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My Best Friend

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Amanda Chikowski

This I Believe Essay

My Best Friend

When I was two years old, I met my best friend. We did everything together from just playing in the yard to breaking the rules here and there. She always listened as I told her about my day and no matter what I told her, my comments were always followed by love. Her love towards me would be expressed through her big brown eyes since she could not express her feelings through words. Then her tail would begin to rapidly wave back and forth, signaling that she was ready for our next adventure.

Goldie, our family dog, and my best friend made life easier for me as a child due to her ever-present love towards everyone. I was shy, unsure of myself, and scared of being put into new environments and situations. Everyday when my mom, brother and I returned home and approached the front door we could always hear Goldie barking to be let out so that she could properly welcome us home with a huge, wet kiss. This particular day was no different in that aspect. Like normal, I let her outside to let her stretch her legs. While her routine for the day was the same, mine was quite different. It was my first day of kindergarten at a new school. As we played around outside I told her about my day and my fears for the coming day. She listened to my concerns about remembering names and having the other kids like me and responded by giving me another kiss and encouraging me to keep throwing her stick for her. And for a five year old all of this was sufficient enough to rid the fear and apprehension from my mind, allowing me to go to school confident the next day.

Being able to come home to Goldie, my best friend, made my life easier because I knew that she would always be there to listen and to have my back. She never judged me

for what I had said, partially because she was a dog but also because I believe her love towards me was unconditional. As we both grew up, our friendship never changed even though everything around us was. And when she was getting up in age, I found myself helping her through her own difficult times like she had done for me when I was just in kindergarten by letting her feel the power of unconditional love once again. Through my actions here I tried to make a dent in the mountain of debt that I owed her.

I believe in the power of having a best friend because she has helped me to enjoy life's blessings and move on from life's misfortunes.