# One Man, One Dog, and Their Extraordinary Story of Courage and Survival in WWII

In the annals of World War II, there are many stories of heroism and sacrifice. But few are as remarkable as the story of John Donovan and Rex, the dog who saved his life.



### No Better Friend: One Man, One Dog, and Their Extraordinary Story of Courage and Survival in WWII

by Robert Weintraub

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Donovan was a young American soldier who was deployed to the Pacific Theater in 1942. He was assigned to the 1st Marine Division, which was tasked with fighting the Japanese on the island of Guadalcanal.

On August 7, 1942, Donovan and his unit were ambushed by the Japanese. Donovan was shot in the leg and fell to the ground. As the Japanese soldiers closed in, Donovan pulled out his pistol and began firing. But he was quickly overwhelmed and forced to surrender.

The Japanese soldiers took Donovan and his fellow prisoners to a POW camp. The conditions in the camp were brutal. The prisoners were forced to work long hours in the hot sun, and they were given little food or water.

One day, Donovan was working in a field when he saw a dog running towards him. The dog was small and thin, and it had a black and white coat. The dog stopped in front of Donovan and wagged its tail. Donovan reached down and petted the dog, and the dog licked his hand.

Donovan named the dog Rex, and the two of them quickly became friends. Rex would follow Donovan everywhere he went, and he would often sleep at his feet. Rex became a source of comfort and solace for Donovan, and he helped him to survive the horrors of the POW camp.

One day, Donovan and the other prisoners were being taken to a new camp. As they were walking along the road, Rex ran up to Donovan and began barking. Donovan looked up and saw a group of Japanese soldiers approaching. The soldiers Free Downloaded the prisoners to stop, and they began to search them.

As the soldiers were searching Donovan, Rex began to growl. One of the soldiers kicked Rex, but Rex didn't stop growling. The soldier kicked Rex again, and this time Rex bit him. The other soldiers grabbed Rex and took him away.

Donovan never saw Rex again, but he never forgot him. Rex had saved his life, and Donovan was determined to find a way to repay him.

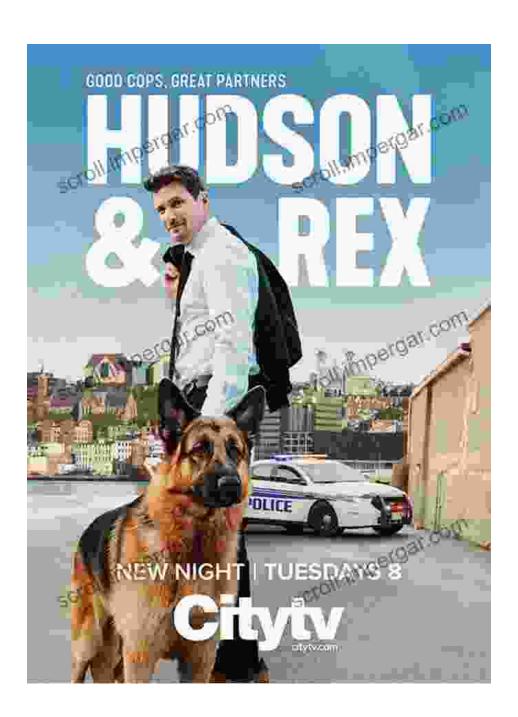
After the war, Donovan returned to the United States. He settled down in a small town and got a job as a teacher. He never stopped thinking about

Rex, and he often told his students about the dog who had saved his life.

In 1953, Donovan published a book about his experiences in the POW camp. The book was called "One Man, One Dog," and it became a bestseller. The book told the story of Rex, and it helped to raise awareness of the plight of war dogs.

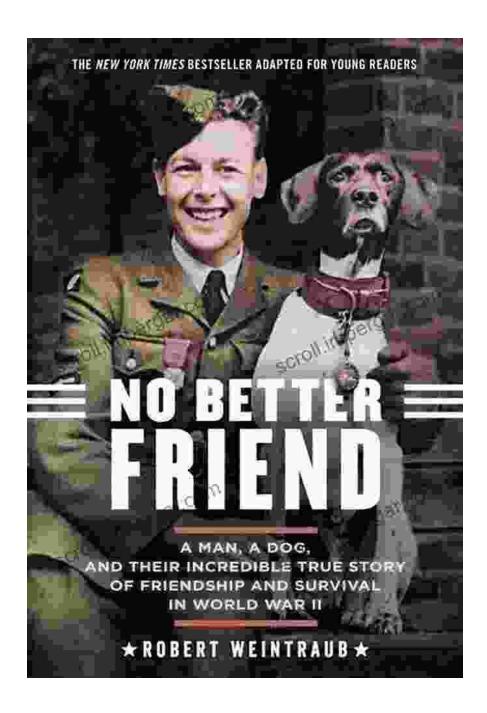
Donovan died in 1994, but his legacy lives on. The story of John Donovan and Rex is a story of courage, loyalty, and survival. It is a story that has inspired people around the world.

#### **Image Gallery**



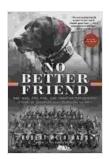


Rex at the POW camp



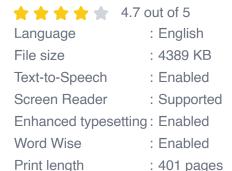
#### **Further Reading**

- One Man, One Dog by John Donovan
- Rex the Wonder Dog by History.com
- Rex the Wonder Dog by War History Online

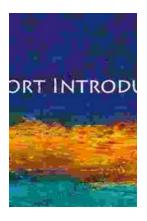


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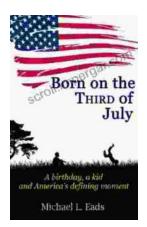






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