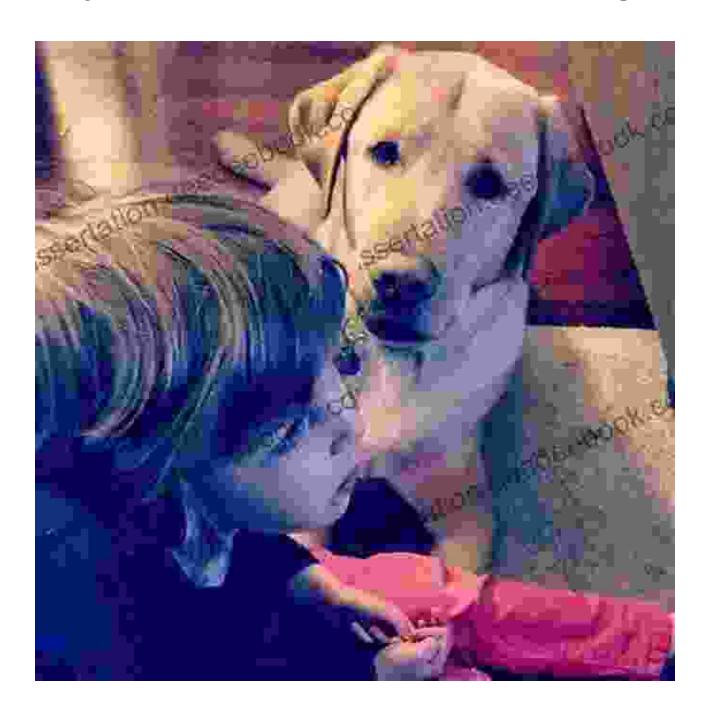
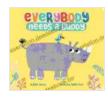
# **Everybody Needs a Buddy: The Inspiring Story of Maddie Frost and Her Service Dog**





#### Everybody Needs a Buddy by Maddie Frost

★★★★★ 4.8 out of 5
Language : English
File size : 15990 KB
Screen Reader: Supported

Print length : 26 pages



Maddie Frost was born with a rare genetic disorder called spinal muscular atrophy (SMA). SMA affects the muscles in the body, making them weak and floppy. As a result, Maddie has difficulty walking, talking, and breathing. She also uses a wheelchair to get around.

Despite her challenges, Maddie is a bright and outgoing young woman. She loves to learn new things, play with her friends, and spend time with her family. She is also an inspiration to everyone who knows her.

In 2016, Maddie was matched with a service dog named Buddy. Buddy is a golden retriever who has been trained to help Maddie with her mobility and other needs. Buddy can open doors, pick up objects, and even help Maddie to walk. He is also a great companion, and he always makes Maddie smile.

Since getting Buddy, Maddie's life has been transformed. She is now able to do things that she never thought possible. She can go to school, play with her friends, and even participate in sports. Buddy has given Maddie a new sense of independence and confidence.

Maddie and Buddy are a perfect team. They are both strong, determined, and inspiring. Their story is a reminder that anything is possible with the right support.

#### **Maddie's Story**

Maddie was born in 2004. She was a healthy baby, but at around 6 months old, her parents noticed that she was not developing as quickly as other babies. She was not able to sit up or roll over, and she had difficulty holding her head up.

Maddie's parents took her to the doctor, who diagnosed her with SMA. SMA is a rare genetic disorder that affects the muscles in the body. It is caused by a mutation in the SMN1 gene. This gene is responsible for producing a protein that is essential for muscle function.

SMA is a progressive disorder, which means that it gets worse over time. There is no cure for SMA, but there are treatments that can help to slow the progression of the disease. Maddie receives physical therapy, occupational therapy, and speech therapy. She also takes medication to help her breathe.

Despite her challenges, Maddie is a happy and outgoing child. She loves to learn new things, play with her friends, and spend time with her family. She is also an inspiration to everyone who knows her.

#### **Buddy's Story**

Buddy was born in 2015. He is a golden retriever who was trained by Canine Companions for Independence (CCI). CCI is a non-profit organization that provides service dogs to people with disabilities.

Buddy is trained to perform a variety of tasks, including opening doors, picking up objects, and helping Maddie to walk. He is also a great companion, and he always makes Maddie smile.

Buddy has made a huge difference in Maddie's life. He has given her a new sense of independence and confidence. Maddie and Buddy are a perfect team.

#### **The Power of Service Dogs**

Service dogs can make a huge difference in the lives of people with disabilities. They can provide physical assistance, emotional support, and companionship. Service dogs can help people with disabilities to live more independent and fulfilling lives.

If you are interested in getting a service dog, there are a number of organizations that can help. Canine Companions for Independence is one of the largest providers of service dogs in the United States. They provide service dogs to people with a variety of disabilities, including SMA.

Service dogs are a valuable resource for people with disabilities. They can help people to live more independent and fulfilling lives.

Maddie and Buddy are a perfect example of the power of service dogs. Buddy has given Maddie a new sense of independence and confidence. He has helped her to live a more fulfilling life.

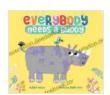
Everybody needs a buddy. For Maddie Frost, her buddy is Buddy, her service dog. Buddy has made a huge difference in Maddie's life, and he is an inspiration to everyone who knows him.

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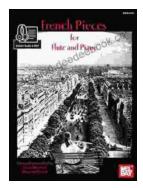
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