



# SKYDIVING DOGS



by Meish Goldish

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**by Meish Goldish**

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# A Daring Dive

In July 2013, a team of **paratroopers** glanced out the small windows of an airplane. Each soldier wore a special backpack with a parachute tucked inside. As the plane soared more than 1,000 feet (305 m) in the air, the soldiers lined up near a door in the side of the plane. Each paratrooper waited for his chance to jump out and **skydive** to the ground.

The paratroopers prepare to parachute from their plane.



The paratroopers are members of the Air Force of Colombia, a country in South America. The team is trained to swoop down from the skies to find bombs and battle **terrorists**.



One team member, **Officer** Jorge Herrera, however, was carrying more than just his parachute pack. He also had a furry, four-legged passenger strapped to his chest. Jany, a specially trained **military** dog, was about to leap out of the aircraft with Officer Herrera!



Officer Jorge Herrera and Jany, a type of dog called a Belgian Malinois (mal-uhn-WAH), get ready to leap.

# Parachuting to Work

When the airplane reached the **drop zone**, Officer Herrera leaped out with Jany. The dog had skydived dozens of times before and showed no sign of fear. After **free-falling** for a few seconds, Officer Herrera tugged a **rip cord** to open their parachute. Then the dog and her **handler** safely floated to the ground.



Officer Herrera and Jany  
seconds before jumping

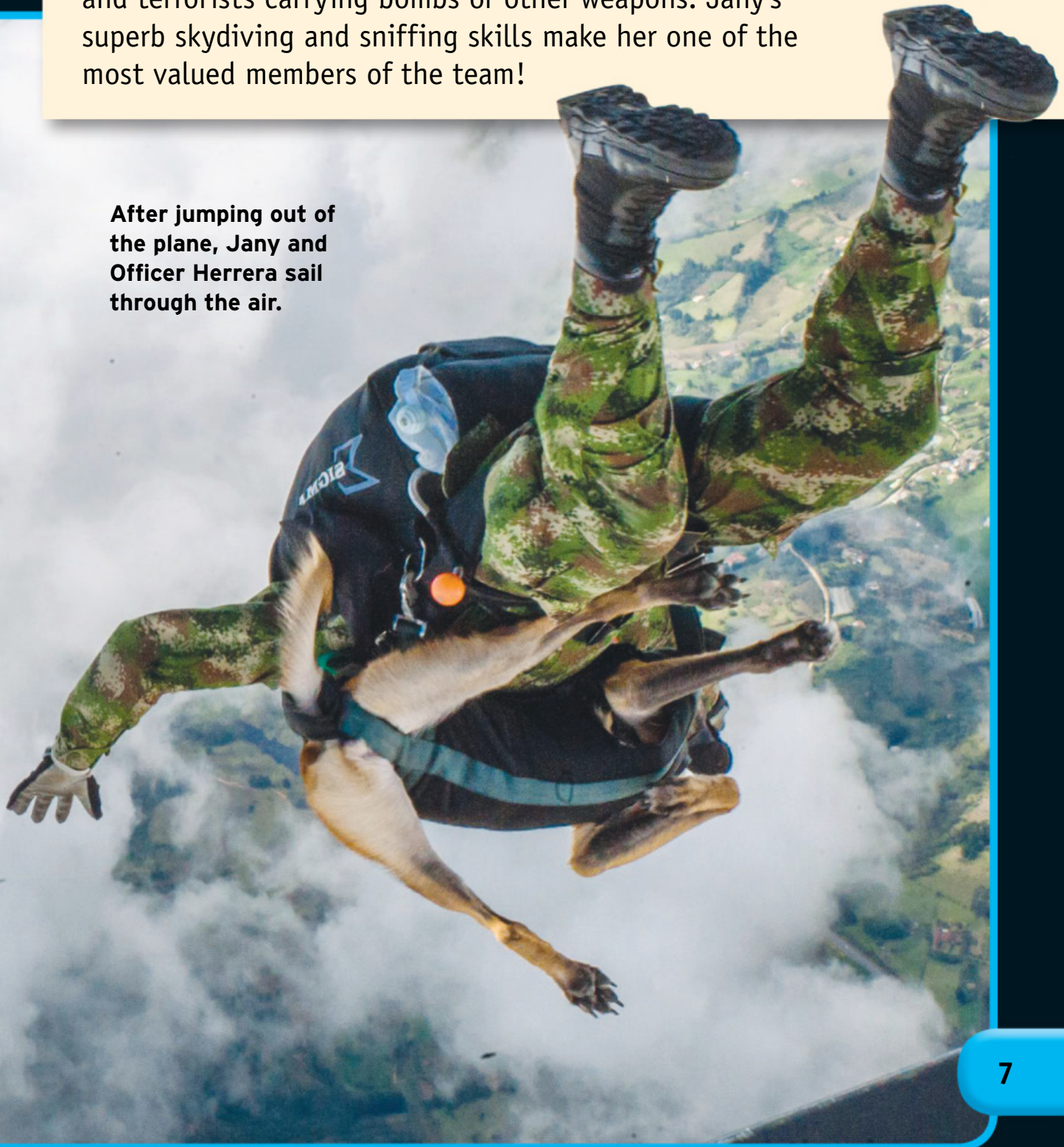
Belgian Malinois, like Jany, are often used by military forces. They are smart, tough, and can smell up to 100 times better than a person!





After landing, Jany quickly got to work. She is trained to use her keen sense of smell to find hidden **explosives** and terrorists carrying bombs or other weapons. Jany's superb skydiving and sniffing skills make her one of the most valued members of the team!

After jumping out of the plane, Jany and Officer Herrera sail through the air.



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## About the Author

Meish Goldish has written more than 200 books for children. His book *Disabled Dogs* was a Junior Library Guild Selection in 2013. He lives in Brooklyn, New York.



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# SKYDIVING DOGS

On a clear day, a large green parachute descends from the sky. As the chute gets closer to the ground, four furry legs come into view. The creature attached to the parachute is a dog named Jany! She has been trained by a military team to skydive from planes flying high above Earth. Once on the ground, Jany uses her keen sense of smell to seek out hidden bombs and hunt down dangerous terrorists.

Look inside to find out more about Jany and other incredible skydiving dogs. Whether on a military mission or jumping just for fun, these amazing dogs are soaring to new heights!

Baghdad Pups  
Bomb-Sniffing Dogs  
Combat-Wounded Dogs  
Disabled Dogs  
Disaster Search Dogs  
Dog Scouts of America  
Eco Dogs  
Fire Dogs  
Ground Zero Dogs  
Guide Dogs  
Hollywood Dogs  
Lifeguard Dogs  
Medical Detective Dogs  
Military Dogs  
Pest-Sniffing Dogs  
Police Dogs  
Prison Puppies  
Science Dogs

Security Dogs  
Seizure-Alert Dogs  
Service Dogs  
Shelter Dogs  
**Skydiving Dogs**  
Sled Dogs  
Snow Search Dogs  
Soldiers' Dogs  
Surf Dog Miracles  
Therapy Dogs  
Water Rescue Dogs  
Wilderness Search Dogs

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