



A novel inspired by a small town in Northern Michigan and its people.

by Dave Looman

Alden Michigan is a small town just east of Traverse City, located on the southeast shore of Torch Lake. From the first time we set foot in the town, my wife Joyce and I were impressed by the quaintness of the stores and the kindness of its people. We soon learned that the town motto, *Where Neighbors Care*, is not just a saying on a sign. My goal was to write a story about the people and places in and around the town. In this book, many people and places may seem fictional, but are real. From the storeowners to the rivers and lakes, the town comes to life in my stories. The catchy title *Charm of a Small Town*, not only describes the main character, but the small town as well.

This fictional story revolves around a young dog that is abandoned in the wild. He learns to fend for himself, making him strong and resourceful, yet gentle and caring. Meanwhile, a young boy struggles to impress his father, who refuses to accept the young man for who he is. The father has a quick temper, which further strains the relationship. The book simultaneously tells the stories of the young man's struggle to win the admiration of his father, while the dog searches for a place he can call home.

*Charm of a Small Town*

by Dave Looman

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