

The Remarkable True Story Of An Autistic Boy And The Dog That Unlocked His World



In the tapestry of life, where threads of joy, sorrow, and adversity intertwine, there are stories that leave an enduring mark on our hearts. Stories that remind us of the indomitable spirit that resides within us, the power of love and companionship, and the transformative nature of hope.

The remarkable true story of Owen Suskind and his therapy dog, Friday, is such a tale. It is a story that transcends the limitations imposed by autism and illuminates the boundless possibilities that lie within the human spirit.



A Friend Like Henry: The Remarkable True Story of an Autistic Boy and the Dog That Unlocked His World

by Nuala Gardner

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

Language : English
File size : 2674 KB
Text-to-Speech : Enabled
Screen Reader : Supported
Enhanced typesetting : Enabled
X-Ray : Enabled
Word Wise : Enabled
Print length : 277 pages



Owen's World

Owen Suskind was diagnosed with autism at the age of three. Autism is a complex neurodevelopmental disorder that impairs social interaction, communication, and behavior. For Owen, the world was a bewildering and chaotic place. He struggled to make eye contact, communicate verbally, and engage in meaningful social interactions.

Owen's parents, Ron and Cornelia, were determined to help their son navigate the challenges of autism. They tried various therapies, but nothing seemed to break through the barriers that isolated Owen from the world.

Enter Friday

In 2007, Ron Suskind, a Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist, met with Dr. Lori Schore, a renowned autism expert. Dr. Schore suggested that a therapy dog could be the key to unlocking Owen's world.



The Suskinds decided to adopt a golden retriever puppy and named him Friday. Friday possessed a gentle and intuitive nature that made him an ideal candidate for therapy work.

A Bond That Transcended Words

From the moment Owen met Friday, a profound bond was formed. Owen, who had always struggled to connect with others, found solace and companionship in the presence of his loyal companion.

Friday provided Owen with a sense of safety and comfort. He would curl up on Owen's lap, providing a calming and comforting presence. When Owen experienced sensory overload or anxiety, Friday would gently nudge him, offering reassurance and grounding.

Breaking Through the Barriers

With Friday by his side, Owen began to make significant progress. He became more communicative, using short phrases and gestures to express his thoughts and needs. He started to engage in social interactions, playing with other children and participating in family activities.



Friday's presence also helped Owen to regulate his emotions. When Owen felt overwhelmed or upset, Friday would provide physical comfort and emotional support, helping him to calm down and regain his composure.

A Transformative Friendship

The friendship between Owen and Friday became a beacon of hope for the Suskind family and countless others affected by autism. It demonstrated that even in the face of significant challenges, there is always the possibility for connection, growth, and transformation.

Owen's journey with Friday inspired Ron Suskind to write the New York Times bestseller, "Life, Animated: A Story of Sidekicks, Heroes, and Autism." The book became a critically acclaimed film, further spreading the message of hope and resilience.

The remarkable true story of Owen Suskind and his therapy dog, Friday, is a testament to the power of love, friendship, and the indomitable spirit that resides within us all. It is a story that inspires, uplifts, and reminds us that even in the face of adversity, there is always hope for connection and transformation.

May this story serve as a beacon of hope for all those who are navigating the challenges of autism or any other life experience.



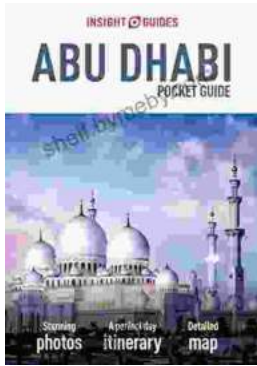
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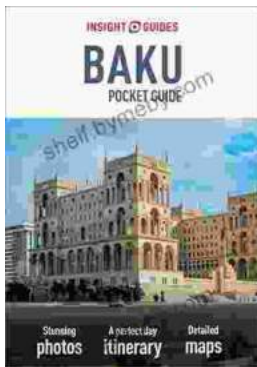
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