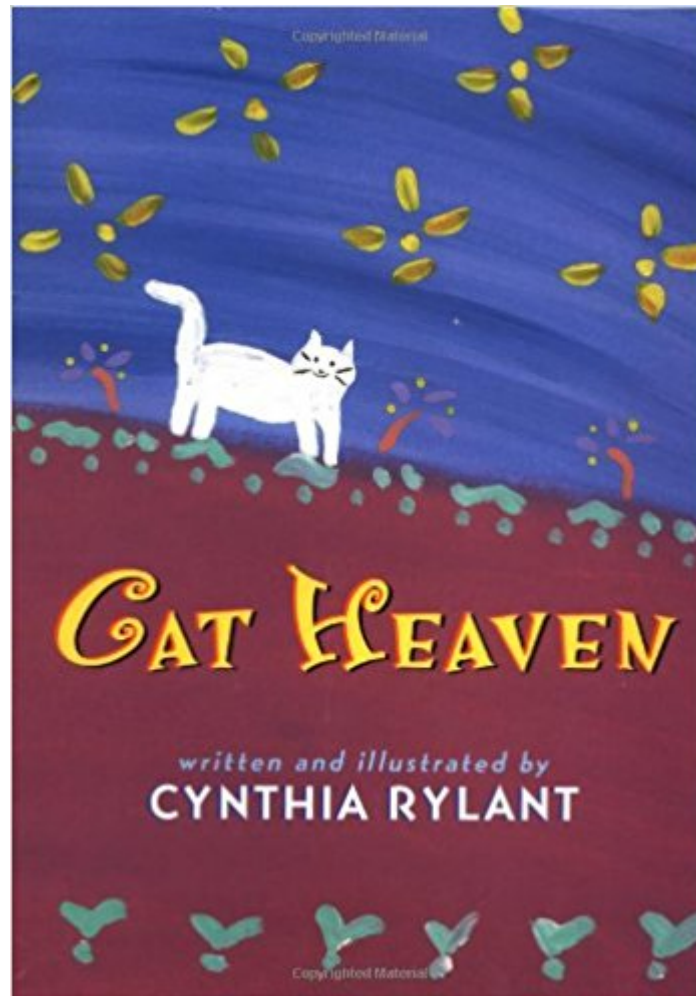




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# Cat Heaven



## Synopsis

"The way to Cat Heaven is a field of sweet grass, where crickets and butterflies play!" With a gentle, playful rhyme, Newbery Medalist Cynthia Rylant explores all the ways our beloved cats enjoy Cat Heaven, as she did for dogs in the bestselling companion book, DOG HEAVEN. Her shining artwork illustrates a world of peace for cats in Heaven, where no tree is too tall for exploring, where there is no lack of angels' laps for sleeping. If your child wonders where his or her kitty goes after a happy life on Earth, they can rest assured that all cats "know where the angel cats fly. They'll run past the stars and the moon and the sun . . . to curl up with God in the sky."

## Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD490L (What's this?)

Hardcover: 40 pages

Publisher: Blue Sky Press; 1 edition (September 1, 1997)

Language: English

ISBN-10: 0590100548

ISBN-13: 978-0590100540

Product Dimensions: 0.5 x 8.5 x 12.8 inches

Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)

Average Customer Review: 4.8 out of 5 stars 253 customer reviews

Best Sellers Rank: #31,979 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #47 in [Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Difficult Discussions > Death & Dying](#) #166 in [Books > Children's Books > Animals > Cats](#) #2015 in [Books > Children's Books > Literature & Fiction](#)

Age Range: 4 - 8 years

Grade Level: Preschool - 3

## Customer Reviews

PreSchool-Grade 2. Cat Heaven sounds like paradise. A rhyming text describes a realm in which felines are fed from God's countertop, a place where they no longer get stuck in trees because now they can fly. There are thousands of toys, and soft angel laps in which to cuddle. There is even a quiet time to look back on former homes and loving people. The primitive, childlike painting style is similar to Rylant's work in Dog Heaven (Scholastic, 1995). Both books serve the same purpose of comforting anyone mourning a lost pet, but the writing flows more easily and the pictures are more mature in Cat Heaven. The story has spiritualism and reverence but not in a traditional manner. God is depicted as a kindly older man who washes the cats' bowls and "walks in His garden with a good

black book and a kitty asleep on His head." His coloring varies from pink to brown to yellowish tan. The visual impact of the book is stunning. Cats of all colors frolic through the exuberantly hued pages. Vibrant yellows, blues, reds, purples, and greens create a feast for the eyes. Even the color of the text changes to contrast with the background. Whether read as a story to younger children or used in a discussion of the nature of heaven with older ones, this deceptively simple, sweet book is rewarding. ?Lucinda Snyder Whitehurst, St. Christopher's School, Richmond, VA Copyright 1997 Reed Business Information, Inc.

Every bit as rich in eye-dimming sentiment as *Dog Heaven* (1995), this will kindle sighs even from the feline-indifferent. Writing in rhyme, Rylant assures readers that all cats already know the way to heaven's yellow door, and once past it will never want for laps, toys, or full kitty dishes. Rylant paints in the same extremely naive style of the first book, with large brushes and bright, opaque colors; heaven is a place with trees and clouds to perch on, fields to leap through--and a garden full of tall flowers, where God walks ``with a good black book [``Garden Tips"] and a kitty asleep on His head." Comforting and amiable, this is tinged with gentle humor. (Picture book. 3-6) -- Copyright ©1997, Kirkus Associates, LP. All rights reserved.

A family friend gave us *Dog Heaven* when our 13-year-old pit bull died. I had grown up with that dog, had to put her down with my brother, and was absolutely devastated. Reading *Dog Heaven* actually brought me a lot of comfort, even if it would make me cry every time! When my co-worker suddenly lost her cat after she was hit by a car, I immediately bought this for her and her family. I didn't even need to read it first, I just knew it would be as good as *Dog Heaven* and it was. The books have a spiritual element to them, but they aren't overly religious in any way so I feel that they are appropriate for anyone. I highly recommend these books to anyone that has lost a pet member of the family.

I purchased this when our 19 year old cat died in November 2016. My 5 year old son is very attached to her- he goes out to where she is buried and decorates her grave with shells, rocks and builds bark mulch fences. He then comes inside and asks me to read "Cat Heaven". We call her grave "Cat Heaven". This book is so comforting. Our favorite pages are the cats with God in heaven (on his kitchen counter and on his head) and the beautiful page that reassures us our CoriCat can come back to visit and feel loved. My 8 year old son really loves the page where the cat can visit. Thank you Cynthia Rylant.

Our cat passed on about 3 weeks ago, he's been a member of our family for 16 years and we loved him so much. We had the Dog Heaven book which I bought after our dog passed on 3 years ago (she was about 12 years old and loved her so much!) so I knew the Cat Heaven book would offer some comfort as the pictures and words are so sweet. I can't say enough about these 2 Cynthia Rylant books, they are just so incredibly wonderful.

Lovely book however it wasn't the best book I've read regarding death of a feline friend. I think if it were to mention a kitty waiting for you or crossing the bridge with your beloved kitty in the future it would have been better. That is just my opinion because my boy died and wanted this book to make me feel better.

Ordered this for my almost three-year-old when we put down his buddy Leo. We've read it to him a few times, and now when he asks, "Where's Leo?" He knows the answer is "Cat Heaven." It's a very cute book; the illustrations are beautiful. By the way, some of the perks of Cat Heaven include getting to jump up on the counters to eat and getting to sleep on the bed! The only warning I'd give you about this book is that I can't get through it without tearing up. One part talks about how when he wants to, the cat can go look down on his humans below. See - now I'm tearing up just writing that! (Stupid book.)

Wonderful book, it has helped our daughter get over the passing of our very old, very lovable cat who died about 18 months ago- they were best friends and it broke her heart when he died. A few of the drawings in the book resemble our cat so she associates him with those and it seems to comfort her a little more. We also got her a stuffed animal of the type of cat he was (a Maine Coon, do you know how hard it is to find a realistic-looking Maine Coon stuffed animal??) and it is her constant companion and when we read the book she snuggles up with him. All in all, we're glad that we got this book because our daughter was so attached to our kitty.

This book is amazing. We needed a way to explain the death of our cat to our 4 & 6 year old. First of all the cat on the cover is exactly the same as ours, so this hit home even more! Secondly, the story is so sweet, simple, and makes you feel good. We are not a religious family so I was hesitant about explaining God and Heaven to my kiddos- but in a weird way it made these concepts easy to digest in regards to our loved kitten. Lastly, my kids and even myself are happy to think of our family pet in

Cat Heaven!

Losing a beloved family pet is truly heartbreaking. This book looks on the "positive" side of things in a bright manner. It's perfect for young children and adults alike. I have many books on death for children and highly recommend this in both versions, cats and dogs.

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