

## The Miraculous Dog

Everything was black. Why could he not see anything? The last thing he remembered was being taken to the hospital by his mum.

“Callum! Callum! You’re awake! Thank goodness! You’ve been out cold for days! I’m so glad!” Callum’s mother shrieked in joy! She was crying happy tears. But when Callum tried to return her happiness, his face felt oddly numb...

At least he could see everything around him now. Sitting up in his bed, he realised that he was in a hospital room. He was surrounded by bright lights and beeping screens and had numerous tubes attached to his body! He still couldn’t figure out where he was. And then it hit him.

His stomach dropped down to the ground. His whole body felt numb with horror. There, where his right leg should have been there was instead a prosthetic leg made entirely from metal and plastic.

But what really hurt him the most was not his new prosthetic leg that he would never be a professional athlete and represent his country in athletics.

That had always been his lifelong dream.

But now it had been crushed.

Callum had been suffering from necrotizing fasciitis ever since he had met with an accident on the way back from football practice. One small wound had become infected and had been ignored as a mere scratch so when Callum was diagnosed, both him and his mum were distraught at what had to be done.

“There’s always Paralympics and athletics, don’t worry! Where’s the fighting spirit, Callum?” his mum said, trying to encourage Callum to get his spirits up.

However, Callum’s mum had a secret weapon to cheer him up...

As soon as Callum’s mum opened the front door to their house, they were greeted by a furious barrage of barks! Callum stepped inside, intrigued, only to find a cute little puppy!!! And not just any puppy, it was a puppy with a prosthetic right leg, just like Callum!! However, this didn’t really cheer Callum up.

At school, a few weeks later, everyone was really nice to him and his friends invited him to play football, just like usual. However, knowing that he would never be as good as before, he just walked away, heartbroken.

When he got back home that day, Felix, as Callum had christened the dog, was waiting for him at the door, tail wagging and tongue hanging out of his mouth. That was when Callum realised it.

If this dog, who also had a prosthetic right leg, could be so eager and enthusiastic to play, why couldn't he do the same? Realising his mistake, Callum went back to school the next day, ready to play football once more! He played really well, still tackling all the players on the field as well as he used to! He even scored a few goals!

That's the magic of how just one dog can change a person's life!

Animals are a lot more like humans than you think!