

Therapy Dog

By Madeline Male



When I was a puppy, my girl had a game:
commands, 'sit' and 'stay,' were called after my name.
At first it was hard, but I earnestly gave it my all.
I even got treats, belly rubs, and a ball!

Then we took frequent walks down the street.
There were always new people to greet!
This routine sure felt comfortably steady,
but today now my girl says, "We're ready!"

We go into a busy building of loud shoes and smiling faces,
and walk down a quiet hall, branching out into more spaces,
where someone, gloomy and bored, is stuck in bed.
In no time my dog-grin and wag, fills their face with gladness instead!

They call me 'good boy,' I love all the attention.
Head scratches and belly rubs come, not to mention
the scrumptious treats hand-fed by everyone.
I don't want to leave when it's time, since this has been exuberant fun!

Yet waiting to visit again isn't long, as my girl and I visit once a week.
The people we've gotten to know say my friendly persona is unique.
Though I needn't be told, 'cause I know that it's true,
helping people feel good is important to do!

When I was a puppy, my training was hard,
All I wanted was to play in the yard.
But I don't have a single regret,
because now, this 'good boy' can be everybody's pet!



About the Author/Artist

Madeline Male lives in Kansas, and she enjoys school subjects such as writing, art, and geography. She is also an avid reader and reads a wide variety of genres and authors. Madeline practices ballet, and her favorite hobby is photography.