

Matt was running late for school. He was often late for school. He grabbed a donut for breakfast. He ate it quickly and licked the sugar off of his fingers. Then he hugged Mom and Dad good-bye. On the way out the door he patted Lucky on the head. Lucky was his pet dog that he had had since he was a baby. Lucky was the best dog in the world.

That day Matt had a test. He made an "A" on the test, and Matt was very happy. When he got home from school he wanted a snack. He poured a glass of milk and he ate a banana. He did not see Mom and he wondered where she was. Then he looked for Lucky. She was not in the house. He went out the back door and out into the yard. He called her name many times, but still no sign of Lucky.

Then he heard a car drive up. It was Mom's car, and Matt ran to tell her about the good grade he had made on his test. When he saw the look on Mom's face he knew that there was something wrong.

"Matt, I am afraid I have bad news," Mom said. "Lucky was hit by a car this morning and she died. I am so sorry, son."

Matt could not believe it. He could not believe that his pet Lucky was dead. He ran to his room and cried on his pillow. Later Mom came into his room with a glass of soda. Matt did not want any, and Mom left him alone.

The next day after school Matt found a box in the kitchen. In the box was a little puppy with soft brown fur. Mom told Matt that it could be his new pet if he wanted the puppy. Matt missed Lucky. He did not want a new dog, he told Mom. "Very well, then I will take her back in the morning," said Mom.

That night Matt heard the puppy crying. She was lonely inside the big box. She missed her mother. Matt went to the kitchen and looked for something to feed the dog. All he could find was a cookie. It was a gingerbread man cookie. Matt fed it to the puppy. The puppy loved the cookie, and she ate it right out of Matt's hand.

The next morning Matt told Mom that he had changed his mind. He wanted to keep the puppy. He wanted to name his new pet Ginger because she loved to eat gingerbread man cookies!

Matt was running late for school. He was often late for school.	12
He grabbed a donut for breakfast. He ate it quickly and licked the	25
sugar off of his fingers. Then he hugged Mom and Dad good-bye. On	39
the way out the door he patted Lucky on the head. Lucky was his pet	54
dog that he had had since he was a baby. Lucky was the best dog in	70
the world.	72
That day Matt had a test. He made an "A" on the test, and Matt	87
was very happy. When he got home from school he wanted a snack.	100
He poured a glass of milk and he ate a banana. He did not see Mom	116
and he wondered where she was. Then he looked for Lucky. She was	129
not in the house. He went out the back door and out into the yard. He	145
called her name many times, but still no sign of Lucky.	156
Then he heard a car drive up. It was Mom's car, and Matt ran to	171
tell her about the good grade he had made on his test. When he saw the	187
look on Mom's face he knew that there was something wrong.	198
"Matt, I am afraid I have bad news," Mom said. "Lucky was hit	211
by a car this morning and she died. I am so sorry, son."	224
Matt could not believe it. He could not believe that his pet	236
Lucky was dead. He ran to his room and cried on his pillow. Later	250
Mom came into his room with a glass of soda. Matt did not want any,	265
and Mom left him alone.	270
The next day after school Matt found a box in the kitchen. In the	284
box was a little puppy with soft brown fur. Mom told Matt that it	298
could be his new pet if he wanted the puppy. Matt missed Lucky. He	312
did not want a new dog, he told Mom. "Very well, then I will take her	328
back in the morning," said Mom.	334

That night Matt heard the puppy crying. She was lonely inside	345
the big box. She missed her mother. Matt went to the kitchen and	358
looked for something to feed the dog. All he could find was a cookie.	372
It was a gingerbread man cookie. Matt fed it to the puppy. The puppy	386
loved the cookie, and she ate it right out of Matt's hand.	398
The next morning Matt told Mom that he had changed his mind.	410
He wanted to keep the puppy. He wanted to name his new pet Ginger	424
because she loved to eat gingerbread man cookies!	432