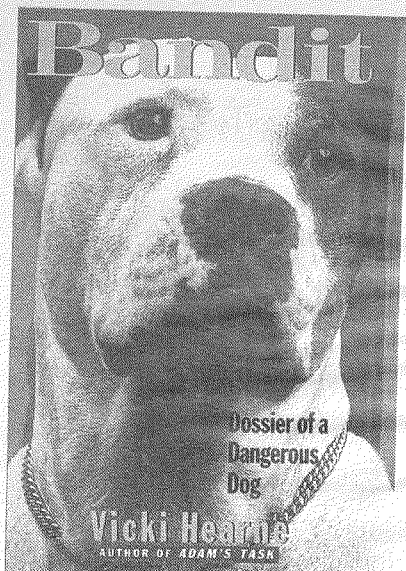




Bandit: Dossier of a Dangerous Dog

by Vicki Hearne (HarperCollins)

This new book by the author of *Adam's Task* is a perceptive, in-depth look at humankind's relations with our friend the dog. More specifically, it is about our friend the "pit bull," and Hearne's relations with Bandit, a pit

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bull who came into her hands for remedial training after he was accused and sentenced to death for vicious biting. While Hearne sets about training Bandit, she also lays out for us a meticulous study of the racism, hysteria, and mass ignorance that has put him on dog death row, and narrates the arguments and events that end up getting him off it. In writing which swings from straightforward storytelling, to critical philosophical analysis, to sheer poetry, we make the acquaintance of a noble animal, his staunch friends, and the ignoble people who shrill for his demise. Although a dog's story, *Bandit* is more than a dog story. It is also a study of the ways the human mind creates its monsters, and the ways it attempts to destroy them.

-K.J.K.