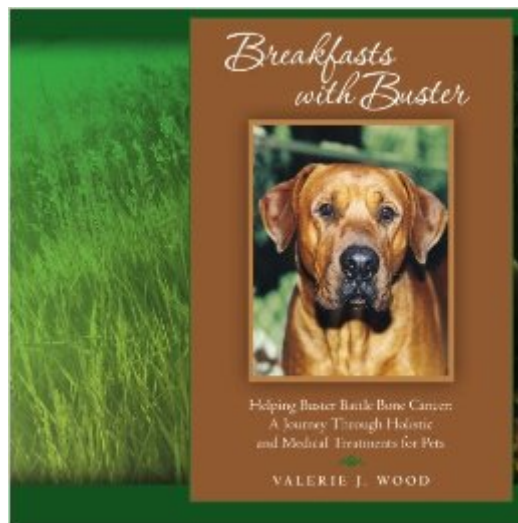


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# Breakfasts With Buster: Helping Buster Battle Bone Cancer: A Journey Through Holistic And Medical Treatments For Pets



## Synopsis

Breakfasts with Buster is an incredibly special memoir of how author Valerie J. Wood and her husband helped their dog, Buster B. Brown, battle bone cancer. Whether or not you're a dog lover, this tremendous tale shows the difference that faith, love, and perseverance make. It is a story of sorrow and triumph, it is a diary of a journey that immortalizes the courage their big brown boy had in the face of adversity. Part memoir, part animal cancer treatment guide, in four chapters, the author shares Buster's entire life and what it took to keep him going after the grim diagnosis. From making dramatic changes in Buster's diet to acupuncture and the use of Omega-3 oils, Wood was able to help Buster beat the odds for almost a year. It was a very long year, but also a very special one. As Buster battled bone cancer, he ended up teaching his masters a few more lessons, lessons that are immeasurably sweet and absolutely unforgettable.

## Book Information

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Average Customer Review: 4.0 out of 5 stars [See all reviews](#) (28 customer reviews)

Best Sellers Rank: #4,384,584 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #28 in [Books > Health, Fitness & Dieting > Diseases & Physical Ailments > Cancer > Bone Cancer](#) #18578 in [Books > Crafts, Hobbies & Home > Pets & Animal Care > Dogs](#)

## Customer Reviews

Other reviewers have done an excellent job of summarizing this moving story about the life & loss of a beloved pet to cancer. Some have also noted that it is fairly brief, weighing in at 51, 8.5" by 8.5" pages, with illustrations and photos appearing on a majority of them. Actual medical/nutritional information comprises approximately 20% of the material; "Breakfast with Buster" is more like a short story with numerous illustrations. My family also lost a dear Black Lab to bone cancer that quickly metastasized to the lungs; while I shared, and relived, the painful process that the author describes, I didn't come away feeling like I would have been better prepared if I had read it prior. The main thing I think people who find themselves in a similar situation need to know is: if you see your dog

constantly licking at his/her paw, immediately find a vet that is experienced with rapidly spreading, metastatic bone cancer...the first vet our dog was taken to didn't have a clue, and our dog might have had a fighting chance if he had; this vet thought it was a local injury, and then, later, a local infection...and prescribed commensurate but unhelpful treatments. Bone cancer wasn't diagnosed until several months after the licking began, and by that time, it had metastasized to the lungs...too late...and he couldn't breathe; euthanizing was the only humane thing to do. The author states that large dogs are prone to bone cancer, which empirically appears to be true; in addition, I have wondered, and asked several vets, if the multitude of chemicals that are used on lawns, as well as all of the antifreeze, gas & oil on the roads, could be contributing as well. I have not come away with anything conclusive, but it makes sense to me...and better to be cautious.

Buster sounds like a great dog. The book is well written but very short. It looks like a child's book, but is not. Only 51 pages long, with large type and lots of pictures. A touching testament to Buster. The story is probably not worth the rather steep price except for those people who have lost a dog to cancer and want to "share" the experience that Buster's owner had. The "medical" advice is questionable. There are some pieces which are probably actually useful, such as the low-sugar cancer diet. This one is backed up by actual scientific data. Other parts are beyond dubious, such as "distance healing" in which someone the author found online "sent distance healing" to Buster. The author recounts many things she does in an attempt to buy Buster more time and proclaims that these steps were successful. That's proof? If you want to pursue various methods of treating a dog with cancer, whether or not you are interested in "new age-y" options, there are far better choices than this book. Also disturbing to me are the things that the author was not willing to do. For example, she writes that they turned down chemotherapy and radiation in part because the facility was 28 miles away. That's not far at all! They are also unwilling to have the leg with the bone cancer amputated. This can be a cure if it is done before the cancer has spread, and dogs tend to do VERY well with only 3 legs. Eventually, they decide to euthanize Buster because they are worried that his leg will break and they want to spare him that trauma. They decide to do this despite Buster being "bright-eyed, chipper and QUITE HEALTHY otherwise." They say testing has revealed no cancer elsewhere in his body. So why not just remove the leg???

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