**

Format **231 x 153 mm**

Extent **224 pages**

Word Count

Territorial Rights **World**

Jessi-cat The cat that unlocked a boy's heart

Jayne Dillon

Description

Lorcan Dillon was seven years old when his mother, Jayne, first heard him say 'I love you.' The words were not directed at her, but at Jessi-cat, the family pet. Lorcan suffers from autism and selective mutism, a condition that renders him unable to speak in certain situations, unable to express emotions or enjoy hugs and he has never told anyone he loves them. This all began to change with the arrival of a kitten named Jessi-cat. *Jessi-cat* is the stirring tale of how the affection and attention of a constant loving companion allowed a little boy to start to connect to the world around him. Lorcan spends hours playing with her, cuddling her and telling her how much he loves her. He has also begun opening up to others, making friends at school and is constantly making progress. Jessi-cat proved so inspiring that she was named Best Friend and National Cat of the Year 2012 by the Cats Protection Awards. This book charts the story of this great friendship and how the love between a young boy and his pet has changed his life forever.

Sales Points

- Lorcan Dillon is a seven-year-old boy who is unable to express his emotions and speak in certain situations, but such was the effect of the arrival of Jessi-cat that for the first time his mother heard him utter the words 'I love you'
- Jessi-cat was named Best Friend and National Cat of the Year 2012 by the Cats Protection Awards
- Jessi-cat has become an Internet sensation, with hundreds of thousands of views online and various TV appearances with Lorcan
- Rocker and celebrity judge Rick Wakeman said at the National Cat of the Year Awards 2012: "The bond between Jessi-cat and Lorcan is incredible and it has clearly had a hugely positive impact on Lorcan's home and school life."

Reviews

- 'A selectively mute boy's extraordinary bond with the family cat has inspired his mother to tell their story' - *Sunday Telegraph*
- 'Inspiring' - *Daily Express*
- 'A purrfect feel-good read' - *Woman's Weekly*
- 'Chronicles the growth of their incredible bond and the reader can't help being moved by this story of an astonishing friendship' - *Newmarket Journal*

Author Biography

Jayne Dillon worked as a midwife at her local hospital in Manchester before family commitments led her to put her career on hold. She lives in Manchester with her husband Dave, a GP, and children Adam, Luke and Lorcan, along with Jessi the cat, Lily the dog and two goldfish. She plays an active part in her local community and local campaigns.

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