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## Buttons

### Chapter 1: Composition (Isaak Gibson)

I sat in my room, my suitcase next to me. It was only half way packed, being filled with some of my clothes, my copy of *Gone With the Wind*, and some hair grease, but only because I had come across something that my dog, Buttons, sniffed out of my drawer. An old composition I did for my english class in freshman year, with the words *The Outsiders* across the top of the page. I began to read it, remembering my Cherry, and Randy, and Johnny, and Darry. My dog, Buttons, always reminds me of Johnny, a black puppy with sad eyes although really he's happy on the inside.

Darry came in, scolded me for not being done packing yet, and then left when I didn't look up from the page. I kept on reading and reading the old composition, even when Buttons begged me to play with him, even when Soda begged me to eat, even when Darry begged me to pack. I kept on reading, reading about southern gentlemen and bologna sandwiches and streetlights.

When I reached the final word of the composition, I felt tears well up in my eyes. I felt my memories of just a few weeks come flooding back to me as if they were memories of a few decades. Buttons came up to me and licked my face, hoping to make me feel better, and he did. My little dog that reminded me of Johnny certainly did. I went to sleep with images of sunsets in my eyes.

## Chapter 2: (Cameron Ryness)

I wake up to rays of light hitting my eyes. The door opens then shuts with a slam. "Pony, you up?" Soda asks as he walks in the room with Darry. Buttons barks and runs over to the older brothers. I walk into the room and pick up Buttons.

"Do we still have any cake?" I ask. Darry walks into the kitchen and pulls out some cake.

"Ya." He calls. I return to my room and set Buttons down. I still have more to pack. I walk out and close the door so that Buttons doesn't get out and into the kitchen. We sit down and eat the cake in silence until Darry speaks.

"So you all packed li'l buddy. Man, I guess I'll need to call you something else now." I shake my head. "Not yet, but close." We finish our food in silence. Soda takes the plates from the table and moves it to the sink, as I do with the cups.

"I'm really going to miss you Pony. Look at ya. You're goin' to college." Soda walks over and hugs me. I try to ignore how my shirt gets wet at the shoulder.

As I enter my room Buttons jumps at my legs. I had twenty minutes before I had to drive to my college. I quickly run around throwing things in my few bags. After a few minutes of chaos, my bags were filled. Soda and Darry each took a bag and threw it into my 1967 chevy impala. I had saved enough to get one and the guys pitched in a little. I pick up Buttons and put him in the back of the car. Darry and Soda hugged me and I was on my way. I pull out of the driveway and down the road. I was finally going to college.

### Chapter 3 (Nicole Cienega)

It was a long drive to the university but I had finally arrived. I got out of my car and took Buttons out for a little walk while I looked for the sign in station to go to my dorm. I was walking all over campus following the posters that said "dorm sign in". Until I got to sign in station. There was a real big line and people walking all over the place with lots of bags. I grabbed ahold of buttons so he wouldn't get hurt with all these people moving around him.

I stood in the line waiting until it was my turn remembering my goodbyes with Soda and Darry and, Johnny's last words to me "stay golden". I had been standing in line for a long time now that Buttons had already fallen asleep in my arms so I tried my best not to wake him. There was only one more persons in front of me before it was my turn.

When the girl in front of me left I set Buttons on the table while I signed in to my dorm. It was a long list in alphabetical order listing the student name and room number. I skipped all the way down to the C's and did what the the lady in front of me told me to do. I signed my name and then gave her my room number. The lady handed me over a key with the room number 302 on it. I picked up Buttons and I began to look for room 302.

I looked around with Buttons until I got to where the room numbers were in the 270's I walked a little further and found the door with room 302. The door was wide open, I peaked in and there was someone inside unpacking which. I walked in with

Buttons by my side. "Hey", I said. He looked up at me with a smile, "Hi, I'm Mark" Mark stood up to shake my hand. "you must be Ponyboy right?" I nodded "Yup that's me, oh and this is my puppy Buttons!" I set Buttons down and took off his leash. I walked around our dorm, it was pretty small but, bigger than what I had imagined.

While I was looking around there was a knock on the side of the door. I then heard Mark yell in excitement "Hey!" I turned around to see who it was. Mark turned around, "Hey Ponyboy this is my sister Tammy she goes here too!" "That's cool!" I said "Oh hey Mark can you watch Buttons for me while I go get my stuff from my car?" Mark turns around, "Sure!" I walk on out of the my dorm toward the lot. I took me a long time to find it since there were more cars than earlier. I reached into my pocket for my keys and, unlocked my car. I grabbed my suitcase and a few other bags, locked my car and headed back to the dorm.

When I got back I could hear Buttons barking I stepped in and set my things down and noticed that Mark was playing with Buttons. I sat down on my bed a pretending to unpack but I couldn't help but watch them play. I saw Buttons jumping around and barking and, the sight reminded me so much of Johnny my eyes began to water a little. Buttons always reminded me of Johnny every time I saw him it was as if I could see Johnny's face. He always looked like a small beat up puppy to me.

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