

A book about the training and experiences of a certified therapy dog.

Ariel: Therapy Dog of the Rio Grande Valley

By Norlene Chamberlain and Rickey Pittman

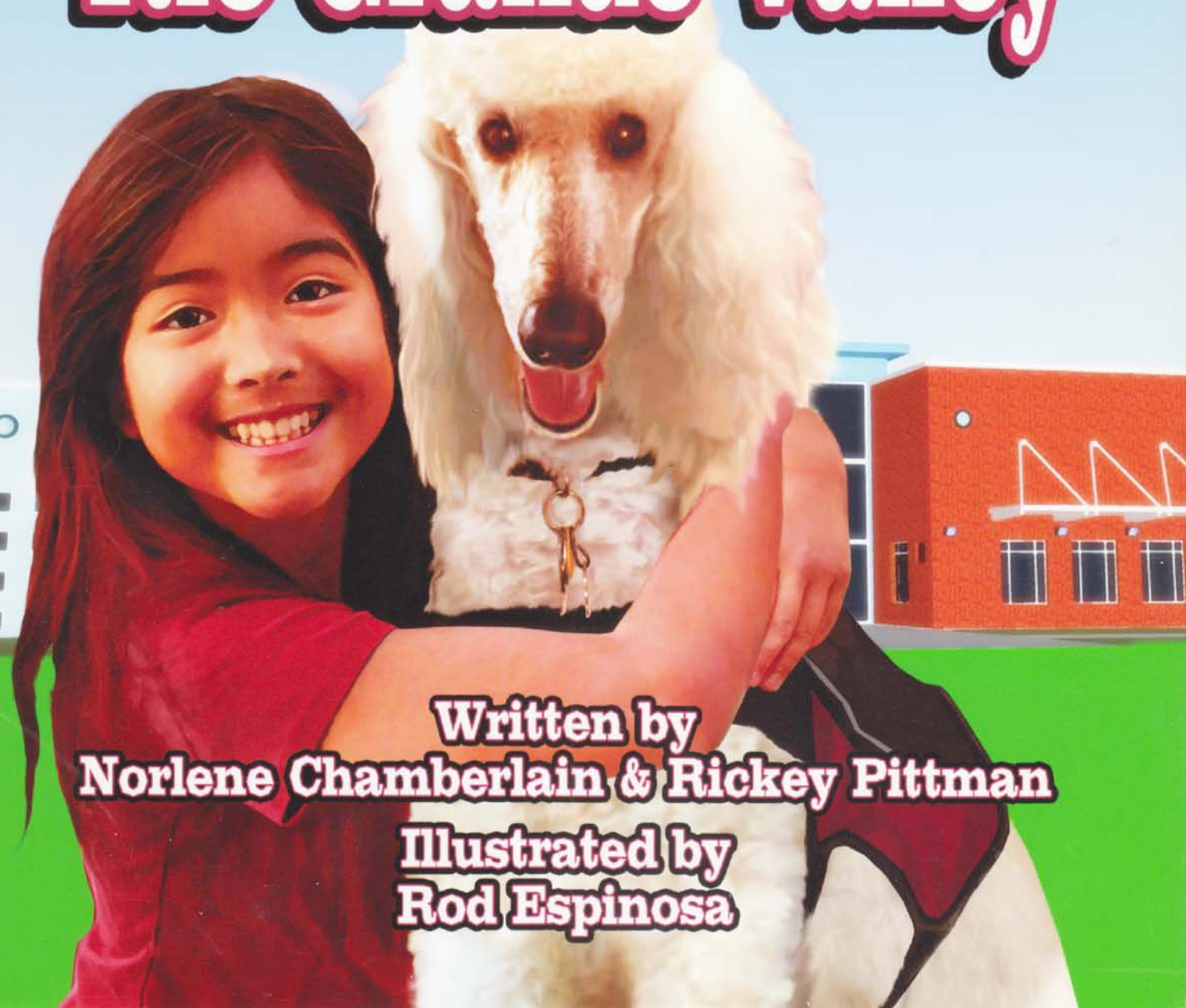
Illustrated by Rod Espinosa

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Written by
Norlene Chamberlain & Rickey Pittman

Illustrated by
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WOOF! WOOF! My name is Ariel Star.
I am a tall, standard poodle, and I have
white hair with a touch of apricot
on my ears.

Standard poodles have the
personality to work and love to work!

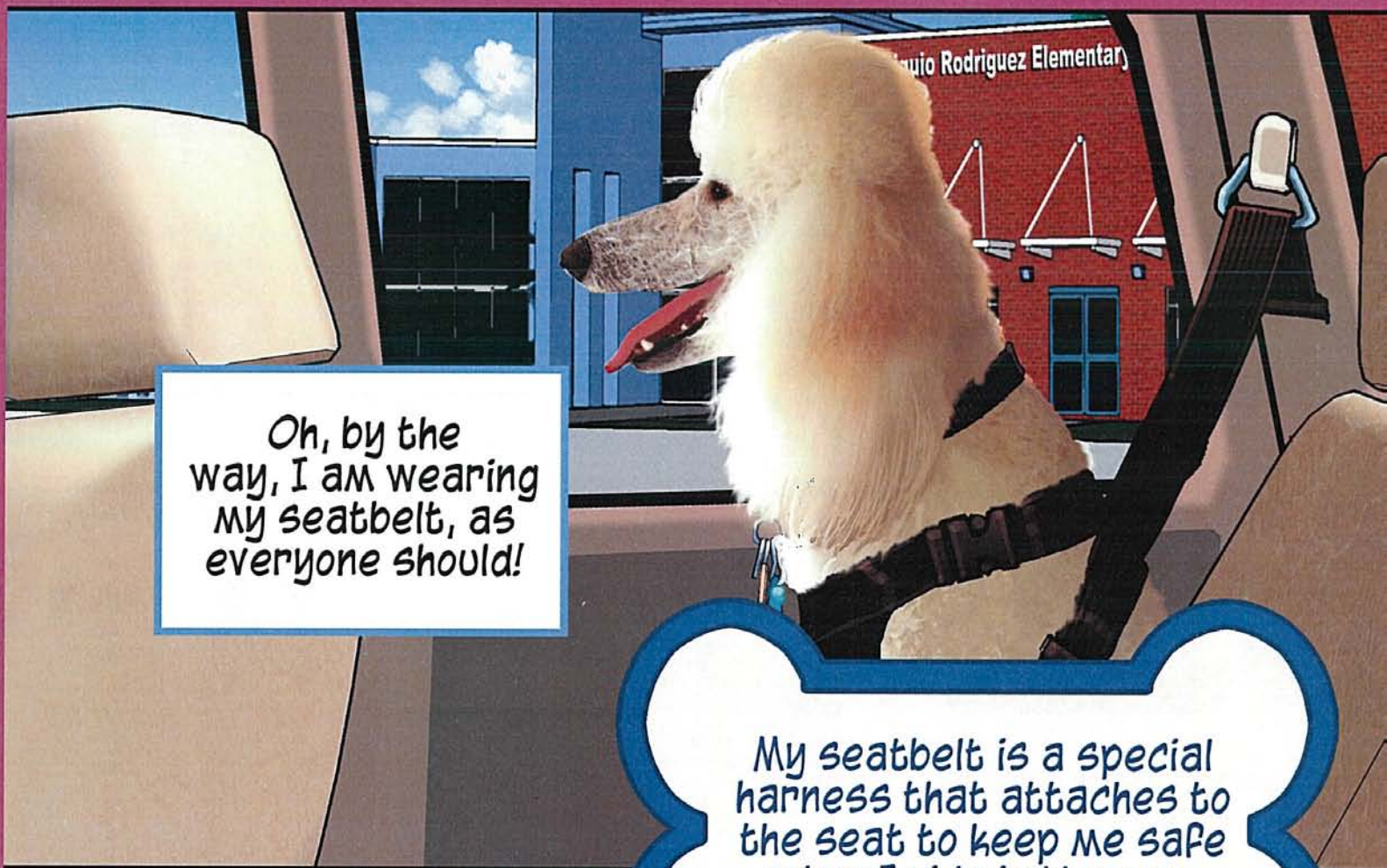
The students at
Dr. Rodriguez Elementary where I
work tell me I'm beautiful.

Right now,
I am riding
in a gold SUV
with my
mom, the
school
counselor,
and we are
driving to
work.

Any breed can be
a therapy dog.



Yes, I work almost every day with all kinds of children - happy, sad, lonely, and loving.



Oh, by the way, I am wearing my seatbelt, as everyone should!

My seatbelt is a special harness that attaches to the seat to keep me safe when I ride in the car.

About the Authors

Norlene Chamberlain

Norlene C. Chamberlain, counselor and author, was named Rio Grande Valley Outstanding Counselor of the year 2012, by the Rio Grande Valley Counseling Association. She and her co-counselor Ariel, a standard poodle, have been a Therapy Team since 2010. They are registered with Pet Partners® Therapy Animal Program. Ariel Therapy Dog of the Rio Grande Valley is the first book in a series of three about Ariel and her exploits. Ariel's FaceBook Page is **Ariel Therapy Dog**. They have presented at conferences promoting Therapy Dog programs; it is their mission. Norlene and Ariel work together at Dr. Rodriguez Elementary School in Harlingen, Texas.



Rickey Pittman

Rickey E. Pittman, the Bard of the South, is a storyteller, author, songwriter, and folksinger and was the Grand Prize Winner of the 1998 **Ernest Hemingway Short Story Competition**, and is originally from Dallas, Texas. Pittman presents his stories, music and programs at schools, libraries, churches, organizations, museums, Civil War Reenactments, and Celtic festivals throughout the South. Read more of the bard at <http://www.bardofthesouth.com>.

About the Illustrator

Rod Espinosa

Rod Espinosa is a published adapter, author, and an illustrator of children's books and young adult books. Credits include *George Washington*, *Thomas Jefferson*, *John Adams* (Bio Graphics), and *Romeo and Juliet* (Graphic Shakespeare Books).

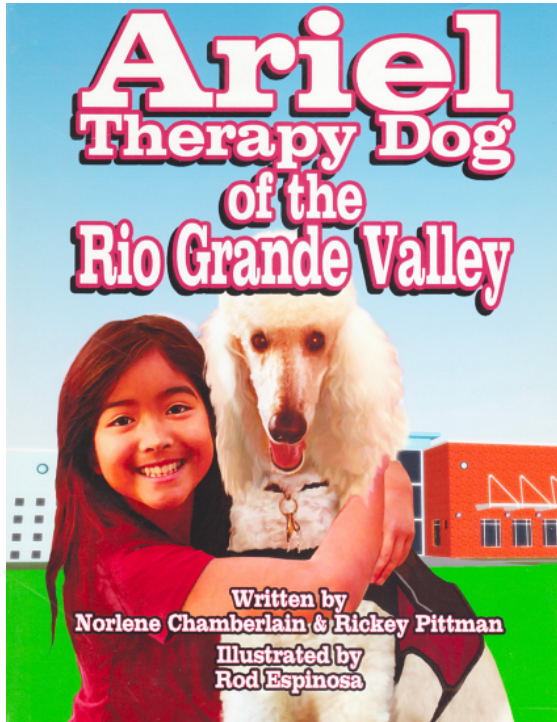
Rod's work on *The Courageous Princess* at Antarctic Press earned him a nomination for "Promising new talent" and "Best artist" for the **2000 Ignatz Awards** and a **2002 Eisner Award** nomination for "Best Title for Younger Readers".

He authored the *Neotopia* series (4 volumes, 140 pages each). In 2006, *Novotopia*, the German edition of *Neotopia*, got a nomination for the **Max und Moritz Prize** in the category 'Bester Comic für Kinder' (best comic book for younger audience).

In 2008, Rod won an international comic book contest sponsored by the UN and WHO entitled *Stop Tuberculosis* which aims to educate people about how to avoid Tuberculosis. The pamphlet is printed worldwide in 8 major languages. <https://www.facebook.com/AllAboutRodEspinosa>



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