



"Dog Tales" Writing Contest

with the Florence-Lauderdale Public Library

The Florence-Lauderdale Public Library (FLPL) is proud to sponsor a writing contest aimed at students K-12 who live or go to school in Lauderdale or Colbert County. This contest is part of the library's OneBook program, a new community-wide reading program aimed at bringing the entire Shoals community together through reading. This year, OneBook will feature John Grogan's dog-focused memoir, *Marley & Me*, and will also include *Marley: A Dog Like No Other*, the youth version of the book, and the picture book adaptation *Bad Dog, Marley!*

Grades K-5: Write a short story featuring the character Marley from *Bad Dog, Marley!* and *Marley: A Dog Like No Other*. Marley is a loveable and energetic dog who always finds ways to get in trouble. Entries will be judged based on creativity and writing style. Stories should be under 450 words, and students are also invited to include a drawing to accompany the story. The winning entry will be published in the *TimesDaily*. Finalists' stories will be posted on the FLPL website.

Grades 6-12: Write a personal essay about a current or former pet of any species. Possible topics include, but are not limited to, stories about your first pet, funny or touching pet moments, and reasons for your pet's name. Essays should be 300-600 words, typed and double-spaced. Entries will be judged based on creativity, writing style, and writing skill (organization, grammar, etc.) The winning entry will be published in the *TimesDaily*, and finalists' essays will be posted on the FLPL website.

All entries must include the student's name, school, home address, and phone number. Submissions are due **September 15, 2008**, and winners will be contacted in October. Submissions can be delivered or mailed to the FLPL:

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Florence-Lauderdale Public Library
350 North Wood Avenue
Florence, AL 35630