AWOOO

CHRONICLES

A NOVEL



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Foreword

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Every book has a voice at its centre. This one has a howl.

Güney came into my life in Heidelberg in June 2019. He was almost two years old, a black-and-white Siberian Husky with eyes the colour of glacier water, and he looked at me as though he were still deciding whether I would do. I like to think I passed. I have spent every day since trying to deserve that decision.

He has been many things to me: my closest companion, my most loyal friend, my partner in every adventure worth having and, quite simply, my family. Together we have crossed borders and changed homes, from Germany to Türkiye and, since March 2025, to Switzerland. We have learned new streets and new seasons, new languages for the people around us and the same old language between the two of us. There were hard days too, as there are in any life lived honestly. Güney met them the way he meets everything: with his whole heart, and with considerable commentary.

Anyone who has lived with a Husky knows that they do not bark so much as talk. Güney argues, negotiates, protests and sings. He is stubborn in the way only free spirits are stubborn, and loyal in the way only free spirits can be loyal: because they choose to be. He loves snow more than anything

I know, loves open trails and cold wind and the moment when the path finally turns uphill.

Here in Switzerland he has found his element. We have walked Alpine trails at dawn, crossed snowfields that seemed to have no end, stood beside glaciers older than any memory, and I have watched him run through fresh snow with a joy so complete it made the mountains look small. Thousands of ordinary walks have become something I cannot easily put into words: a bond that has quietly turned into part of who I am.

Perhaps that is why the pages that follow contain not a single human word. They are written in the only language Güney has ever needed, the one that has taught me most about freedom, patience and being alive.

Thank you, Güney, for your unconditional companionship, for every mile and every memory, and for every awoo. This book is my tribute to you and to our friendship, written on your ninth birthday, with gratitude for all the years we have shared.

For Güney.

Bülent İmat

Switzerland, July 17, 2026