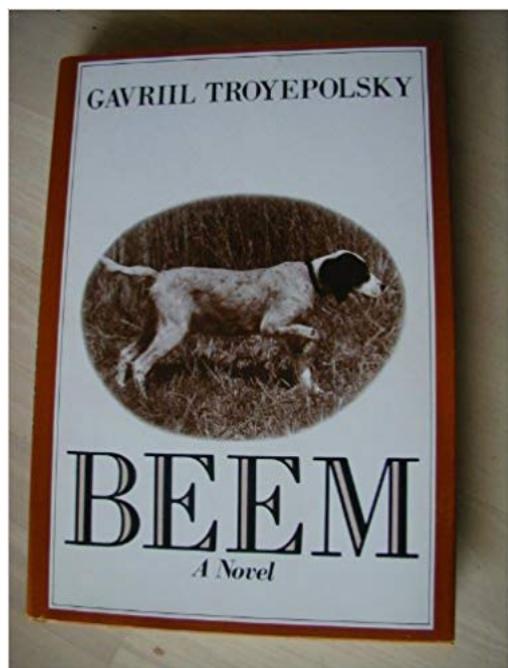


Beem by Gavriil Troyepolsky



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ISBN: 0060143487
ISBN13: 978-0060143480
Author: Gavriil Troyepolsky
Book title: Beem
Pages: 200 pages
Publisher: Harper & Row; 1st edition (1978)
Language: English
Size PDF version: 1858 kb
Size ePUB version: 1709 kb
Size DJVU version: 1389 kb
Other formats: azw lrf rtf lrf

Copyright 1971, first edition, hardcover with dustjacket, 200 pages. SYNOPSIS: "The puppy, a Gordon setter with odd markings is adopted by a recent widower and trained to be a hunter. Then the owner's health deteriorates and required a hospital stay. A neighbor came to feed Beem but he would not eat. The one morning he raced past her out the door to find his master." CONDITION: Dustjacket has surface scuffing, edge-rips, and inch square layer ripped off near lower front. A few words and small specks inside back cover. Binding is secure.



Reviews of the **Beem** by Gavriil Troyepolsky

- Zan

To say that this book was a childhood favorite is an understatement. I first read it on loan from our school library when I was about ten. It's a very moving story about the unconditional love and loyalty of a dog towards its owner but also about life, overcoming adversity, perseverance and human nature - both at its best and at its worst. If you are familiar with and were touched by the story of "Hatchiko", you will surely find it does not hold a candle to this one. All these years later, I still remembered this book, which resonated so profoundly with me as a child - and I have read many

since. When I finally found a first edition of the book, in excellent condition, I was very excited to purchase it.

- **HappyLove**

A beautifully told story about an exceptional bond between a lonely man and his dog Beem (called Bim in the Russian original), this short novel will put any animal lover on an emotional roller-coaster.

Beem's happy and carefree life takes a dramatic turn when his master suddenly falls seriously ill and has to be rushed to a remote hospital. Beem is left in the care of a neighbour but soon takes off in a desperate search for his human friend. From that point on the storyline is presented through the eyes of a dog who is lost in the human world he does not quite comprehend. During his more than a year-long quest, Beem meets an assortment of human characters: some are nice and try to help, many are indifferent and others are plain wicked.

Beem is not a human-like hero in a furcoat; he is a distressed, pining dog, a pure soul whose only purpose in life is to find his owner. The subtle and poetic account of Beem's futile search in all the places he and his master used to visit and enjoy together is absolutely heartwrenching. It hurts to follow his transformation from a beautiful, well-kept, trusting pet into a starving, battered street mutt, a pest that many people think should be disposed off, a creature weary of human actions. Beem's bewilderment in face of all the abuse he experiences casts an ugly mirror at how we, humans, mistreat animals who cannot speak up for themselves. Beem finds kindness, too, but those moments never last too long and eventually evil and indifference prevail.

SPOILER ALERT: The following paragraph contains info about the book's ending. Though Beem's master eventually recovers and comes back for Beem, this being a Russian novel, their reunion is not a happy one. The brilliant subtlety with which the author delivers the tragic ending only enhances its dramatic impact. Have a large box of tissues handy when reading this book.

RELATED TRIVIA:

While the story of Beem is fictional, it feels painfully real and was apparently inspired by the author's own setter "Lel". In the 1970ies, a movie based on the book and called "White Bim Black Ear" was made in the Soviet Union. It was nominated for an Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film in 1978 and is available on DVD with English subtitles. In 1998, a life-size bronze statue of Beem (Bim) was installed in Voronez, the hometown of Gavriil Troyepolski.

- **Jairani**

I bought this book for my 13 yr. old son in @1980; he liked it (we read it together), but I loved it and it remains one of the most profound books about devotion, love and companionship in my reading history. Not unlike E. B. White's "Charlotte's Web," and for me, the Anne of Green Gables series I read long, long ago and still cherish !

- **You ll never walk alone**

One of the best beautiful and very tragic stories I ever read. J.W. Goethe once said: Who saw once Rome will never be so happy or unhappy as before. The same could be said about this book!

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