

Puppy Love

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The Unknown Challenge of an Adventure

Maia was a young puppy when Hurricane Maria hit the island nation of Dominican Republic. In the disastrous aftermath of the storm, the little chihuahua mix puppy ended up in a cardboard box in the middle of a devastated street. Paula Rodriguez found the pup in the box and knew right away she could not leave the tiny, trembling, little baby to fend for itself. She took the little puppy home and was on a mission to find the perfect family to adopt little Maia. But it turned out that Paula was the perfect family, as she had fallen in love with the little bundle. Their bonding was magical, and they have been inseparable ever since. Rodriguez's love for adventures led to a visit with friends in San Francisco. Upon landing in the US, her first stop was with immigration at the world's largest airport. There Rodriguez was informed she had the wrong kind of visa to enter the United States. She was disappointed, but panic hit her when she had to spend the night in a detention center while Maia was sent to a pet facility. They were supposed to be reunited the next morning and fly home to Dominican Republic. Ready to meet Maia, Rodriguez was shocked when they told her they couldn't find her dog. It was explained that Maia escaped from her carrier while being transported to the pet facility and had run out onto an active runway. Rodriguez had to return to Dominican Republic without Maia, but she continued her search to find Maia. She was not alone in her search. A *Go Fund Me* was established, *Atlanta Area Lost and Found Pets* joined the search and posters were put up around the airport. Miraculously, a FedEx employee saw the posters and reported seeing the little dog. A FedEx manager authorized a search party to find little Maia. The search lasted 24 hours, and they found a scared, frightened little Maia. After 22 days Maia, seven pounds lighter, was flown home and had a heartwarming reunion with her mom. The two got back to exploring, hiking, and even surfing if the waves are not too high.



Precious little Frankie is very loved by her wonderful family in Virginia.



I Have a Runaway

As a pet parent, you always want to keep your little doxie safe, but the fact is Mother Nature will always be the boss. Genetically, canines are built to roam. Their DNA makes them naturally curious and active with a drive to explore. Dogs are prey driven, sensitive to arousal for the opposite gender, and can easily become bored. If you practice "*The Three E's*" you will help your dog satisfy some of the natural urges they crave:

- **Exercising** walks for relaxation.
- **Enrichment** brain games to curb boredom.
- **Entertainment** with lots of socialization.



Fight or Flight

Loud noises, bright lights, and big crowds can frighten even the happiest of dogs. Always be prepared for the unknown in any environment. Keep your dog on a leash when you are not at home.