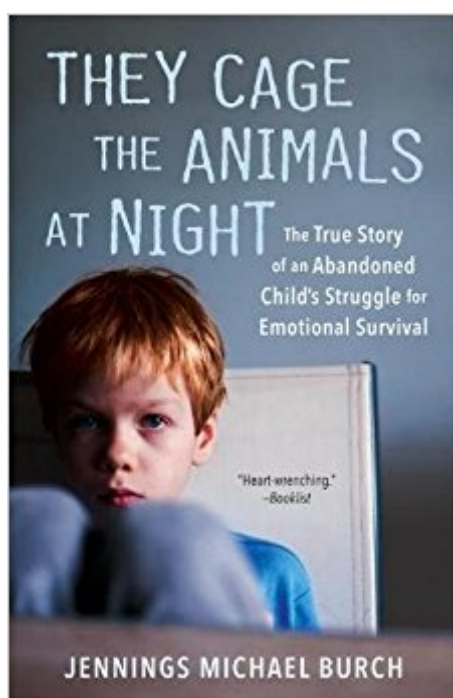


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# They Cage The Animals At Night: The True Story Of An Abandoned Child's Struggle For Emotional Survival



## Synopsis

The heartbreaking, iconic true story of an abandoned little boy's horrific journey through the American foster care system. One misty evening, Jennings Michael Burch's mother, too sick to care for him, left her eight-year-old son at an orphanage with the words, "I'll be right back." She wasn't. Shuttled through a bleak series of foster homes, orphanages, and institutions, Jennings never remained in any of them long enough to make a friend. Instead, he clung to a tattered stuffed animal named Doggie, his sole source of comfort in a frightening world. Here, in his own words, Jennings Michael Burch reveals the abuse and neglect he experienced during his lost childhood. But while his experiences are both shocking and devastating, his story is ultimately one of hope—the triumphant tale of a forgotten child who somehow found the courage to reach out for love and found it waiting for him.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

"A valuable and beautiful book which addresses issues of concern to everyone—what really does happen to foster children and what allows some children to survive the same emotional trauma that shatters forever the lives of others." —Eleanor Craig, author of *P.S. Your Not Listening*

"A deeply moving and inspiring story." —Alan Arkin

"Everyone who cares about the quality of life and the future of nation should read this book." —William R. Bricker, National Director, Boys Clubs of America

"This heartbreaking, shocking, ultimately triumphant tale is an extremely important book." —Lucy Freeman, author of *Fight Against Fears*

"A must for every library...should be required reading for every couple expecting a child." —Sally Struthers

â œThis heart-wrenching, autobiographical accountâ |has the power of a Dickens novel.â •â "Booklist Â â œA winnerâ "gripping, unforgettable, shattering.â •â "Flora Rheta Schreiber, author of Sybil

Jennings Michael Burch was the author of the bestselling autobiography They Cage the Animals at Night. He worked as a New York City policeman, a chauffeur, a theater manager, a magazine pressman, and a short-order cook. He held a BA in forensic psychology from John Jay College. He passed away in 2013.

Jennings understated narrative lends credence to a wrenching, hard-to-believe story. I once knew Jennings personally and held Doggie in my arms when I introduced him to a class of my 5th graders in Chappaqua, NY some years back. Sorry to say I've lost touch with him. But his impact, personally, professionally, and emotionally on me and my students shall NEVER be forgotten. Especially on Rosey. I wish him and his family well wherever they may be, and in whatever form the fates have decreed.

Heartbreaking story of a little boy that just wanted to be loved. All the things this child went through seem impossible for him to still be so sweet and charming. He has a heart of gold and compassion for those that are not so nice to him. His Mother sadly just didn't have what it took to support one more child. I would love to meet him as an adult. I'm sure "Doggy" Is still around. I loved the story, so touching. A child should always know love and he is loved.

An emotional and heart wrenching story told from the perspective of a boy who spends his childhood in and out of orphanages and foster care homes. I was required to read this book for a class, and boy did it go way beyond what I was expecting. I cried and felt the pain he experienced with every blow, both physically and emotionally. Tough to read this story, but it's based on stuff that happens to children every day. Jennings is an inspiration and I'm blessed to have gotten a glimpse of his story.

This little boy had a bad situation at home. His mother just couldn't take care of all the children on her own. Her husband never supported her or the children. I think she was very depressed. She tried to keep her family together as much as she could but she was sick herself. Some of the children had to go to catholic orphanages while she recuperated from time to time. Most of the place

he stayed were similar to prison. I think the nuns were worse than wardens.

The first time I read this book was about ten years ago, I loved it so much that I had to purchase it and re-read it. I must admit it is a little harder to read now that I'm a mother myself. This is a must read and I highly recommend it to anyone looking for a great read:)

I am still crying from this beautiful story. It wasn't graphic at all but so heartwarming and touching. It really makes you think about how lucky we are and that there are truly kind people in the world. I wish there was a sequel. I would love to read more about this beautiful man and his life. We should remember to show kindness to people every once in a while, you never know what they are going through. I want to turn back to page one and read it all over again!

This book was amazing. It took me less than a month to finish reading it. I recommend to read this because if you like mysterious books this book is perfect, it always put you on a cliff hanger and you want to read it throughout the day. So if you like mysterious you might want to read this book.

I've loved this book for years. The connections that Jennings make as he goes through home through home, how he survives all his ordeals by clinging to a ragged stuffed dog. It truly is a book tinted when you feel as though you reach rock bottom, or just when you need to find a bit of light in the world.

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