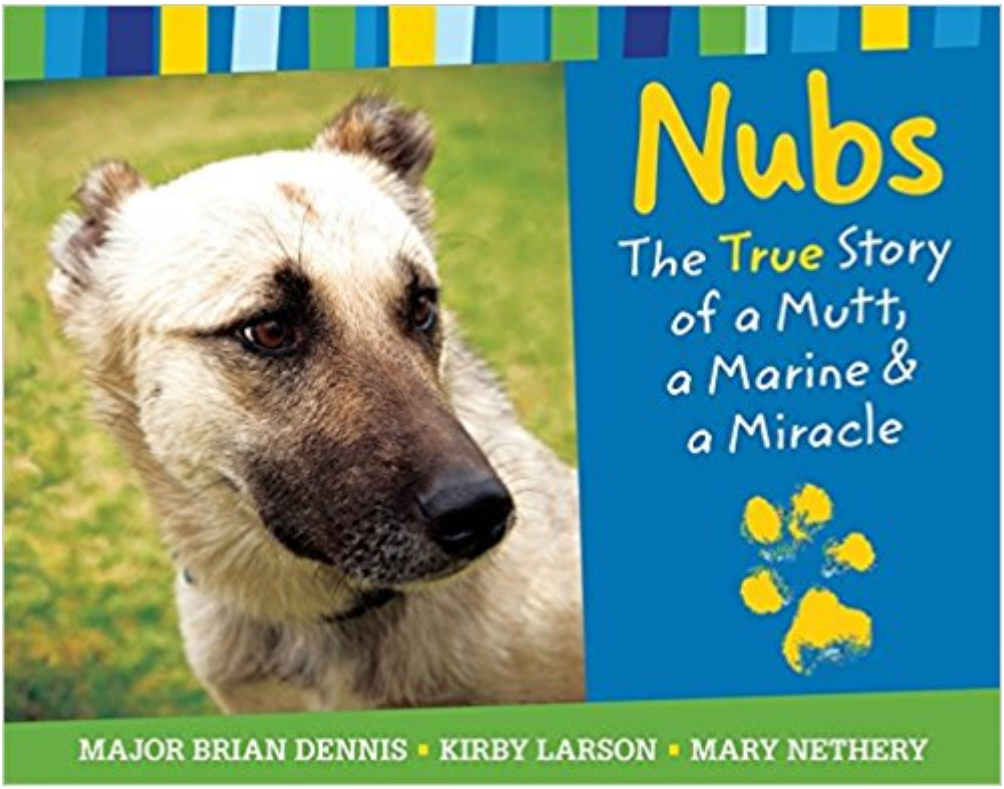
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Nubs: The True Story Of A Mutt, A Marine & A Miracle



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Synopsis

Nubs, an Iraqi dog of war, never had a home or a person of his own. He was the leader of a pack of wild dogs living off the land and barely surviving. But Nubs's life changed when he met Marine Major Brian Dennis. The two formed a fast friendship, made stronger by Dennis's willingness to share his meals, offer a warm place to sleep, and give Nubs the kind of care and attention he had never received before. Nubs became part of Dennis's human "pack" until duty required the Marines to relocate a full 70 miles away--without him. Nubs had no way of knowing that Marines were not allowed to have pets.So began an incredible journey that would take Nubs through a freezing desert, filled with danger tofind his friend and would lead Dennis on a mission that would touch the hearts of people all over the world. Nubs and Dennis will remind readers that friendship has the power to cross deserts, continents, and even species.

Book Information

Lexile Measure: AD810L (What's this?)
Series: AWARDS: Kentucky Bluegrass Awards 2011, Grades 3-5
Hardcover: 48 pages
Publisher: Little, Brown Books for Young Readers (November 1, 2009)
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Product Dimensions: 8.9 x 0.5 x 11.4 inches
Shipping Weight: 1 pounds (View shipping rates and policies)
Average Customer Review: 4.7 out of 5 stars 220 customer reviews
Best Sellers Rank: #197,616 in Books (See Top 100 in Books) #59 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Geography & Cultures > Explore the World > Middle East #1047 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Animals > Dogs #3137 inÃ Â Books > Children's Books > Growing Up & Facts of Life > Friendship, Social Skills & School Life > Friendship
Grade Level: 5 - 3

Customer Reviews

Grade 2Ã¢â ¬â œ5Ã¢â ¬â •A true story of a feral dog from Iraq that found a home in the United States. In October 2007, Border Transition Team 3/5/2 arrived at the border of Iraq and Syria. The team members were greeted by a pack of wild dogs, whose leader became known as "Nubs" because of his docked ears. He developed a bond with Dennis, and as the troops would come and

go over the course of several weeks, they were always greeted by the dogs. Nubs exhibited signs of malnutrition and abuse yet he continued to seek food and companionship from the Marines, often trying to follow them when they'd leave. In December 2007, when they relocated to the Jordanian border, 70 miles away, he embarked on a treacherous journey across the desert and, two days later, walked into the camp. Because Marine regulations prohibit the keeping of pets in a war zone, Major Dennis and his men collected donations and arranged to send Nubs to the United States. He was eventually reunited with the dog in 2008. The narrative, which sometimes lacks clarity, includes a substantial amount of original documentationÃ¢â ¬â •photos taken by members of the 3/5/2, emails from Dennis to his friends in San Diego, and copies of the State Department "passport" allowing Nubs to travel. This is a feel-good entry in the current trend of inspirational true animal stories.Ã¢â ¬â •Kara Schaff Dean, Walpole Public Library, MA Copyright Ã Â© Reed Business Information, a division of Reed Elsevier Inc. All rights reserved.

Brian Dennis is the major in the Marines. He and Nubs live in San Diego.Kirby Larson is the acclaimed author of the 2007 Newbery Honor book, Hattie Big Sky. Her most recent title is Two Bobbies: A True Story of Hurricane Katrina, Friendship and Survival, co-written with Mary Nethery. Kirby lives in Kenmore, Washington.Mary Nethery is the author of many picture books, including Hannah and Jack, Mary Veronica's Egg, and Orange Cat Goes to Market. Mary lives in Eureka, California.

This is a wonderful story of the mutual devotion and the warm bond found between people and their pets... with a twist. Brian Dennis is a great, colorful writer, and there are little touches within the book - from his email dispatches to maps and photography, that make this true story hit home. My 7 year old son, as soon as we finished, said it best: "Dad, that was a great story!"Major Dennis, and all those that helped make this story a happy one, deserve great praise. This book should be a staple in every home - and I'd particularly recommend it to those parents who want to teach their kids to respect animals. It also highlights the power of small, compassionate groups of people who are determined to save a life - furry or otherwise.

This is an amazing, touching story that you absolutely must read! The photographs, maps, and transcriptions do a wonderful job of illustrating how special Nubs truly is. My children love hearing it as a bedtime story almost every night! What makes it even more meaningful for our family is that Major Dennis is a neighbor of ours, so he kindly signed our copy and included a paw print

"autograph" from Nubs. Now my kids can enjoy not only a personalized message from Major Dennis and Nubs, but also grow up remembering their first meeting with such an awesome "celebrity"!

"Nubs: The True Story of a Mutt, a Marine, and a Miracle" is a heartwarming book intended largely for children, although many adults that I know have read my copy and loved it too. Major Brian Dennis, USMC, was on deployment to Iraq in 2007. Near the Syrian border he met a dog that changed his life. He named the abused and malnourished dog "Nubs" because some idiotic local had cut his ears off in an attempt to make him a "dog of war." Astoundingly, despite his obvious abuse, the dog thrived on human contact.Major Dennis made numerous trips into the area, and Nubs became progressively weaker and sicker. Setting off on his own, Nubs made one final gambit by walking 70 miles across the desert after the vehicles that carried Dennis and his men: the reunion was wonderful, but all was not well. After running afoul of Marine Corps regulations prohibiting pet ownership, Dennis engineered a return to his San Diego home for the scrappy survivor, cementing their bond forever.This book is perfect for children because it teaches the value of animals and the significance of the human-animal bond. It also teaches compassion and displays American military members as the soft-spoken heroes they almost always are, in this case heroes not for valor on the battlefield, but for love, compassion, and motivation to succeed in the face of adversity. I recommend this book highly for children and for animal-loving adults as well, though bear in mind the book is quite short (48 pages) and is largely photographs. I applaud Major Dennis (and thank him for his service,) Kirby Larson, and Mary Nethery for bringing this wonderful tale to public attention: it is more than worthwhile.

I had no idea, when I down loaded this little book from , that it would be so enjoyable. I loved it from page 1 to its end page.I hate it that Nubs beautiful dog’s ears were chopped off. I loved this dog and his soldier who found doggie love on the battle front. I was so happy when this dog’s story turned from hardship to a wonderful life in America because a soldier cared.The book is short and told in pictures. Every child and adult should see it, read it, or be read to about this wonderful little dog. I loved it that Nubs enjoyed eating the Pop Tarts from the soldier’s rations. Now, I give my dogs a Pop Tart once in awhile.The story is about love in the form of an "all heart" dog who ran 7 miles facing hardship through the sands of Iraq’s desert in the winter.This little dog’s love for a soldier made him put himself out there in harms way because he had a big heart.I am so glad this book was written. It is just more proof that dogs belong with us, and teach us how to love one another. I am so glad that Nubs now lives in the USA.

This is a wonderful story of a marine in Iraq and a war weary dog. Although it is true, it rivals Lassie Come Home in it's heroic story of a dog returning to the Master, he chose, not across Scotland but across war torn Iraq. Against Marine protocol and the local dislike of stray dogs Nubs, all alone, and with many injuries, trekked across desert and found his friend.When the librarians at the library I donated it to, tried to read it out loud, they had to stop to wipe away their tears. My wife read it to her second grade class and she received pictures of Nubs, drawn at home, the next day. She says as a teacher she knows she has reached a child when the child repeats some aspect of the lesson at home.This book is full of touching, not gruesome photographs, of Nubs and Marine Maj. Brian Dennis in Iraq. The story is an easy read but has some excerpts from actual emails from Brian showing the love and concern was not one sided. While this book gives no opinion of the conflict it does show heroism, but mostly, it shows the love that happens between a dog and a man, despite the harshest conditions.

son found this book at the library, and fell in love with this story and this dog. had to get one for his own.

This is a heartwarming story that has the additional benefits of being true and having a happy ending. Nubs, the canine hero of the story, epitomizes the best characteristics of dogs--loyal, brave and capable of extraordinary feats. He recognized a kind and strong soul in the Marine who saved him. This story also shows the difference and individual can make even in the complicated mess of a war zone. The kindness and strength of Major Dennis is impressive as are the efforts of all those who raised the necessary funds to get Nubs to safety. Major Dennis proved that humanity is possible in all circumstances. A great lesson for all of us, children and adults alike.

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