

# Hooper finds his fans: K-9 who survived Katrina is honored at Yankee Stadium

By [Jocelyn McClurg](#), USA TODAY

Cameras were flashing for two stars at Yankee Stadium Thursday night: Derek Jeter, gunning for his 3,000th hit, and another cute guy, one who travels on four legs. Hooper, a yellow lab rescued in the wake of Hurricane Katrina, was the main attraction at a book party thrown by team president Randy Levine and his wife, Mindy.

Hooper's tale is told by owner Jane Paley in her new children's book, *Hooper Finds a Family: A Hurricane Katrina Dog's Survival Tale* (HarperCollins, \$15.99, ages 8-12).

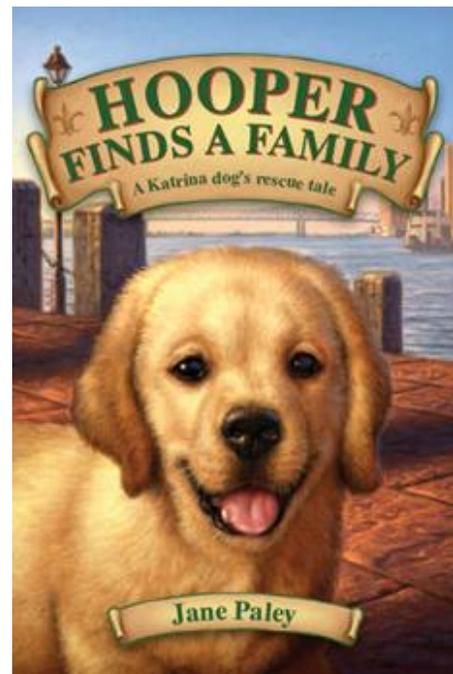
Paley, who lives in New York and Connecticut, is a huge Yankees fan, and Hooper's party attire included a Yankees collar. He's been spotted in a Yankees' cap, too. His owner is clearly enamored: "I like to think of him as the Brad Pitt of yellow labs," she says.

Paley tells Hooper's story from his point of view, and it's a harrowing one with a happy ending. Paley and her husband, Larry Price, found the dog in Lake Charles, La., through Labs4Rescue, and it "was love at first sight," she says. They nursed the sickly lab back to health, and he now "is the most spoiled dog in the world," Paley says.

Teaching him to catch, a story told in her book, was a bit of a challenge. But now he can snag a ball with the best of them. Derek Jeter would approve.



Author Jane Paley poses with Hooper. Her new book, *Hooper Finds a Family: A Hurricane Katrina Dog's Survival Tale*, tells the story from his perspective.



*Hooper Finds a Family* by Jane Paley.