

let's take the long way home

Gail Caldwell

READ BY JOYCE BEAN

"Friendship, as Gail Caldwell's memoir gracefully testifies, asks a special, liberating eloquence."

—RICHARD FORD, Pulitzer Prize-winning author of *The Sportswriter*

"It's an old, old story: I had a friend and we shared everything, and then she died and so we shared that, too."

So begins this gorgeous memoir by Pulitzer Prize winner Gail Caldwell, a testament to the power of friendship, a story of how an extraordinary bond between two women can illuminate the loneliest, funniest, hardest moments in life, including the final and ultimate challenge.

They met over their dogs. Both writers, Gail Caldwell and Caroline Knapp became best friends, talking about everything from their struggles with alcohol, to their relationships with men and colleagues, to their love of books. From disparate backgrounds but with striking emotional similarities, these two women created an attachment more profound than either of them could ever have foreseen. Then, several years into this remarkable connection, Knapp was diagnosed with terminal lung cancer.

With her signature exquisite prose, Caldwell mines the deepest levels of devotion and grief in this moving memoir about treasuring and losing a best friend. *Let's Take the Long Way Home* is a celebration of life and of the transformations that come from intimate connection.

Gail Caldwell is the chief book critic for the *Boston Globe*, where she has been a staff writer and critic since 1985. In 2001, she was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for Distinguished Criticism. She is the author of *A Strong West Wind* and has served on many national literary juries. Gail lives in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

Joyce Bean is an accomplished audiobook narrator and director. Her titles include the *New York Times* bestseller *The Long Road Home* by Martha Raddatz, the National Book Critics Circle finalist *Live Through This* by Debra Gwartney, and *Good-bye and Amen* by Beth Gutcheon, which was nominated for an Audie Award.



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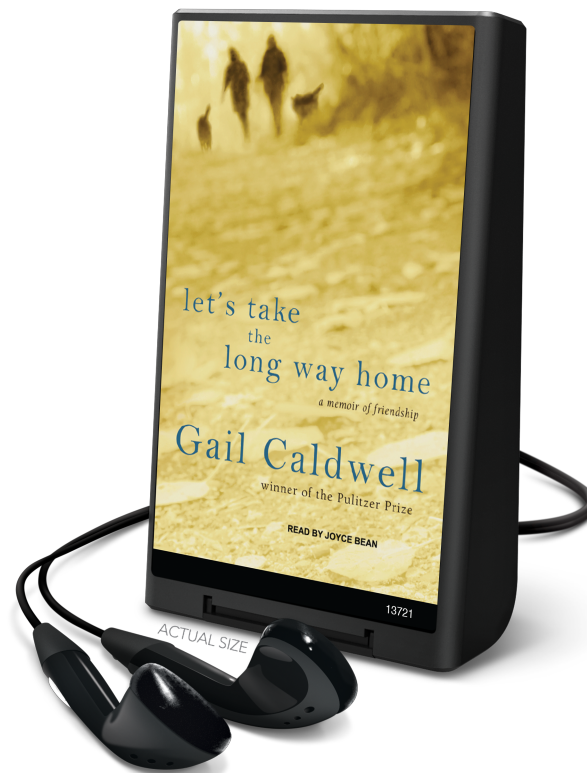
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