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Houndsley and Catina and the Birthday Surprise

Marsha D. Broadway

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Reviewer: Marsha D. Broadway
Reading Level: Primary
Rating: Excellent
Genre: Animal stories;
Subject: Friendship--Juvenile fiction; Birthdays--Juvenile fiction; Parties--Juvenile fiction;
Books--Reviews;

Houndsley is a sad canine--he doesn't know when his birthday is. As he and his feline friend Catina walk in the rain, Catina becomes sad when she realizes that she doesn't know her birthday either. Unaware of the other's plan, they each determine to cheer up the other one. Houndsley bakes a beautiful cake. Catina knits a sweater. Both plan surprise parties. The surprised and happy friends decide to share their birthday celebration every year.

The sequel to *Houndsley and Catina*, this three-chapter beginning reader would make an enjoyable birthday gift to read again and again. Watercolor, pencil, and collage illustrations capture the moods of the characters and add to the festive celebration. A useful addition to school and public libraries.