



Maddie on Things: A Super Serious Project About Dogs and Physics

Theron Humphrey

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Maddie is a sweet-tempered coonhound who accompanied her owner, Theron, on a yearlong, cross-country trip while he worked on a photojournalism project. In his spare time, Theron took photos of Maddie doing what she does best: standing on things. From bicycles to giant watermelons to horses to people, there really isn't anything that Maddie won't stand on with grace and patience. The poignant Instagram photos of this beautiful dog and her offbeat poses have captured the imagination of all those who long for a road trip with a good dog for company. *Maddie on Things* celebrates the strange talent of one special dog and will resonate with any dog lover who appreciates the quirky hearts (and extraordinary balance) of canines.

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From Reader Review Maddie on Things: A Super Serious Project About Dogs and Physics for online ebook

Susan says

I met Maddie and Theron last week. They are an amazing pair who have taken fantastic photos. I love these images and the story behind them.

Wendi says

I was pretty worried about Maddie in a few of these pictures. Even when Humphrey assures us of her safety - for some of them, at least. I'd love to see the process of taking these pictures - how incredibly still and calm she must have to stay while the shot is being taken.

Love the idea, love the photographs, love Maddie.

Megan (ReadingRover) says

This is a beautiful photo book. There are photos of Maddie the dog standing on all different things. It's a unique and entertaining idea for a book. Maddie and her owner travel all over the country to meet new and interesting people while shooting their photos.

The photos are bright and interesting. They often get you thinking of how they could possibly be set up to work. It's a very fun book.

Kelli says

I love This Wild Idea. It is the only reason I joined Instagram and to date remains the only thing I view or do on Instagram. I love this guy's story; I love his sense of adventure; I love his willingness to quit a job he felt wasn't feeding his soul; I love his dog rescue story; I love that he traveled cross country for a year. I'm an Aries. That actually sounds good to me.

Theron Humphrey is an acclaimed and award-winning photographer. What he is posting these days is breathtaking. This book was cute and I get that it's right there in the title, but after a while I started to lose interest in what the dog could balance on. My favorites were the unposed shots, though the theme is cute and the dog very agile. It's impressive. I think if this was my first introduction to these two I would love it but because I have seen more, it's a three.

Carol says

This is a book of photographs taken by Humphrey on his 65,000 mile cross-country journey with Maddie, a

rescued coonhound with a talent for balancing on just about any surface. The photographs are beautiful and Maddie is a beautiful dog but what really got me was the way the book has captured the essence of why we "journey" and how it transforms us for the better. The author is currently (as of May, 2013) on a book tour and he is charming.

Jamil says

Absolute joy

karen says

NOW WITH MORE (still dubious quality) PHOTOS!!!

i know. i'm a soft touch. you make a book with photos of animals being cute or being gross or being silly and i will buy it. it's not something i have any control over - it's just the way it is. and this book is so freaking amazing - maddie gets into and onto everything. HOW IS THIS DOG EVEN POSSIBLE???

here are a bunch of pictures i grabbed from her site:

<http://maddieonthings.com/>

and then there will be some pictures i got from the book itself. but you have no idea how freaking many more there are - both on the site and in the book. i didn't even make it halfway through all the internet pages before i was like - good gravy, i am going to be here all night!

so here is a selection. if you are like me, they will make you go out and buy the book. if you are a more rational person, you will just go to the site, or flip through the book standing in your local bookstore.

but i like my way better. someone's gotta keep maddie in dog treats!

and here are mine - i just realized how crummy my pictures are w/ the lighting and everything. they looked fine on my camera but not so much here. i will probably fix them soon, for the integrity of the "review." and if there are duplicates from the site - oops. i was in a maddie-frenzy!

Heidi says

Maddie the Coonhound (Video)

I just ordered this book, but I could theoretically already rate it in advance (something I don't do as a principle, though) because all the photos are available on the website linked above.

I'm in love. Maddie's patience and balance are extraordinary, especially for a shelter dog. The ideas behind the images are weird, funny, outright crazy or simply adorable.

Now I have to wait a week or two until I can cuddle up on my sofa and enjoy doggish awesomeness without the noise from my computer. Patience might be Maddie's strong point, but it's not exactly mine.

Edit: I finished reading (or rather looking at all the great pictures) *Maddie on Things* today and moved it straight to my always-reading shelf.

Theron Humphrey's introduction to the book was very heart-warming, and I admire his courage to leave everything behind to live a life that might be less secure than before, but also provides him with a feeling of fulfilment he could not have gained in his previous position. And with Maddie by his side, it never gets boring. It's a love story about a man and his dog. And the people they meet. And things, of course.

Lisa says

I absolutely adore Maddie.

This is actually a photography book*, and not literature. However, stories have different ways of being told and these pictures still tell you so much about the relationship between Maddie and her owner.

Maddie is a coonhound dog that was rescued from an animal shelter by the photographer, Theron Humphrey. What he didn't know and found out later, was the fact that Maddie could perform an unusual trick. She basically has incredible balance (and patience, I imagine) and was able to **stand on anything**. Hence the title, of course.

Theron Humphrey saw this talent for what it was and decided to **travel through America** while photographing Maddie. He put her on fences, fridges, a horse.. You name it. It's incredible. The pictures are humorous, but also quite touching. The love that Humphrey has for his dog shines through the pages and every time I grab this book, it makes me a little happier.

I'm usually not that drawn to pet-photography, but Maddie holds a special place in my heart.

A fun, light but also touching photography book, of which we need more in this world. Seriously, this book could even melt the coldest of hearts.

*You can also follow the pair on Instagram: @ThisWildIdea

Sofía De la Cuesta says

Me gustó a secas. Es decir, me gustó más la premisa que el libro en sí: el autor renunció a su trabajo, adoptó un perro (Maddie) y se puso a viajar con él. Sin embargo el relato de su viaje me pareció más bien anecdótico. Tienes pasajes entretenidos pero la verdad es un libro que se pueden ahorrar.

Jaime says

Soy un fiel fan de este proyecto. Prácticamente lo sigo desde sus inicios. Este libro para mi representa como trasciende la fotografía digital hasta el mundo físico. Es impresionante ver como esta hermosa perra, Maddie, desafía toda física y obstáculo para lograr sus poses en medio de paisajes bastante pintorescos. Ver este libro me hizo disfrutar de las aventuras de Maddie junto a su dueño Theron Humphrey, en medio de su viaje a través de un Estado Unidos muy pocas veces visto. Me hubiese gustado que el libro tuviera mas texto a cerca de las fotos describiendo un poco mas el momento. Maddie on Things me parece un buen proyecto lleno de gracia y elaborado muy elegantemente.

Marcia Ferguson says

Add me to the list of people who were fortunate to meet Maddie and Theron Humphrey. Maddie carries herself with the grace she exhibits in the photographs, and is a happy and contented dog. She's logged mile after mile after mile, and is the center of attention in rural, lonesome spaces. This is a wonderful book - its rather washed-out photos ring true, whereas richly saturated colors would diminish Maddie. She definitely stands out and owns the photographs, which is truly remarkable. I bought a book - at Sewickley's Penguin Bookshop - but I'll be buying more, as gifts.

Thanks Penguin, thanks Theron ... for letting young and old enjoy the company of Maddie. She's a special, gifted, dignified, graceful, star-like dog. And she captured every heart in the room!

Nikki says

The compilation that is Maddie on Things is, overall, endearing. I love that Maddie is a rescue from a shelter and that she is clearly loved by Mr. Humphrey. The concept is also entertaining. I did enjoy the pictures, the way in which they were framed and the saturation levels were pleasing to my eye. I found myself enjoying the backgrounds of the photos more than the focus or the items Maddie was on. When it came to the items Maddie would stand on I was a bit bothered. Many of them were interesting or comical but some were simply positions I would never place my dog in for fear of injury. This was especially true when it came to small high window sills and the worst of all in my opinion: vehicle wheel wells. Personally I would worry too much to ever let my dog pose in a wheel well. What if there were parts sticking out or grease/oil or worse yet, the vehicle was not properly braked? On top of that, poor Maddie looked completely uncomfortable in these photos. Like I said, she is clearly loved and I greatly appreciate that she is a rescue, I just disagree with some of the photo positions. Also, I noticed from photos within the truck that she did not have a harness-seat belt combo. If you're going to travel cross country with your dog, please restrain them for their own safety! If you wouldn't let your child go without a seat belt, don't let your dog.

Overall the photos are well done and Maddie being a rescue is great, I just did not agree entirely with some of the choices the author/photographer made.

Amanda says

This is a wonderful picture book. Maddie is a gorgeous dog and her owner, Theron Humphrey, has taken some wonderful pictures of her in this fun, at times hilarious, book. All dog lovers will have fun spending a few hours looking at these pictures.

Amadeus says

For all you instagrammers, here is a book by two of the most popular Instagrammers out there: Theron & Maddie from @thiswildidea

How can you not love Maddie? She's the epitome of the patient, willing, loyal canine friend. She is the companion that we all want to have, and together she and Theron make the American road trip that we all want to have.

There is not a lot of text in this book, so it probably functions best as a coffee table book after first read. But one I think your guests will enjoy flipping through it, too.

This is not the type of book that I typically buy, but I did because I'm a huge supporter of people who pursue their dreams, take pictures along the way, and do so with their best animal friend.
