



Stubby the War Dog: The True Story of World War I's Bravest Dog

By Ann Bausum

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Move over, Rin Tin Tin. Here comes Sgt. Stubby! That German shepherd star of the silver screen may have been born behind enemy lines during World War I, but Stubby, the stump-tailed terrier, worked behind enemy lines, and gained military honors along the way. Private Robert Conroy casually adopted the orphan pup while attending basic training on the campus of Yale University in 1917. The Connecticut volunteer never imagined that his stray dog would become a war hero. He just liked the little guy. When Conroy's unit shipped out for France, he smuggled his new friend aboard. By the time Stubby encountered Conroy's commanding officer, the dog had perfected his right-paw salute. Charmed, the CO awarded Stubby mascot status and sent him along with Conroy's unit to the Western Front. Stubby's brave deeds earned him a place in history and in the Smithsonian Institution where his stuffed body can still be seen. Almost 100 years later, Stubby's great deeds and brave heart make him an animal hero to fall in love with and treasure all over again.

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Editorial Review

From School Library Journal

Gr 4–7—Stubby, a terrier of unknown origin, found his way to the training grounds in New Haven, CT, as recruits were preparing to ship off to battle in Europe at the height of World War I. Dogs have had a special place beside their human companions throughout history, and Stubby is no different. He attached himself to J. Robert Conroy, one of the recruits, and they became an inseparable team for the rest of Stubby's life. Smuggled aboard a naval ship with the young soldiers, the dog lived the life of any soldier: sleeping in trenches, dodging bullets in the heat of battle, and ferreting out enemy combatants when he could. Sargent Stubby's heartwarming and inspiring story touched many lives, from fellow soldiers needing comfort to local villagers who made special clothing for him and many a skeptical officer in between. Bausum manages to weave in the general details of the last few years of World War I, providing some historical context and adding a bit of suspense and drama. Stubby's fame only grew after the war ended and the two friends came home and traveled the country, marching in parades and posing for pictures. While many details are lost to history, newspaper clippings, a scrapbook kept by Conroy, and mentions in interviews provide enough information to piece together a moving, thoughtful dog story. Period photographs of the war front in general and a few of Stubby specifically, sprinkled throughout this relatively short narrative, make this a choice offering for dog lovers and history buffs alike.—Jody Kopple, Shady Hill School, Cambridge, MA

From [Booklist](#)

Starred Review The popularity of tales about dogs in war stems from the inherent poignancy—sweet, loyal, sad-eyed canines entered into the mad chaos of man-made destruction. But enter they occasionally do, and none more famously than Stubby. The homeless Boston terrier mix began frequenting a National Guard training ground in 1917, and along with copious food scraps, he found fellowship. With the help of his adopted master, 25-year-old Bob Conroy, Stubby learned to march and salute superiors. Conroy smuggled the clever mutt aboard a ship to France, and from there, Stubby became not only the good-luck charm of the 102nd Infantry but also a valued member, warning troops of gas attacks, barking before artillery shellings, and in his coup de grâce, capturing a German soldier by the seat of his pants. Bausum uses Stubby as a conduit to talk about WWI warfare in general, and indeed the dog does suffer injury, live through horror and fear, and return home a decorated hero (who meets no fewer than two presidents). The speedy story is surrounded by evocative period photos, including plenty of the goofy-faced Stubby, and leads up to his later careers as a vaudeville star and a football mascot, and his eventual taxidermied inclusion in the Smithsonian. A triumph on three fronts: educational, emotional, and inspirational. For older teens, suggest Bausman's adult title, *Sergeant Stubby*. Grades 4-7. --Daniel Kraus

Review

Winner of 2014 Eureka! Gold Award

"Through the story of this scrappy canine soldier, Bausum supplies an appealing entry point into the study of WWI." --*Publishers Weekly*

"Well-written, impeccably researched, and illustrated with dozens of archival photographs and ephemera, this book is a first choice for teachers and parents." --*Asheville Citizen-Times*

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Emma Lavigne:

Book is usually written, printed, or illustrated for everything. You can know everything you want by a guide. Book has a different type. To be sure that book is important issue to bring us around the world. Beside that you can your reading skill was fluently. A publication Stubby the War Dog: The True Story of World War I's Bravest Dog will make you to possibly be smarter. You can feel a lot more confidence if you can know about everything. But some of you think that open or reading the book make you bored. It is far from make you fun. Why they could be thought like that? Have you in search of best book or suited book with you?

Anita Rhodes:

This Stubby the War Dog: The True Story of World War I's Bravest Dog book is absolutely not ordinary book, you have it then the world is in your hands. The benefit you obtain by reading this book is usually information inside this guide incredible fresh, you will get data which is getting deeper you actually read a lot of information you will get. That Stubby the War Dog: The True Story of World War I's Bravest Dog without we understand teach the one who studying it become critical in imagining and analyzing. Don't possibly be worry Stubby the War Dog: The True Story of World War I's Bravest Dog can bring once you are and not make your handbag space or bookshelves' turn out to be full because you can have it in the lovely laptop even cellphone. This Stubby the War Dog: The True Story of World War I's Bravest Dog having fine arrangement in word as well as layout, so you will not really feel uninterested in reading.

Kevin Blais:

The book untitled Stubby the War Dog: The True Story of World War I's Bravest Dog contain a lot of information on the item. The writer explains the girl idea with easy approach. The language is very simple to implement all the people, so do certainly not worry, you can easy to read it. The book was published by famous author. The author brings you in the new period of time of literary works. You can actually read this book because you can continue reading your smart phone, or device, so you can read the book throughout anywhere and anytime. In a situation you wish to purchase the e-book, you can start their official web-site and order it. Have a nice go through.

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