

SCREWED POOCH

A NOVEL BY JAN MILLSAPPS

WWW.LAIKASPACE.COM

ABOUT THE BOOK



Who knew “the right stuff” would first show up in a stray female mutt with attitude?

On November 3, 1957, Laika rode Sputnik 2 into outer space, the first living creature to reach earth orbit – but unlike all the animals and humans who followed, hers was a one-way ticket only.

In *Screwed Pooch*, award-winning filmmaker and author Jan Millsapps describes Laika’s historic mission and its impact on the humans she encountered, both real and fictional. We meet her beloved yet duplicitous trainer; the brilliant yet anonymous “chief designer” of the Soviet space program; her dog gal pals; Soviet top dog Nikita Khrushchev and his heavy-handed KGB; and two women living in her old neighborhood who mount a daring plan to rescue her.

Laika’s unprecedented journey takes us from the wind-swept Moscow streets to top-secret labs and launch sites, and from the miserable depths of a Soviet gulag to transcendent views of earth from outer space.

Meticulously researched, *Screwed Pooch* sheds light on Laika as the first space pioneer and examines her role in the early space race as both victim and heroine. Most importantly, Millsapps gives a distinct voice to the canine cosmonaut whose ultimate sacrifice paved the way for human space travel.

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