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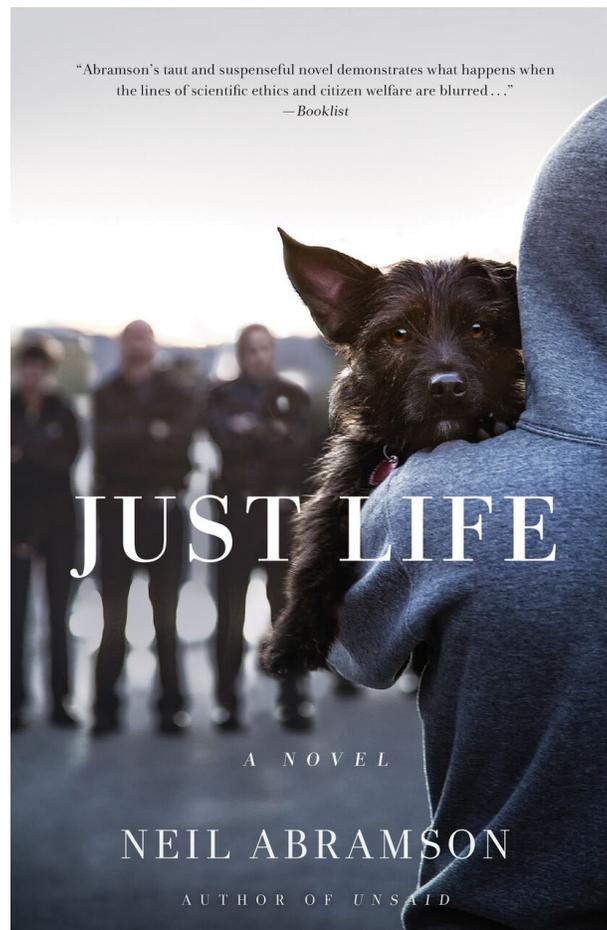


From the bestselling author of *UNSAID* comes a thrilling story of the bond between people and animals – and the courage it takes to fight for our companion animals in a time of fear and panic

JUST LIFE

By Neil Abramson

NOW AVAILABLE IN PAPERBACK



With recent cases of avian influenza causing a feline quarantine in NYC, a leptospirosis outbreak in dogs in Arizona, and a canine flu quarantine in Chicago, zoonotic illnesses are forcing people to reevaluate the relationships between humans and our companion animals. In his timely novel **JUST LIFE** (April 4, 2017; Center Street/Hachette Book Group; \$14.99),

now in paperback, Neil Abramson presents a riveting, thought-provoking roller coaster ride of a novel that asks the question: what would *you* do if the authorities came to round up *your* beloved animal due to such an outbreak?

Veterinarian Samantha Lewis and her team are dedicated to providing a sanctuary for unwanted, abused, and abandoned dogs in New York City. But every day it gets harder operate her no-kill shelter. Sam is already at her breaking point when she learns of an unidentified, dangerous virus spreading through their neighborhood. The medical community can only determine that animals are the carriers. Amid growing panic and a demand for immediate answers, suspicion abruptly falls on dogs as the source. Soon the governor is calling in the National Guard to enforce a quarantine--no dog may leave the area.

Samantha knows from her own painful history that, despite the lack of real evidence against the dogs, a quarantine may only be the beginning. As questions about the source of the virus mount and clash with the pressure for a politically expedient resolution, Sam is forced to make life-altering choices. She finds allies in a motley crew of New Yorkers--a local priest, a troubled teen, a smart-mouthed former psychologist, and a cop desperate to do the right thing--all looking for sanctuary from their own personal demons. But the person Sam needs the most to unravel the mystery of the virus and save the dogs is the last one she'd ever want to call on--because contacting him will mean confronting the traumatic past she has fought so hard to escape.

Neil Abramson's novel is engrossing and nuanced, with finely drawn characters and an intense pace that rolls to an unforgettable conclusion. **JUST LIFE's** message of the balance between fear and compassion, memory and forgiveness, and despair and hope will stay with readers long after they've finished reading, and will spark serious discussions and debate.

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About the Author:

A partner in a Manhattan law firm, Neil Abramson lives in Westchester County, NY and is married to a veterinarian. New York City Mayor Bill de Blasio recently appointed Neil to be his designee Board Member to the Board of Directors of the Animal Care Centers of New York, the entity responsible for running the City's animal shelters and adoption centers and one of the largest animal welfare organizations in the country. He is also a past board member of the Animal Legal Defense Fund, an award recipient from the ASPCA for his legal work on behalf of animals, and a founding member of the New York City Bar Association Committee on Legal Issues Relating to Animals. **JUST LIFE** is his second novel.

JUST LIFE: A Novel

By Neil Abramson

Publisher: Center Street / Hachette Book Group

Pub Date: April 4, 2017

ISBN: 978-1455591060

Price: \$14.99