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For dog lovers everywhere



Chapter 1

Jasper needs a home

Ting-a-ling! The door opened. A girl and her dad came into the shop. Jasper sat up. He wagged his waggly tail and looked at them with his big brown eyes.

But the girl and her dad went past Jasper to look at the rabbits.

'Oh, Dad, that is the one I want,' said the girl and she showed her dad a little black rabbit with a funny, twitchy nose.



Ting-a-ling! Ting-a-ling! The door opened again. A man came in. He went over to Pippa, the owner of the shop.

'Pippa,' he said, 'I need a pet, but I need a pet that I can talk to, really talk to.'

Jasper sat up again. He wagged his waggly tail and looked at the man with his big brown eyes.

Then he said, 'woof! woof!'

'That man could talk to me,' thought Jasper, 'and I could talk to him.'



But the man did not look at Jasper.
He looked at the parrots.



'I think I will take that big green parrot,' said the man. 'He will talk to me all day. We will be great friends. Thank you, Pippa. You found just the pet for me.'

And off he went with the parrot.

Jasper was sad. People came in and out of the shop all day but nobody looked at him.



They wanted kittens and hamsters and rabbits. They even wanted mice but ...

... nobody wanted a dog, not even a dog with a waggly tail and big brown eyes.

Poor Jasper sat there all day. He did not wag his tail. He did not even open his eyes. He just sat there feeling very sad.



It was late and Pippa was putting up the 'Closed' sign on the door when her friend Katie came in.

'Oh, Pippa,' said Katie, 'I have a problem. Can you help me, please?'



'I will try,' said Pippa. 'Tell me all about it.'

'Well,' said Katie, 'the doctor said that I am not fit enough. She said if I got a pet that I would be fit in no time.'



'So, Pippa,' said Katie, 'I was thinking that you could find a pet for me. I think I would like a goldfish!'

Pippa laughed.

'I don't think you need a goldfish, Katie. You will not get fit with a goldfish. You can't take a goldfish out for a walk!'



'Oh,' said Katie, 'what about a kitten, or a rabbit or a hamster?'

Pippa laughed again.

'Katie,' she said, 'kittens sleep a lot, rabbits twitch their noses all day and hamsters go round and round in circles. You need a pet that likes to go for walks and run in the park, a pet that will help you to get fit. I think I have just the pet for you.'

'A little dog walked in here on Friday. He wagged his waggly tail and he looked at me with big brown eyes. I think he came here so that I would find him a good home. He is very friendly and cute. I think you will like him. I call him Jasper!' said Pippa.



Jasper opened one eye. Then he opened the other eye. Pippa and her friend were coming over to him.

'I will try one more time,' thought Jasper.

He sat up, wagged his waggly tail and looked at Katie with his big brown eyes.



Then he gave a little 'woof!' just to show he was a friendly dog.



'Oh,' said Katie, 'he is so cute! Look at his big brown eyes and his waggly tail. He looks very friendly. Thank you, Pippa. I think you have found just the pet for me.'

'And I think I have found a good home for Jasper,' said Pippa.

'Yippee!' thought Jasper, 'I am going to a new home just like the parrot and the rabbit.'

He jumped up and down and ran round and round in circles. Then he gave Pippa a big slobbery kiss.

'Thank you, thank you, Pippa,' he thought.



And off went Jasper down the street with Katie. He was so happy that he wagged his tail all the way to his new home.



Chapter 2 Ready to go

When Jasper got to his new home, Katie gave him some food. She gave him toys to play with and she got a cosy bed for him to sleep in.

'Night night, Jasper! Sleep tight!' said Katie. 'Tomorrow we will start to get fit.'

'Woof!' said Jasper.



The next day Jasper was up early
and ready to go.
But Katie was not ready.



First she had her breakfast. Then she
had to wash her hair. She had to paint
her nails and she had to put on her make-
up. She had to work on her computer and
phone her friends. Then she had to look
for her bag and her keys.



While Jasper was waiting for Katie he ran round and round the garden. He ran after a cat, he barked at a bird, he dug for treasure, he jumped on the furniture and he tried to climb a tree.

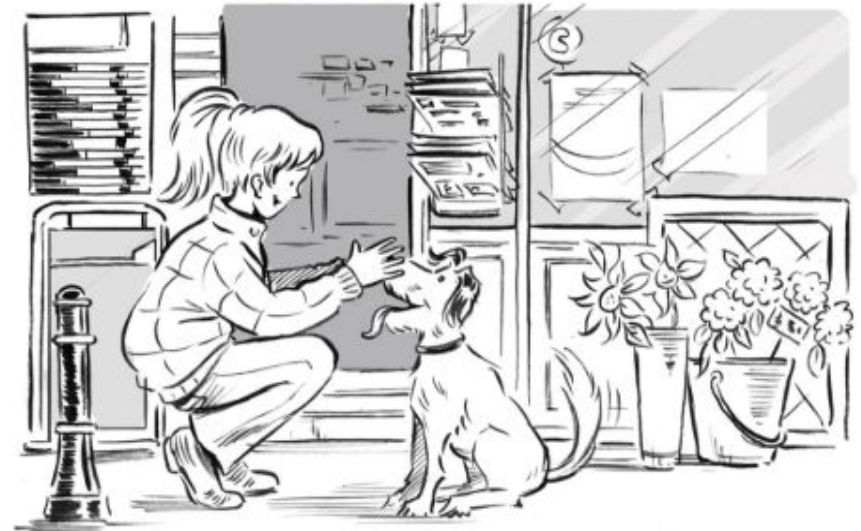
He had great fun. Then he sat down.



'Come on, Jasper,' said Katie. 'You can't sit around *all* day, you know. Remember we must get fit. We have to go for our walk now.'

And off they went down the road.

'Now, Jasper,' said Katie, 'I must go to the shop first. I want to get the newspaper. You can wait for me outside the shop. Good dog!'





Katie went into the newspaper shop. She talked to the newspaper man. She talked and talked and talked.

'Yak, yak, yackety-yak, yackety-yak! ...' Katie talked so much that she forgot to get the newspaper.

Jasper waited ... and waited ... and waited. He closed his eyes.



Chapter 3 Yackety-yak!

Suddenly Jasper heard a noise. Whoosh! A black car came down the street. It was going very fast.

The postman was stopped at the lights but he got jittery when the car went past. His bike wobbled.

Then all the letters blew away. They blew up the road and down the road and they blew round and round. Jasper jumped up.



'I can help the postman,' he thought. Then he ran after the letters. He ran up the road and down the road, again and again and again. He ran round and round and round until he was dizzy. He gave the letters to the postman.



'Thank you, little dog,' said the postman. 'You are a great help. I got jittery when the car came past. Then the letters blew away. You found them all for me. You are a good dog. Now, I will get some water for you.'

Jasper wagged his waggly tail to say 'thank you' to the postman.

Jasper was tired after all that running up and down. He sat down outside the shop again and waited. Then he closed his eyes to have a sleep.



'Jasper! Jasper! Wakey, wakey, Jasper!'
It was Katie.



'Good dog, Jasper,' said Katie, 'but no more sitting around for you. Don't forget we have to get fit. Now, off we go.'

And Katie and Jasper walked off down the street.

They were on their way to the park. They went past the pet shop, past the furniture shop, under the bridge, past the beach and past the funfair. They were just going past the library when Katie said ...



'Oh, Jasper, I have to pop into the library. There is a book that I must get. You will have to wait outside for me.'

Katie went into the library to get her book. Jasper could see her inside the library. She was talking and talking.

'Yak, yak, yackety-yak! ...'



'Oh no, not again,' thought Jasper.
'I am tired of waiting for Katie. I want to
run and play.'

Jasper waited ... and waited ... and
waited. He closed his eyes.



Chapter 4

Reds and Blues

Suddenly Jasper heard a noise.

'Ha! Ha! Ha!'

It was children laughing on their way
into the park.

'Oh, look at the little dog,' said a girl.
'He is so cute!'

Jasper jumped up and wagged his
waggly tail.

'Look!' said a boy. 'He wants to play
with us.'

'Sorry, little dog, we can't play with you now,' said the children. 'We have to play a football match. We are the red team and we have a match with the blue team today.'



And off they went through the big gate of the park.

'Mmm,' thought Jasper, 'a football match! I think I would like that.'

And he ran into the park after the children.

The coach was talking to the red team.

'There is a problem,' he said. 'Number Five is not well. He keeps sneezing and sneezing. He can't play the match.'

'Oh no!' said the children. 'Number Five is the best at football. We will not win the match now.'





'Woof! woof!' said Jasper, and he jumped up and down and wagged his waggly tail.

'What about me?' he asked with his big brown eyes.

Nobody looked at Jasper.



The game started. The two teams played very hard but nobody scored a goal.

Just then, there was a 'woof!', and Jasper ran on. He ran up and down and round and round.

He got the ball, he pushed it with his nose, he hit it with his head and he kicked it with his paw.

'That dog is good!' said the coach.

Jasper was good ... very, very good.
He ran past the blue team, and with
a tap he put the ball in the net.



'It's a goal!' shouted the coach.
'It's a goal!' shouted the red team.
'Oh no! It's a goal!' shouted the blue
team.
'I scored a goal, a real goal,' thought
Jasper.

'Good dog,' said the coach.
'Good dog,' said the children.
'Good match,' thought Jasper.
He ran out the gate and back to the
library to wait for Katie.



Soon Katie came out of the library.

'Well, Jasper,' she said, 'I have my book. Now we can go for a big walk. It is time for us to get fit.'

'It is time for *you* to get fit now,' thought Jasper.

They went into the park.



Chapter 5

Jasper to the rescue

Katie and Jasper walked in the park. They looked at the birds in the trees. They looked at the clouds in the sky. They looked at the children playing.

The children said 'hello.'

Katie and Jasper stopped at a little lake.

'Hello, Katie.' It was Katie's friend Sasha. 'It is great to see you,' she said.

'Will we go for a cup of coffee and have a chat?'





'That is a very good idea,' said Katie.
'I am tired of walking and I need to sit down.'

'Tired of walking?' thought Jasper.
'Katie is tired of walking. Now that is funny!'

'Jasper,' said Katie, 'you must wait here. We are going to pop into the coffee shop for a cup of coffee and a chat.'

And off Katie went with her friend Sasha to have a cup of coffee and a chat.

And poor Jasper, as usual, had to wait outside.

And, *as usual*, Jasper waited ... and waited ... and waited. And, *as usual*, he closed his eyes.



Then, suddenly, he heard a noise.
'Wahh, wahh, wahh!' A little girl
was crying.

It was the little girl who had come
into Pippa's Pet shop to buy a rabbit. Her
hat was in the lake.



'Wahh, wahh, wahh!' she said. 'My
hat is in the lake.'

'I am sorry,' said her dad, 'but there
is nothing we can do.'

'But, Dad, it is my favourite hat,' said
the little girl, and she started crying
again.





'Ha! Ha!' thought Jasper. 'She is the little girl who got a rabbit in Pippa's shop. But her rabbit is not here now. I am here and I can save the hat. Jasper to the rescue!'



And with that he jumped into the lake. He got the hat and gave it to the little girl.

'Oh, thank you, thank you!' said the little girl.

She gave Jasper a big hug and Jasper gave her a big slobbery kiss.

'You are a great dog,' said the girl. 'I think I should have got a dog, not a rabbit!'



'So do I,' thought Jasper. 'I think you should have got me!'

Then off he went to sit outside the coffee shop.

As usual, he would have to wait for Katie.

Soon Katie and her friend came out. Sasha went off to make candy floss at the funfair. Katie got ready to walk.

'Now, Jasper,' she said, 'I have had a good rest. I am not tired at all now. I hope that you are ready for a really big walk. Off we go.'

'You are not tired now,' thought Jasper, 'but *I am*. I want to sit here and have a rest.'



'Get up, Jasper!' said Katie. 'Come on now! You are a good friendly dog, but I think you are a little bit lazy.'

'Lazy? Me? I don't think so,' thought Jasper. 'I am not the lazy one!'

Then off they went down the road.



Chapter 6

Jasper needs a rest

Katie started to walk very fast. Jasper walked slowly. Soon they met Jim the painter.

'Oh good!' thought Jasper. 'Katie will stop to talk to Jim and I will have a rest.'

'Hello, Katie,' said Jim. 'I hope that dog will not run round and round my ladder. It will make me jittery.'

'Don't worry,' said Katie. 'He will not run around. He is a friendly dog but he is a little bit lazy.'

Katie did not stop. Jasper did not get a rest.



Jasper wanted to stop to look at things. He wanted to talk to the children. He wanted to look at the shops. He wanted to go into the funfair. He wanted to stop to talk to people.

But Katie kept walking fast.





On the way home they met people going to a party. The people had funny costumes. They said 'hello'.

Katie said 'hello' but she did not stop to talk to them.



They met a man with a tent and they met a boy with a super car. They met a burglar and a cat on their way home from a show and they met some children coming home from pirate school.

They all said 'hello' and Katie said 'hello' to them all, but she did not stop to talk.

When Jasper got home he was happy to get into his cosy little bed and go fast asleep.

'Poor Jasper,' said Katie, 'you are a tired little dog. I think I walked too fast for you. Tomorrow we will walk again but I will walk slowly for you. Night night! Sleep tight!'



Chapter 7

What a dog!

The next day Jasper was up early and ready to go again. But, as usual, Katie was not ready.

First she had her breakfast. Then she had to wash her hair. She had to paint her nails and she had to put on her make-up. She had to phone her friends and work on her computer. Then she had to look for her bag and her keys.

At last Katie *was* ready. Then off they went down the road.

'Now, Jasper,' said Katie, 'you know that I must pop into the shop to get the newspaper. You can wait for me outside the shop. Good dog!'



Katie was in the shop. She was talking to the newspaper man.

'Yak, yak, yackety-yak, yackety-yak!' She was talking for a long time.

At last Katie came out. She sat down. She opened the newspaper.

'Wow!' she said. 'Wow!' she said again.



She looked at the newspaper. Then she looked at Jasper. She looked at the newspaper again.

'No!' said Katie. 'It can't be true!'

Katie looked at Jasper and she started to think. She thought about the newspaper shop, she thought about the library and she thought about the coffee shop.



She remembered that Jasper was tired. Then she laughed.

'It *is* true,' she said. 'Oh, Jasper, you are a funny little dog! I thought *you* were lazy! But *I* was the lazy one – not you!'

'Look, Jasper! Look! That is you in the newspaper. You are so cute, you are so friendly and you are so fit. What a dog!'

Jasper just looked at Katie with his big brown eyes and wagged his waggly tail.



SUPERDOG SCORES A GOAL



DOG SAVES
FAVOURITE
HAT!



JASPER THE FITTEST DOG IN THE WORLD



JASPER SAVES
THE DAY.
'WHAT A DOG!'



DOG HELPS
POSTMAN



