# The Dog With No Name 

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There once was a dog who lived in Chengdu, China. He belonged to a girl named Candy. She loved her dog, and whenever she wanted him to come she would say, "Come here, Dog."

Her family got the dog at a puppy market. He was older than most of the puppies and he was very friendly. Candy and her grandfather chose the dog. Candy wanted the dog because it was so cute. He was gray with a black eye. Grandfather wanted him because he looked like he was really smart.

When she showed the dog to her mother, she was a little bit scared of it. The dog barked at her. She didn't like that, but since grandfather liked the dog, they bought him.

After getting the dog, the entire family went to a restaurant to eat. At the table grandfather kept talking about the dog, but the family did not care. The dog was sitting next to him very quietly.

He said, "This is a really smart dog. I think you will love him."
Everyone ignored him. They did not believe that the dog was very smart.
After dinner, and on the way home, the dog had to stop and went to the park to poop. He made a very big poop. Everyone was shocked, except for grandfather.

He was impressed.
"Oh, that is such a smart dog," grandfather said. "He knows where to poop." Mother said, "That's disgusting!"

All Candy could say was, "Yuck! Is he going to do that every day? What about in the middle of the night? Is he going to need to poop while I'm sleeping? Then when it is so dark, how can we find the dog?"

Laughing, grandfather answered, "He's a smart dog. He will find his way home."

Candy had to run because the dog was pulling her so hard. The dog was strong, and he needed to smell everything.
"STOP!" Candy yelled.
Then the dog stopped.
"What a smart dog!" grandfather said again.
It took twenty minutes to get home by walking. The dog was very good the rest of the way. He listened to everything Candy told him to do.
"See, I told you he was a smart dog," grandfather said proudly.
When they got to the house, the dog jumped. He knew this was his new home. He ran to the door pulling Candy as hard as he could. He was excited to be at his new home.
"STOP!" yelled Candy again.
The dog turned around to look at Candy.
"Why should I stop?" the dog asked.
Everyone was shocked, even grandfather.
Candy said, very surprised, "How is he able to talk?"
"I told you he was a very smart dog!" grandfather said.
"Of course, I can talk. Why are you surprised?" the dog asked.
"Ah... Ah... Ah... I've never seen a talking dog before," Candy answered.
"That's just because most dogs don't want you to know how smart they are. I don't care because Grandfather knows how smart I am," the dog responded.

On the stairs to the house was the newspaper. The dog opened the paper and began to read.
"OH MY! He's reading the newspaper!" Candy was even more surprised.
Grandfather was very happy and said, "He's the smartest dog in the whole world."

When they went into the house, the dog went to the living room and turned on the TV.
"How did you do that? Do you really know how to watch the TV?" Candy asked very surprised.
"I want to watch the news. I want to know what is happening in the world. Don't you?" the dog asked.

Candy replied, "I don't care about the news. I just like to watch cartoons. The news is usually boring, unless there is a story about the police chasing someone."

The family sat in the living room watching the news while the dog sat on the couch staring at the TV. He kept talking about what he saw. It was quite annoying. No one wanted to hear what he was talking about.

Curious, Candy asked the dog, "What is your name?"
"Name? I don't have a name. I've never been with a family before. Do you want to give me a name?" he asked.

Candy looked at him and thought for a moment.
"I think I will just call you Dog," she answered.
"What? DOG? Why do you want to call me Dog?" he asked.
"You are a dog, right?" Candy asked.
"Well, yes, but most dogs have a special name. Why can't I have a special name?" he asked, begging with sad eyes.
"No, Dog is fine," Candy responded with a smile.
"You are mean!" dog answered.
Candy just smiled and went to her room.
From then on the whole family called him Dog, except for Grandfather who called him Smart Dog.

One day, while Candy was doing her homework, she was having a problem understanding what to do. She was very angry and threw her pen and homework across the floor.

Dog came in.
"What's the problem?" he asked.
"I don't know how to do my homework!" Candy screamed.
"Do you want me to help you?" Dog asked.
"Do you know how to do homework?" Candy asked very surprised.
"I finished Puppy University. Of course, I know how to do homework," Dog said proudly.
"Puppy University? I have never heard of that. Where is Puppy University?" Candy was now very confused.
"It's near the market where you got me. All puppies have to go to Puppy University before they can be adopted into families. I thought everyone knew that," Dog answered.
"That's news to me," Candy commented.
Dog picked up the homework and the pen and gave it to Candy. Together they worked on the homework. Candy was very happy. She now knew how to do the assignment. Dog was very helpful.

Grandfather watched, and said, "I knew he was a smart dog, but I never believed he was this smart!"

Dog and Candy went to the park. On the way they passed a bookstore. Dog
got very excited. He wanted Candy to buy a book for him, but since he was not at home he didn't want the storeowner to know that he could read or talk. He barked and barked at Candy when he found the book he wanted.

Candy bought the book.
"Isn't that book a little hard for someone your age to read?" the seller asked.
"Oh, it's not for me, it's for my dog. He is really good at reading," Candy told him.

Dog growled at her. He didn't want her to say that.
"Oh, Oh! Yeah, I mean it is for my friend named Dog, not my dog. That would be silly, right?" Candy corrected herself.
"I thought so. Have a good day!" he said, as Candy and Dog left the store.
The next day the Postal Carrier came to deliver the mail. Dog was there to greet him.

The Postal Carrier said, "Hello dog, how are you today?"
Dog answered, "How do you know my name?"
Of course, this was big surprise to the Postal Carrier, and he was little bit scared of Dog.
"What? What do you mean?" he asked.
"My name is Dog. How did you know that?" he replied
"Ah, your name is Dog?" he asked. "That's not a very good name, is it?" the postman asked.
"Yes, my silly owner named Candy gave me that name. I don't like it, but I don't have any other choice, do I?" Dog answered.
"Well, you could find another family," he suggested.
"No, I like this family, especially grandfather. He likes me a lot. He thinks I am very smart dog," Dog answered proudly.
"Then I guess you will stay Dog," he stated. "It's not such a bad name. You
are a dog, right?"
"Yeah, but that doesn't mean I have to like it," Dog answered and then took the mail into the house.
"Hey, there's a letter for me!" Dog exclaimed.
"Huh? You have a letter? Who knows you live here?" Candy asked.
"I sent a text to my mom. It must be from her," Dog answered.
"You have a phone?" Candy was really surprised.
"No, I used your phone, is that OK?" he asked.
"Uh, I guess so. Just don't use all my data, OK?" Candy responded. "I'll get in trouble from my mom if you do that."
"Don't worry, I used the Wi-Fi," the dog gave an answer.
Grandfather heard the conversation and spoke up, "I told you before he was a very smart dog. You didn't believe me before, but now you do, right?"
"Yeah, yeah, he's a smart dog. I have to admit it, but his name is still Dog," Candy said.

Dog did not like that.
"What does the letter say?" Candy asked.
"My mother is coming to see me. I'm so excited. I haven't seen her in six months," Dog answered.

Two days later Dog's mother came for a visit. She looked just like Dog. She was grey with a black eye. To everyone's surprise she could talk too.
"Hello, my name is Bella. May I come in to meet my son?" she said.
Since she looked just like Dog, they knew who she was talking about.
"Yes, he's here. Are you his mother?" Candy asked.
"Yes, I am." Bella said very politely.
"Of course, come in. He's in the living room watching the news," Candy responded.

Bella entered the house and went to see her son.
"Hello Bentley, how have you been?" she asked.
"BENTLEY? Is that really his name?" Candy asked.
"I kind of like that name," Grandfather spoke up.
"No way! He's Dog!" Candy insisted.
Dog asked, "Mom, so my name is Bentley? I never knew that."
"Your father gave you that name, but before you knew it, you left for Puppy University," his mother informed him.

Then looking around, she added, "I really like your home and these people are very friendly. Do you think I can stay with you here?"
"I don't know. I will have to ask my owner, Candy," Dog answered.
Dog went to Candy and the family to ask if his mother could stay with them.
Grandfather was the first to speak, "She is just as smart as Dog, so why not?"
Dog was in the room and he corrected Grandfather.
"My name is not Dog, it's Bentley," he stated.
Grandfather said, "Bentley is not as good as Dog. I'm used to Dog. That's what you are, right?"
"Then should I call you human?" Dog retorted.
"NO! You can't. You are the dog and I'm the grandfather. That is the way it is," Grandfather answered.

Dog did not say anything more.
Unknown to the family, Bella and Dog used Candy's phone to text the rest of the family. It wasn't long until everyone showed up at the house. Dog found out that he had four sisters and five brothers. They all wanted to stay with the family, since they were able to be smart dogs there.
"We can't keep that many dogs! It is too much!" Candy told Bella.
Grandfather suggested, "Well, I have a friend where you can live who loves
dogs. You can live with her."
"NO! I want my family with me!" Dog yelled at them.
The family met in the dining room to discuss having eleven dogs in the house. Dog spoke up, "We will take care of ourselves. We will sleep in the basement, we will keep everything clean and we'll cook our own food."

The family agreed to let the dogs stay with them, and they did everything they promised. Day after day they watched TV and read the newspaper. However, whenever anyone came to visit, Dog and his family acted like normal dogs, so no one would know just how smart they were.

Vocabulary: (Match the word to its definition)

1. belong $\qquad$ a. not sure what to do next
2. proudly $\qquad$ b. afraid
3. shocked $\qquad$ c. with great pride
4. whole $\qquad$
5. cartoons $\qquad$
6. annoying $\qquad$
7. confused $\qquad$
8. basement $\qquad$
9. excited $\qquad$
10. scared $\qquad$

## True / False:

1. Grandmother helped to buy the dog. T/F
2. Candy lived in Chengdu.
3. The family went to eat in a restaurant. T/F
4. The dog went to Doggie University. T/F
5. Grandfather thought the dog was very smart. T/F
6. The dog's name was Dog. T/F
7. The dog's mother was named Bentley. T/F
8. Dog liked to watch TV. T/F
9. Candy gave Dog a phone. T/F
10. Dog's family moved into his house. T/F

## Multiple Choice:

1. What did Grandfather always say about Dog? $\qquad$
a) he is cute
b) he is bright
c) he is smart
d) he is friendly
2. What did Dog's father name him?
a) Barney
b) Bentley
c) Barry
d) Bella
3. What did Dog do to help Candy? $\qquad$
a) he fixed her breakfast
b) he taught her about the news
c) he cleaned her room
d) he helped her with her homework
4. How many siblings did Dog have?
a) 7
b) 9
c) 8
d) 10

Comprehension: (Write a complete sentence to answer the question.)

1. Where did Candy buy Dog?
2. Where did Dog go to school?
$\qquad$
3. What did Dog read when he first got to the house?
$\qquad$
4. What did the Postal Carrier suggest Dog do if he didn't like his name?
5. How did Dog contact his mother?
6. Why did Dog like to watch the TV?
7. Who wrote Dog a letter?
8. What was the name Dog's father gave him?
9. How did Dog contact his brothers and sisters?
10. Where did Dog and his family end up living?
