

A Note from Inti's Human About the Author



3-13-2003, Surfside Elementary, Satellite Beach, FL

This true story was seen through the eyes of Mickayla. As a 3rd grader, she and Inti developed an unbreakable bond. Mickayla, the student, gave Inti love and treats. She was his "other" girl. Inti, the therapy dog, reached Mickayla's soul through reading and showed her self-confidence. Together they experienced reading success that Mickayla had never found in a school classroom. After 2 semesters together, Mickayla passed the FCAT, made A's in reading, and won a writing contest. This is her winning piece. I thank her for allowing me to display it on my website.

Inti was the love of my life. Thanks to Inti, Mickayla will always have an extra special place in my heart. I am proud of Mickayla. When I see her, I think of Inti, and I never want to lose that vision.

Melanie



MY TIME
WITH
INTI AND
MRS. MELANIE



Written, Typed, and Illustrated by:
Mickayla Lynn Hoover



\$4.50

My time with Inti and
Mrs. Melanie 

By: Mickayla Lynn Hoover



This story is about my time
with a Peruvian Hairless
Therapy dog, and his 
owner Mrs. Melanie Chan.

Hoover publications
Satellite beach, Florida



MY TIME

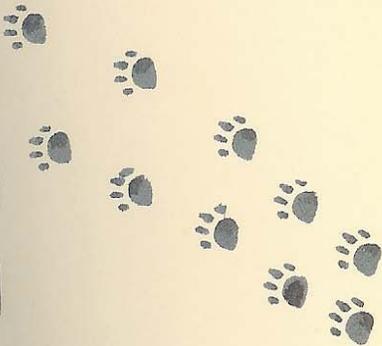
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INTI AND

MRS. MELANIE

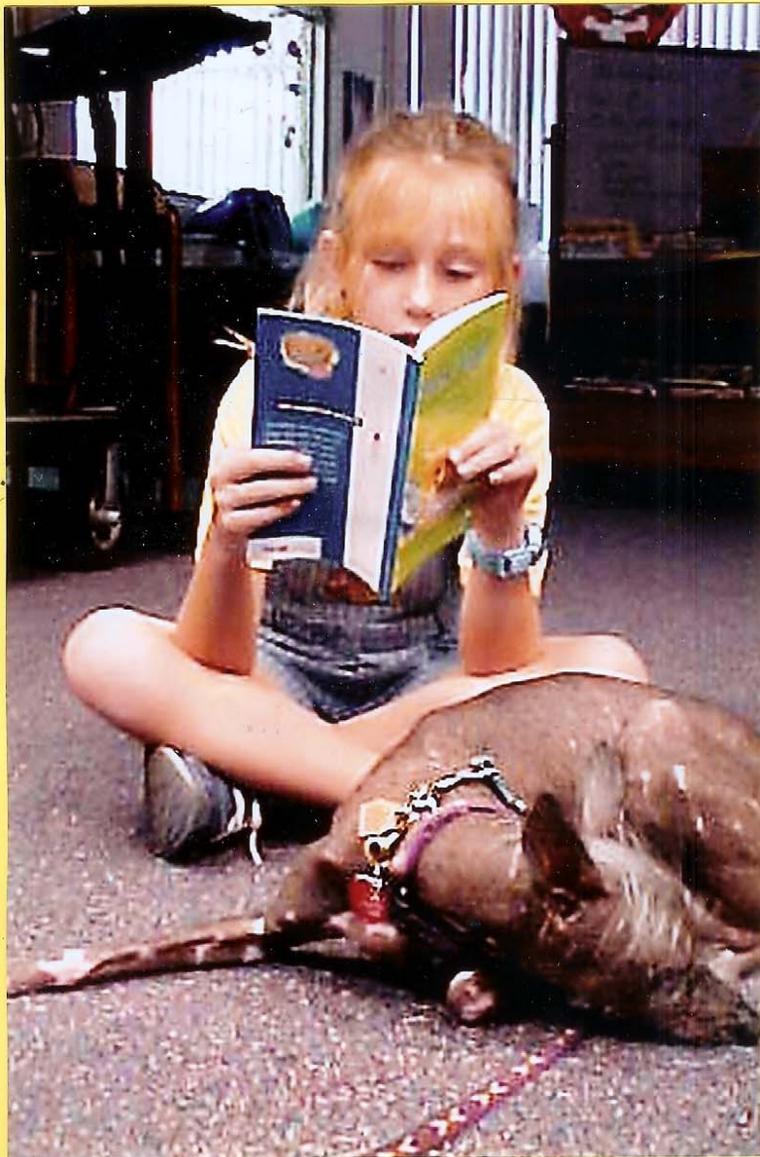


Written, Typed, and Illustrated by:
Mickayla Lynn Hoover



Dedicated
To Inti, Who
Helped me read

My name is Mickayla Hoover and I am 11 years old. I was chosen for the C.A.R.E. to read program when I was in 3rd grade. A therapy dog was sent to the school every Friday. The dog helped me read and gave me confidence to read aloud.



Permission for C.A.R.E. To Read program:

Dear Parent:

Your child has been selected to participate in the C.A.R.E. To Read® program. This innovative program utilizes Registered Therapy Dogs to motivate students to read. An adult registered Therapy Dog Handler will bring their Registered Therapy Dog to school and will be paired with your child in a supervised setting within the school. During each session your child will read to the Registered Therapy Dog and Handler. Programs such as this have proven successful around the country and within the Brevard County Public Schools. The effectiveness of this program will be closely monitored by Brevard County Public Schools and professionals from the University of Central Florida by examining the test score data of your child over time. During the course of this program it may be necessary for documentary or news purposes to photograph or video your child as he or she participates.

Your signature below indicates your permission for your child to participate in the C.A.R.E. To Read® program and for Brevard County Public Schools to share your child's test score data with professionals from the University of Central Florida for purposes of monitoring the progress of your child and the effectiveness of the program. Your signature also indicates your approval for photographs or video tape of your child participating in this program to be used for documentary or news purposes. You may withdraw your permission at any time.

You are invited to come to school to observe your child participating in this program and to meet the Registered Therapy Dog and Handler who will be paired with your child.

Sincerely,

Your Child's Teacher

MY SIGNATURE BELOW INDICATES MY APPROVAL FOR MY CHILD TO PARTICIPATE IN THE C.A.R.E. TO READ® PROGRAM, FOR BREVARD COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS TO SHARE MY CHILD'S TEST SCORE DATA WITH PROFESSIONALS FROM THE UNIVERSITY OF CENTRAL FLORIDA AND FOR PHOTOGRAPHS OR VIDEO TAPE OF MY CHILD PARTICIPATING IN THIS PROGRAM TO BE USED FOR DOCUMENTARY OR NEWS PURPOSES. I UNDERSTAND THAT I MAY WITHDRAW MY PERMISSION AT ANY TIME.

Wendy Lynn Hoover
Signature of parent or Guardian

Sept. 9, 2002
Date

The C.A.R.E. to Read dog was named Inti. He is a Peruvian Hairless Registered Therapy dog. He is 7 years old. Inti only has hair on the front of his head and his tail.



Inti is owned by Mrs. Melanie Chan. She works for NASA at Kennedy space center as an Aerospace Engineer. Mrs. Melanie has worked for 20 years. Mrs. Melanie even worked with many astronauts, including Sally Ride, John Glen and Allen Shepherd.



Melanie R. Chan



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In October of 2002 my time with Mrs. Melanie and Inti started. He would pick me up from recess and we would go to the media center together.

Mrs. Melanie and I would talk for a few minutes before Inti and I would read together. We also learned to do some tricks. I would teach Inti to come, stay, sit, lay down and wait for a treat.



Inti was the first Peruvian Hairless Therapy dog in Florida. Inti has been a Therapy dog 4 years. He helps out at schools and hospitals. Inti won an award for "The Most time Spent With People", and "2004 Therapy Dog Of The Year".



I am so glad that Inti came to read with me at school. Now, when I read in class I am not as nervous about reading out loud. I felt happy and special because I was chosen for this program.



On May 9, 2003 it was my last time to read to Inti. We went back to the classroom and I showed the class the tricks I taught Inti. I gave Inti a "doggy treat bag" that I made for him and I also made him a bandana for around his neck.



A STAR YOU ARE,
MICKAYLA HOOVER

For your performance in the first therapy dogs reading program in
Brevard County Schools, you are officially recognized as a

C.A.R.E. To Read[®] All-Star Student!

Proudly presented by *INTI*, Peruvian Hairless Dog, Registered Therapy
Dog #9902209, Therapy Dogs, Inc, Cheyenne, WY.

Melanie R. Chan

Melanie R. Chan
Handler and Associate Director
C.A.R.E. to Read, Inc. (May 2003)



I received a plaque with Inti's paw print and McDonald coupons for being an 'All star student'.





Things Taste Better at Home

WHY DOES A third of the food sent into space come back to Earth uneaten? The problem may be physiological: Some astronauts insist taste buds function differently in orbit. Others cope with motion sickness and stressed-out stomachs.

Then there's the food itself. It's preserved using techniques that are perfectly safe, and studies of returning astronauts show they get the nutrients they need. But irradiation and freeze-drying don't always yield foods with authentic flavors and juiciness.



POPULAR SCIENCE sampled a strip steak, with salt applied in a liquid solution, as in orbit. The meat was dry and, to be charitable, chewy. Lemonade out of a foil pouch had metallic overtones. And cottage cheese with nuts had the texture of spackle. All of which is why NASA is looking forward to refrigerators and freezers on the new station.—*M.D.U.*



Astronaut food includes TV dinners with foil drink pouches (top), M&M candies (above), and shrimp cocktail (right).

Mrs. Melanie and I get along so well together that she asked to go to the space center on July 24, 2003 for "Take our children to work day", since she has no children. We were gone from 8:30am - 7:00pm.



♡ TO MY DAUGHTER FOR THE DAY, MICKAYLA
STUDY, ENJOY LIFE,
AND ALWAYS STAY AS
NICE AS YOU ARE NOW.
PEOPLE WILL RESPECT
YOU FOR THAT. FRIENDS FOREVER!

♡ Melanie



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Roy D. Bridges, Jr. Center Director

Roy D. Bridges, Jr., became the Director of NASA's John F. Kennedy Space Center on March 2, 1997. He is responsible for managing all NASA's facilities and activities at the Kennedy Space Center related to processing and launch of the Space Shuttle, processing and integrating NASA payloads flown on both the Shuttle and Expendable Launch Vehicles (ELVs), final tests and preparations of International Space Station (ISS) and experiments elements to be delivered to the ISS by Shuttle, and developing spaceport and range technologies to improve safety and reduce the cost of access to space. Kennedy Space Center is also responsible for the acquisition and launch of all NASA's expendable launch vehicles from launch sites in Florida, California, and Alaska. He manages a team of approximately 1,800 NASA civil service employees and 12,000 contractor employees.

Bridges is a retired U.S. Air Force Major General who held many key space-related roles during his career. Prior to his last USAF assignment at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, he was the Commander, Air Force Flight Test Center, Edwards Air Force Base, CA. He also was Commander, Eastern Space and Missile Center, Patrick Air Force Base, FL; and Commander, 412th Test Wing, Edwards Air Force Base, CA.

As a NASA Astronaut, he piloted the Space Shuttle Challenger on mission STS-51F in July 1985.

He is a distinguished graduate of the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, CO, earning a bachelor's degree in engineering science. He received a master of science degree in astronautics from Purdue University, IN, in May 2001, he received an honorary doctorate of engineering degree from Purdue, and in May 2003, he received an honorary doctorate of science degree from Florida Institute of Technology.

He has received numerous awards and honors. Most recently, he was awarded NASA's Outstanding Leadership Medal and the Presidential Meritorious Executive Award.

Bridges was born in Atlanta, GA, but grew up in Gainesville, GA. He currently resides in Cocoa Beach, FL. He is married to the former Benita Louise Allbaugh of Tucson, AZ. They have two adult children and two grandchildren.

July 2003

"Take Our Children to Work Day"
NASA, John F. Kennedy Space Center
July 24, 2003

Today I went to "Take Our Children to Work Day" at NASA Kennedy Space Center. Ms. Melanie Chan is the NASA Research and Development Manager, and she invited me to be her daughter for the day. She is an Aerospace Engineer, and she worked on the Space Shuttle for a long time.

Before we went to the Space Center, we went by Ms. Melanie's house so I could see Inti and 2 of the new puppies. Inti kissed me! I go to hold the puppy. He is 6 weeks old.

First of all, we stopped at the guard gate at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station (CCAFS). The guards looked at my security badge to make sure I was okay to go in. I think the guard knew Ms. Melanie, and they looked at me in the back seat and said, "Are you sisters?" Ms. Melanie said, "Of course, don't we look just alike? Well, we are friends." The guard was nice and said for us to have a fun day.

We went to Ms. Melanie's office in the O&C Building (Operations and Checkout). We met the Secretary, and she told me about her work and how she takes care of everyone, like making sure everyone gets paid. Next we went to the Chemistry Lab, and a scientist named Steve showed us a scorpion, spider, rhino beetle, and dragonflies under a Scanning Electron Microscope. Everything was 10x to 100x bigger than in real life.

Next was Headquarters, where I had fingerprints made by Security. Then outside in the hot sun we met a police dog and got to hold high-power rifles used by the SWAT team. I also got in the special vehicle that NASA uses for crew rescue for the Shuttle. It is from Sweden, and it can go through mud and float on water. Ms. Melanie took a picture of me in the firefighter's suit, which was heavy and hot! The fireman gave me some stickers.

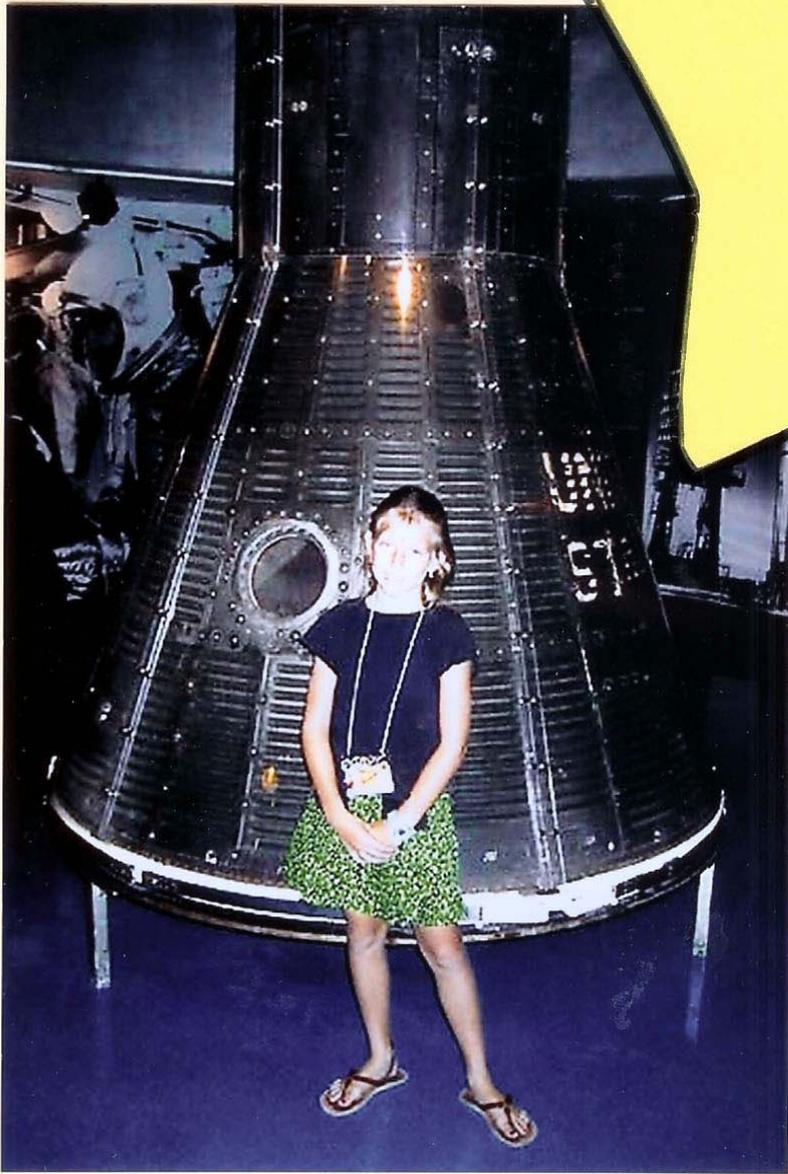
The best thing was next. I got to meet the Center Director of NASA KSC. His name is Mr. Roy Bridges. He used to be an astronaut. Mr. Bridges and his Secretary gave me 3 patches and 3 pins and 2 pictures, all from Shuttle missions. One was from the last mission of Columbia, the one that exploded and never came back to Earth.

We walked back to Ms. Melanie's office, and we met the boss, who is a chemist, Ms. Karen Thompson. Finally we had lunch! We went to the cafeteria, and it was really fun.

Dr. Martha Williams, a chemist, told me about polymers, and showed me some examples of new materials that she is working on. She also gave me space stickers and pins. I got to meet a lot of lady scientists. They told me about the work they do.

After lunch we drove to the Debus Center at the Visitor's Center where the tourists go. We got to go in a special place where the tourists cannot go. I heard some engineers talk about what they do and what kind of things they studied in school. They also talked about how they got interested in their jobs.

Ms. Melanie took my picture in the Rocket Garden while we waited for the science demonstration to start. A lady teacher gave the demo, and I learned about things like gravity, how far it is from the Earth to the moon, and what can happen to the astronauts if they go to space without a space suit.



I needed a special badge to wear the whole time we were up there. I received pins from different people that I met. And I put them on my badge. I got to meet Roy Bridges, JR, he is the director of N.A.S.A. KSC. He gave me patches, pictures and a special gold shuttle pin. Even Mrs. Melanie doesn't have this special pin.





Mrs. Melanie took me to lunch in the cafeteria and then we saw the K-9 rescue dog and had my fingerprints made by the security officer. I learned about polymers, and I saw a scanning electron microscope that made everything 10x to 100x bigger. I hope that Mrs. Melanie will invite me to go with her again.



I was able to go to Mrs. Melanies' house to meet Inti's new puppies. She gave them all Space names.



Canis

Artists endure boot-n-topping winds at festival

By Lourdes Briz
FLORIDA TODAY

COCOA BEACH — The 40th annual Space Coast Art Festival drew 235 artists, thousands of art lovers and many dogs.

Some wore sweaters, others vinyl vests. At least one was hairless.

We're still talking about dogs here, folks.

Rascal, a blend of schnauzer and beagle, was decked out in a Santa hat and red leash. It was her seventh time attending the festival.

"She loves the attention," said owner Greg Spaid of Port St. John.

Melanie Chan brought her 5-month-old Peruvian hairless dog, Sirius.

"If you ever want to pick up a guy," she said with a laugh, "bring one of these."

She said she brought him so he could socialize with other dogs and people.



Rik Jesse, FLORIDA TODAY

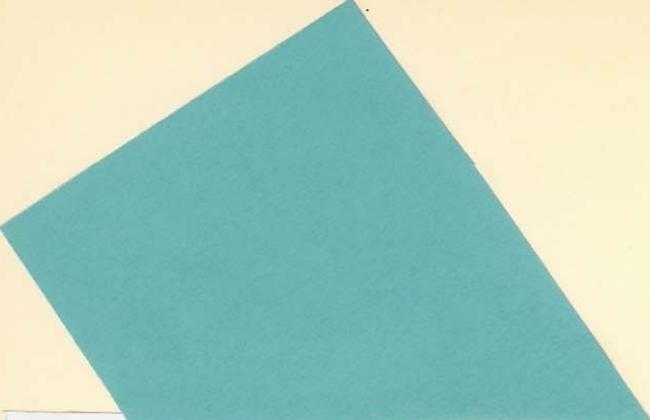
Melanie Chan of Cocoa Beach brought her Peruvian hairless, Sirius, to the 40th annual Space Coast Art Festival on Saturday in Cocoa Beach.

Mrs. Melanie and I kept in contact by e-mail. She would tell me how Inti was doing and all about the new puppies.



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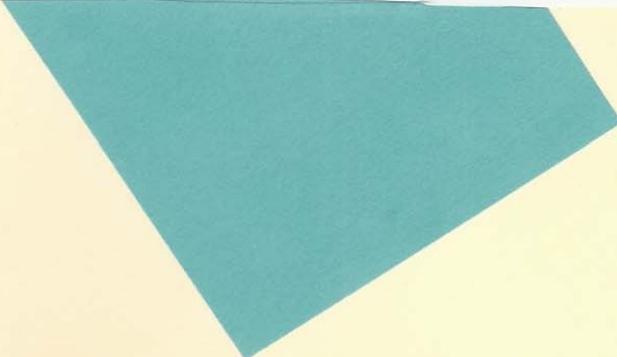
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We want to share something nice with you about our first Peruvian Hairless Dog, who we rescued from a shelter 7 years ago. Yesterday Inti was awarded "2004 Therapy Dog of the Year" by Space Coast Therapy Dogs! Even among all of our dogs, it makes us very humble to live with a dog like Inti, who has more natural ability to touch the lives of the people he serves than we humans do. It's all because of Inti that we love and have PH Dogs in our lives now. This award is nicer than any Best-in-Show.

We are only Inti's chauffeurs, his drivers.

-Melanie & Frank



Written by Mickayla Lynn Hoover in Mrs. Rozycki
5th grade class at Surfside Elementary School.

I live in Satellite Beach, Florida with both my mom and dad
and my sister, Briana, and my brother, Hunter.

I also have a bird and a bunny.

This is my 5th year writing a story for the Young Authors
Contest and Quality Literature Day.



Hoover publications
Satellite beach, Florida



Other books written by:

Mickayla Lynn Hoover

My Trip to the Races

The Bunny Visits the Castle

My Life in the 1800's