

## Canines of Cabbagetown: Bernie



Bernadette (or Bernie, as most people know her) wakes up every morning on the cool concrete floor of Amanda's (her mom's) loft. She oddly prefers it despite there being multiple comfy spots, including her dog bed, next to her. As she has an aversion to Amanda's spiral staircase, she waits downstairs for her mom. When Amanda makes her way down the stairs, she calls out, "Come here, buddy," to which Bernie replies by showering her with affection and kisses.

After the cuddle session, Bernie knows that it is time for breakfast. Amanda places the bowl next to where Bernie sits and knows to wait for her sign before digging in. Immediately after eating, the pair take their first trip of the day, to the dog run. Bernie promptly relieves herself before trying to get in a quick game of fetch.

Once home, Amanda starts work, and Bernie takes her first nap of the day. Now re-energized, she searches for a ball but can't seem to find one, so she opts to bark at the coffee grinder instead. Before lunch, Amanda grabs the ball that Bernie was looking for off of a shelf to signal that it is time to go back to the dog run.

Here, Bernie gets to engage in her favorite activity: fetch. Since Amanda is only taking a short break from work, she tries to limit it to 10 rounds, but Bernie can normally convince her to do

more. When Amanda has to get back to work and Bernie is not ready to leave, Amanda excites Bernie by telling her they can take the stairs. This is Bernie's favorite way up to Amanda's top floor unit, as she is watching out for her mom's cardiovascular health.

In order to recharge her batteries for later, Bernie once again takes a nap. Once refreshed, she searches the house for the ball from earlier to get a little play time in before mom gets off work. She's elated to discover that her mom forgot to put the ball away earlier, so she brings it to her for a never ending game of fetch.

She knows her mom is off work when dinner is being prepared. Once again, she sits and waits patiently before eating. Now full, she is ready for her big walk of the day.

First, they head to Cabbagetown Park. On the way, Bernie stops and greets those walking around the neighborhood. Either confused about why they didn't stop and give her much-deserved attention or satisfied by the love she received, she pushes on to the park.

At the park, Bernies continues her earlier game of fetch, only now she can run around the entire park. When making their way back home, Bernie pulls herself to the house on Gaskill with the treats and then makes her way to *Future Perfect Massage* for another. Satisfied, Bernie turns onto Carroll Street, making sure that she greets everyone she can before turning into the complex.

Now back home, Bernie relaxes as Amanda winds down for the day. Bernie hopes that tonight's routine does not include any sweeping, but she prepares in case she needs to attack the broom. Just before bed, Amanda will take her to the dog run one last time.

When it's time for bed, Bernie picks tonight's spot on the floor. She dreams about her amazing day and hopes that tomorrow her mom will take her to *Fetch*, where she can ask strangers to throw a ball for her.