

**Early one morning ... (16)** (written by a Year 6 student)

Write a story beginning with the words:

*Early one morning the phone rang. It was my neighbour. She sounded very excited and gasped, 'Come over quick!' before hanging up. Still half asleep, I ...*

Early one morning the phone rang. It was my neighbour. She sounded very excited and gasped, "Come over quick!" before hanging up. Still half asleep I dressed and then dashed downstairs. Without having breakfast I went out of the house and knocked on the front door of our neighbour's house. To my surprise it was ajar, so without thinking twice, I entered.

"What is going on?" I thought. I heard Mrs Darling uttering some words which I did not understand. When I went into the living room I saw Randy, Mrs Darling's bitch, with a small cute puppy beside her. I had no idea why Mrs Darling had called me, so I asked her. "Elyse, dear," she told me, "I am old and I cannot take care of two dogs. I wish that you will have the new puppy." I stood there staring at Mrs Darling. I could not believe what I had just heard. But then something struck me. I remembered that I had always asked my parents to get me a puppy but they always refused. What if they did not want me to take care of the puppy?

It seemed as if Mrs Darling was reading my mind. She told me that if my parents would not let me keep the puppy it would go to the Dog's Home. I asked Mrs Darling if I could go to my house to check

if my mother was home from her shopping. Luckily she was. She was surprised when she saw that I was already out of bed. I told her to come round to Mrs Darling's house. As we were doing this I crossed my fingers that she would let me keep the pup but I was to be disappointed.

When she saw the puppy, mum looked stern, and from that look I knew that it was a "no". "Elyse, we have discussed this matter a lot of times. Wherever this conversation is heading to the answer is no", she concluded. My heart sank. Then Mrs Darling looked at me and from her look I realised she had a plan. She grabbed the helpless puppy and told mum, "Look at the pup. You certainly do not want it to go to the Dog's Home. Elyse will take good care of it and you will be its family."

Mum looked at me and she told me that if I promise to take care of it properly I will be allowed to keep it. I promised a thousand times and the pup came with me.

Shadow is now my best friend and we are very fond of each other. My Labrador is now very healthy and strong. Although Mrs Darling died, I still thank her for trusting me. Shadow has made my life brighter and I will always love him.

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