Da Doggy Dudes by Basti Ferdinando

I wanted a dog more than anything else did in the whole-wide world; in fact, I wanted a dog more than anything in the entire universe. Apparently, we didn’t have the space or time for a dog according to my mum and dad. They didn’t say yes to a single thing. They never understood. They never knew it was so unfair!

You see, we needed to show our pets at school but mine was an old hamster called Flash. He really isn’t flash but more of a tremendous crash. He doesn’t leave his hamster wheel which is falling off its hinges but not because he’s exercising but because he’s sleeping! Some days I not certain if he is alive and he gives off a manky smell. I do love him but above all of this, he is dam embarrassing. I would rather anything than a hamster called Flash from a parrot to a rabbit-even a goldfish would do! I’m not a fan of either of those options because what I desire is having a dog, any dog would be cool. I have no preference at all-all I want is a dog.

Listen to what my dad stated, “Now what is the point of a dog if you have the friendship of a human? Why do you need a dog?”

“Then why are dogs called man’s best friend?” I replied.

“Because some crazy brain filled man thought of some stupid idea,” he answered.

“All you say is gobbly-gook dad, all lies, lies, lies!” I cried.

Now it was mum’s turn and she had that look in her eyes that I was in big, big, poop. I was in for a ride through hell and back.

She asked, “Why do you answer back to your father?”

“Well um, I kinda got a bit, um, well, I guess angry,” I nervously mumbled, looking at my feet and shuffling about.

“You are grounded for a week,” she told me sternly pacing around the lounge .

I was frustrated because of course, mum and dad made all the decisions. I knew they had the money and I didn’t. It was totally unfair. Sometimes I just got angry because they did absolutely nothing and I was really desperate. I just wished I could get a dog once and for all.

About a week later, I went for a stroll and ended up at the park where my mates were hanging out with their dogs doing cool tricks. I yelled,

“Can I stroke you’re dogs too?” But the moment they saw me, they all, plus the dogs following behind, ran in the opposite direction screaming as they went. Now I was really annoyed after they had ditched me. It all seemed as if no one wanted me to have a dog and I wasn’t there friend because off it.

My eyes went blurry and I ran all the way home. I didn’t bother with mum or dad, I just sprinted to my bed. I buried myself in the pillow, tears rolling down my cheeks and thumped my blanket and screamed as many curses as I could muster. My parents knocked on the door and knew I could give it a try. When they came in without an answer, I put my hard-done by face on and waited to see how it might work out.

“Darling what’s wrong? Oh come here,” she asked giving me hug and rubbing my back.

“All the boys have a dog and I don’t!” I whimpered. I was sure dad that was not going to cave in and was definitely not ready to buy me a dog. However, mum was possibly falling for it and I sensed I was slightly nearer to getting a dog.

Mum asked me, “Why are you so sad though?”

“They ran away mum and they wouldn’t let me stroke their dogs!” I said with a muffled voice.

“Did they really though?” dad asked suspiciously.

“How could you say that? He’s crying!” she declared.

“Ok, Ok ,”dad said. “So what did happen?” he asked looking for weakness. I had to be convincing.

“I shouted to the boys if I could stroke their dogs, but they ran away laughing.” I asked, “Why can’t get a dog?”

Dad walked over to Flash’s cage “why do you need a dog you’ve already got a hamster?” Of course Flash was asleep.

“Because Flash is as old as the dinosaurs and most likely older,” I said instantly remembering that I had just stopped my act-even mum was suspicious now. “Ok Flash will do,” I said solemnly.” S’pose he might wake up for show and tell tomorrow.” And that was that.

Twenty-four hours later, I went to school with Flash with still no sign of life or him waking up. I saw everyone else’s pets and I was really impressed with them. Then all of a sudden, it was my turn. When I said his name, he woke up and let loose his last meal in the form of a steady stream of pellets the size of small marbles. The crowd sniggered. I was red-faced as it was so embarrassing that he had to wake up and do that now! All I wanted was a dog. Was that too hard to ask for because it sure seemed like it.

Lincoln, the leader of gang, briskly walked up to me and said, “Nice show with the hamster-What a looser!” Tears started to well up in my eyes and I used my big boy words under my breath. I walked away as fast as I could.

‘Ping-Ping!’ my phone had received a text. It was from Lincoln and this is what it said,

‘Dude, your hamster is more like an arcade prize, u know 1 of those stuffed toys☺’

I texted back still a little ragy, ‘u know nothing-come on 1v1 me on fortnite-dare u bruv’.

Shortly afterwards, I got a text inviting me to ‘join the party’.

Later that evening, when I was at home, I took him on in the world of gaming. I beat him fair and square. But that almost spurred him to keep going with the mickey-taking about me not having a dog and my decrepit hamster!

A few weeks later, I went to school and was so happy to tell the gang that over the weekend my parents had relented and bought me a dog. Full of pride, I told them that I had a got a dog called Flip. They didn’t believe me and accused me of lying. They even called my ‘imaginative’ dog Flip-Flop like the hamster a real flop! Looking me straight in the eyes, Lincoln said that he would post it on TikTok and tell Miss Higginson that I was bare-faced liar. So what could I do and I just followed behind. But I was determined to show them!!

But you see, I really did have a dog and this dog, was special, oh so special. I loved being with Flip. He is so cute that he would take the Internet by storm. He does this thing with his head where he cocks it to one side and he always wags his tail when he sees me. Over the Summer holidays, I did nothing else but spend time with Flip. We trained and trained and trained. I enjoyed the holidays like never before.

When they came back from the summer holidays, I told them all bout Flip. They didn’t believe me that was until the next Monday. Why you might ask is because, on Saturday evening they all saw on Britain’s Got Talent, a boy and a dog called Flip doing amazing tricks and funnily enough the boy looked exactly like me. In fact it was me and I got a golden buzzer from Simon Cowell. To prove it, I had a signed picture from Simon Cowell. You see Flip was rescued from a circus and as we found out, was able to do some awesome tricks. He was able to far better stuff than all my friends combined. I even had an assembly to talk about Flip and me. Now it wasn’t Flip-Flop, it was flipping awesome!!