

Booklist

Issue: August 1, 2017

The Dogs of Avalon: The Race to Save Animals in Peril.

Schenone, Laura (Author)

Aug 2017. 320 p. Norton, hardcover, \$26.95. (9780393073584). 798.8.

Schenone (*The Lost Ravioli Recipes of Hoboken*, 2007) admits she sometimes thought of animal advocates as having misplaced allegiances—until she met a few dedicated people, women mostly, who have raised worldwide awareness of animal welfare. In Ireland, greyhound racing has been popular for decades, but the racing life for a greyhound is short, and, until quite recently, the Irish have considered greyhounds mean and unfit for adoption. A staggering number of retired dogs are euthanized. Sometimes, though, retired greyhounds are shipped to other countries, where they race for a few more years but are often ill-treated. Enter Marion Fitzgibbon and women like her who have worked tirelessly for decades to improve the lives of greyhounds, and all animals. Fitzgibbon's advocacy has helped to bring better living conditions for working dogs and, best of all, has helped change public perception about greyhounds. Now, greyhound adoption is widely accepted; Schenone owns one such dog. Though this is sometimes gut-wrenching in its vivid depiction of animal suffering, animal lovers will find it an eye-opening must-read.

— *Joan Curbow*