

YITTO'S ADVENTURES BOOK #1

A Dog Named Yitto

by Bruce Bradley



**illustrated by
Ana-Maria Cosma**

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SUMMARY: In A Dog Named Yitto, Afton and Mia find an orphaned pup
that they end up naming Yitto. Then, after trying to hide their newfound
dog from their parents, Afton and Mia begin to realize that Yitto is a very
special pooch.

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A Dog Named Yitto



by Bruce Bradley

illustrated by Ana-Maria Cosma

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Dedication

To my precious Katie and your
brother, Colby Jack—

You both have brought inspiration
to the creation of Yitto. Like all the
wonderful dogs in my life over the
years (Kirby, Max, Nugget, and
Marquis), you have shared such
unconditional love with me. No book
could ever bring that love to life, but I
will do my best.

Thank you for making every day
brighter and filled with joy.

— Bruce



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Chapter 1

Another Boring Day

Today was like every other school day for Afton and Mia Cooper.

Wake up.
Eat breakfast.
Ride the bus.
Go to class.
Eat lunch.
Recess.
More classes.
Ride home.

Yes, Afton and Mia were bored. But what they didn't know was—today, everything would change. Their lives would never be boring again.

Afton opened the front door and yelled,

"Dad, we're home," as he and Mia walked into their room.

"Hey there, kiddos. How was school?" Mr. Cooper asked as he walked into their room.

"So boring!" Mia replied as she dropped her backpack to the floor, fell onto her bed, and pulled a pillow over her face.

"Every day is exactly the same," Afton added. "At least it's the weekend."

"I'm tired," Mia complained. Her voice muffled, thanks to the pillow.

"You'll feel better after you've had a snack," their father replied. "There's some fruit on the counter. Grab a piece. Then go play in the park."

"But Dad," Mia groaned, lifting the pillow from her face. "Can't we play video games instead?"

"No, Amelia. There's not a cloud in the sky. Playing in the park is good for you."

But ..."

"No buts," Mia's father interrupted. "I have to



get back to work. Get moving!" her father added as he walked back to his office.

The two kids made their way to the kitchen. They tossed a couple of apples and water bottles into a knapsack. Then as Afton opened the front door, he yelled, "We're leaving."

"Be safe," their dad shouted back. "And remember. Stay out of the construction sites. They're dangerous."

Yeah, Yeah, Afton thought. Even his father's warnings were the same every day.

Just once Afton wished something different would happen.

Chapter 2

Worried Walk

"Come on," Afton called. "If we have to play outside, we may as well make the most of it."

Afton looked back at Mia as she trudged along behind him. He could see the worry on her face. The closer they got to the park, the more scared she looked.

Afton slowed down until his sister was walking by his side. Then in his most protective, older brother voice he said, "It'll be okay. Stick with me. I won't let those mean kids hurt you."

"I'm so tired of being teased!" Mia raised her voice. "So, what if I can't pronounce some words correct-y-y!" Mia shook her head and started to cry.

Mia had a hard time saying some words.

Anything with an "L" in it usually came out sounding like a "Y."

No word was more embarrassing to say than her own name. Despite trying, again and again, all she could say was "Ame-y-ia."

Then one day, Afton started calling his sister Mia. He thought this twist on her name would help her out and stop the teasing. Mia loved it. But no nickname could protect her from bullies.

On their way to the park, they passed a



construction site for a new house. Weeks ago, it was an empty lot. Now it was an enormous, two-story wooden building.

Afton started to daydream about what it would look like when finished. He wondered how many rooms it would have.

Afton was lost in thought when Mia repeated, "Did you hear that?" this time grabbing his arm.

"What? No," he replied.

Mia heard the yipping noise again.

"Y-isten!" she pleaded, mixing up her "Y's" and "L's" as usual.

Afton turned his head to a large clump of bushes in front of the house under construction. "Yes, I heard it" But before he could stop her, Mia ran toward the noise.

"Wait! Mia! Stop!" Afton exclaimed, slipping in some mud as he chased after her.

Mia was small but quick. In just seconds, she had crawled deep into the bushes.

Afton dove in after her. He wanted to make sure his sister was safe. But right before he caught up with her, he heard her shout!

Chapter 3

Dirty Dog

"Y-ook! A puppy!" Mia exclaimed.

Afton pushed aside some limbs to make room. Then he saw it. Right beside Mia sat a precious, caramel gold dog.

The puppy had dug a shallow hole and made a home underneath the bushes. But as Afton got closer, he discovered that the puppy was in trouble with its collar tangled on a branch.

To make things worse, the dog was scared. Every time the nail guns pounded into the house's frame, he trembled.

"He's stuck. We've got to he-y-p him!" Mia cried out."

"Be careful. Don't ... " Afton cautioned. But



once again, his warning was too late. His sister's little hands were already reaching out.

Mia was determined to unhook the dog's collar from the bush, no matter the risk. "There you go, sweetie," she said as she freed the puppy.

Thankfully, the dirty puppy was very friendly. Within seconds the dog wagged his tail and crawled over to cuddle.

There was no resisting this adorable dog.

They both started to scratch his soil-stained belly. No amount of dirt could hide that this was a special dog.

"Poor little guy," Afton said as he rubbed the dog's ear. "He's so sweet."

"Oh, I want to keep him!" Mia declared.

Afton was ahead of his sister this time. He wanted this dog more than anything. But Afton knew the dog might already have a home.

First things first, he thought. Let's find out if he has an owner.

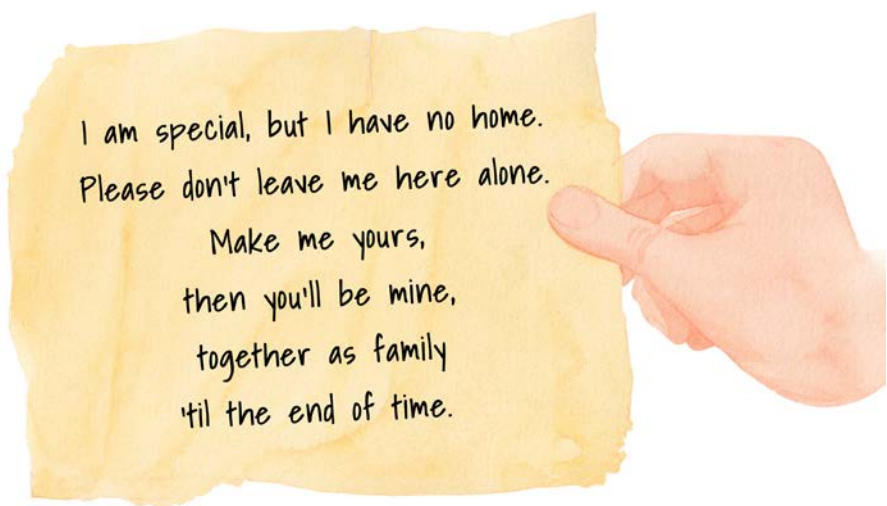
Afton looked for tags on the dog's collar. There were none. Instead, he found a piece of paper wrapped around and taped to the collar. Carefully he removed it and discovered a note. The paper



was discolored, but the words were clear.

"What does it say?" Mia asked.

Afton hesitated, then read the poem to Mia.



"I knew it, Afton. He's meant for us!" Mia exclaimed.

Afton was afraid to get his hopes up. He had asked his parents for a puppy too many times to count. If this was going to work, they would have to come up with a plan quickly.

But at that very moment, he realized they had a much bigger problem.

"Watch out!" Afton yelled.

Discussion Guide

We love talking about the books we read. Here are some questions we thought about while reading *A Dog Named Yitto*.

1. What do you think of Mia's speech problems?
Is it okay for people to tease her?
2. What would you do if you had a friend or family member who had speech problems?
How would you treat them?
3. How do you treat people who are different than you?
4. Do you think Mia and Afton were wrong to lie to their parents about Yitto?
5. Is it ever okay to lie? If yes, when?
6. Let's say a friend told you a secret. What if your parents ask you a question that you know the answer to, but the answer is part of the secret your friend asked you to keep?
What do you do?

Yitto & Yitto Paws

We hope you enjoyed our first book in Yitto's Adventures. Please visit us at yittopaws.com to learn more about Yitto, his latest books, and Yitto Paws – the delicious organic, human grade dog treats inspired by the real-life Yitto and his sister, Katie.

We've got big plans for Yitto and his adventures, so stayed tuned! And if you're interested, there's a special, narrated version of *A Dog Named Yitto* coming soon.

Sign up at yittopaws.com for all the latest news and to join our mission to put dogs first with the Best Yitto Treats on Earth!

About the Author

Bruce Bradley has loved dogs for as long as he can remember. He'll never forget the day when his grandfather gave his family the best gift ever—an adopted pup named Marquis.

Bruce's love of dogs continues to this day with Katie, an adorable miniature golden doodle. Katie and her brother (Colby Jack, aka Yitto) are the original pups behind Yitto Paws. Not only did they inspire Bruce to write *Yitto's Adventures*, but also to launch Yitto Paws.

Yitto Paws Granola Bites have become very popular with dogs and their owners. Made with organic, human grade ingredients, these dog treats are delicious as they are nutritious!

There are no cutting corners at Yitto Paws.

Each treat surpasses the highest quality standards and *Puts Dogs First*, unlike so many of those big corporate pet food companies that focus on profits, not your pooch!

Speaking of profits, Bruce is also the author of a best-selling thriller (*FAT PROFITS*) and a popular food blogger. If you're interested in eating healthier and ditching your processed food habit, Bruce is your guy. He's a former big food marketer turned clean-eating fan. You can check out Bruce's blog and book websites here:

- Blog: www.brucebradley.com
- Book: www.fatprofits.brucebradley.com

Thank you for reading *A Dog Named Yitto* and joining our mission to *Put Dogs First*. We can't wait to share more stories about Yitto with you and your entire family!

– Bruce & the Yitto Paws family
www.yittopaws.com

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