

“Nope. I agree,” Abby insisted. “A dog is just what this family needs.”

Their mom shook her head. “What I need is more sleep. But,” she said with a dramatic pause. She held up two fingers. “If you can make it two days without arguing, we can have a serious talk about getting a dog.”

“Seriously?” Henry asked.

“Duh,” Abby responded. “She said a ‘serious’ talk.”

“Abby, is that how you talk to your brother?” their mom asked. “There will be no dog if you keep acting like that. In fact, I’m adding a day. Now you have to go three days without fighting.”

Henry wanted to laugh at his sister. It only took her three seconds to mess up! There was no way she could be nice to him for three whole days. But she had to, and Henry had to help her. For once,

Henry didn't want to get Abby in trouble. For once, they had to work together. He had wanted a dog for too long, and he wasn't going to miss this chance.

"I'm really sorry, Henry," Abby said. "It wasn't a stupid question."

Their mom's eyebrows jumped to the top of her forehead. Henry couldn't believe it either. An apology from Abby? That was a first.

"Thanks," Henry replied.

"Now, that's more like it," Mrs. McCoy said. "You just have to keep that kind, helpful, understanding attitude up for three days. A dog is a lot of work. You would have to share the dog and share taking care of the dog. You need to prove you can work together before there will be a dog to share."

"Absolutely," Henry said.

"We can do it," Abby agreed.



“If you do, we can go to Power’s Pets this weekend. As a family.”

“Awesome,” Henry said. He knew all about Power’s Pets. He and some of his friends had been volunteering at the pet center. Three of his friends had already adopted puppies from there, and all the puppies were cute, smart, and super sweet. The store owner, Mr. Power, had a special talent for finding puppies for possible owners. He had a magic touch for making the perfect match.

“Well,” their mom said, “you can start now. Abby, please let your brother in the bathroom.”

As they crossed in the bathroom doorway, Abby couldn't hide her scowl. Henry couldn't hide his smug smile. It was going to be a long three days, but it would be worth it.