

Treasure's Gift



Written by Laurie Hanson

Illustrated by Darcy Bell-Myers





Laurie Hanson has loved and owned dogs her entire life. She and her Siberian Huskies and Golden Retrievers have participated in obedience, agility, lure coursing, therapy dog work, sled dog racing, conformation showing, and tracking events. She currently has three Golden Retrievers who are all related to Treasure. In her free time she enjoys reading and running. She recently qualified for the Boston Marathon. Laurie and her husband live in Ramsey, Minnesota. They have two children. Treasure was especially loved by their daughter.



Darcy Bell-Myers is the illustrator of several storybooks, including *Emmy and the Rude Rooster*, *Grandma Has Wings*, *Higgledy Piggledy*, and *No Room for Neighbors*. She is also the author/illustrator of *The Animal Babies Book of Ballet*, *The Animal Babies Book of Princesses*, and *Pretty Ponies Paper Dolls*. A wife and mom of three, she lives in Stillwater, Minnesota with her family, her greatest inspiration.

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Dedicated to the memory of Patchwork's Treasured Gift, a loving therapy dog who has achieved many high-level AKC titles in agility, obedience, and rally. Treasure gave the wonderful gift of her friendship and love to her family and introduced them to many wonderful people.

Thank you, Treasure, for being a part of my family and my life.

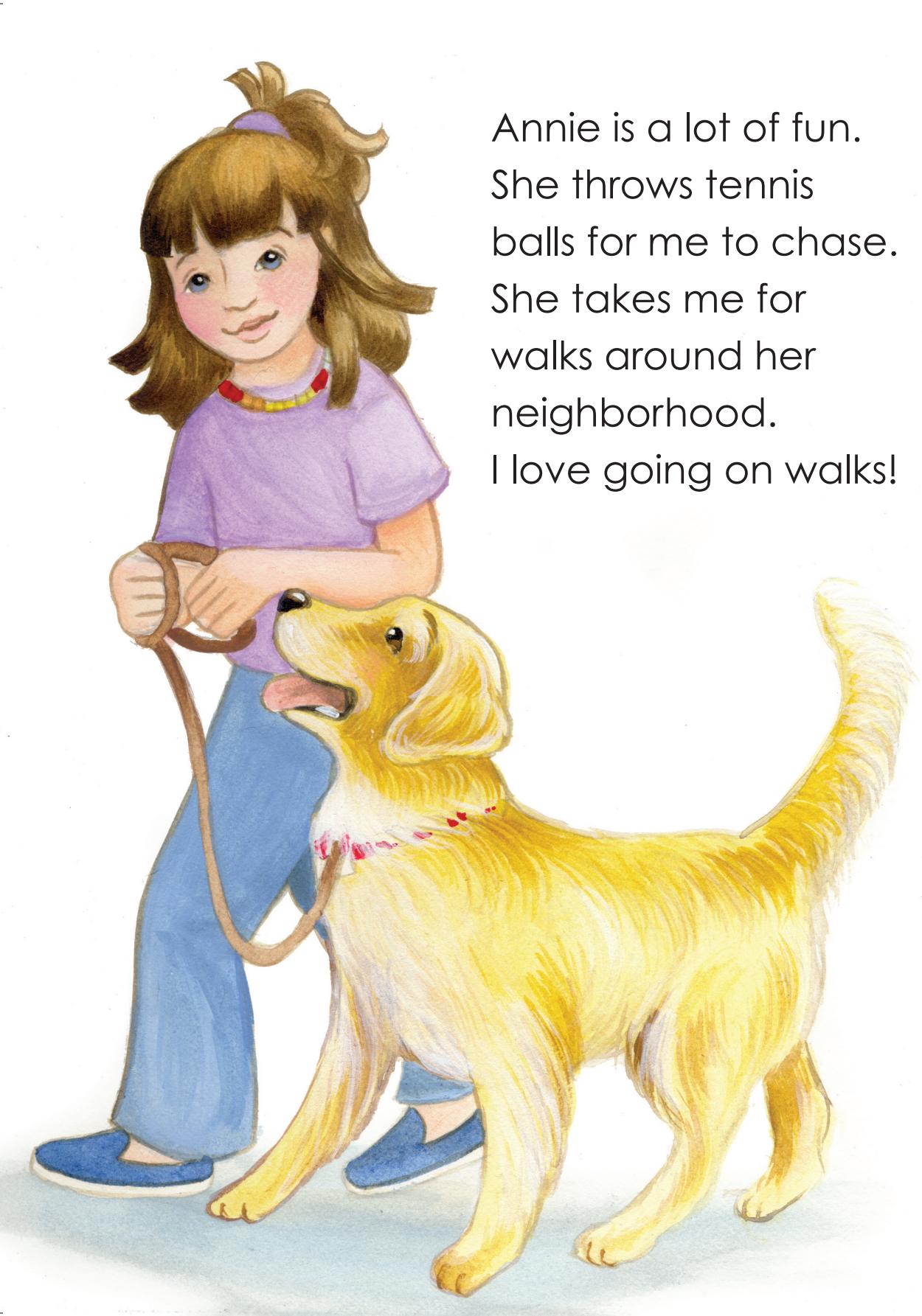
—L.H.



Chapter One



My name is Treasure. I am a Golden Retriever. I love to be with my best friend, Annie. I will do anything to make her happy.



Annie is a lot of fun.
She throws tennis
balls for me to chase.
She takes me for
walks around her
neighborhood.
I love going on walks!

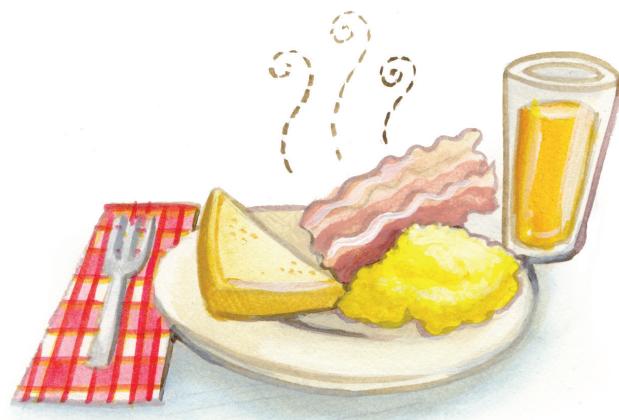


Sometimes Annie's friends see us as we pass by on the sidewalk. They come over to pet me. I love being petted.

I also like doing tricks for Annie's friends. Her friends laugh a lot when I show them what I can do. This makes Annie happy.



Chapter Two



When Annie wakes up each morning, she gives me a kiss and a hug. Then we go downstairs for breakfast.

This morning Annie's mom and dad say they have something important to tell her. I lay down by Annie's feet so I can listen.

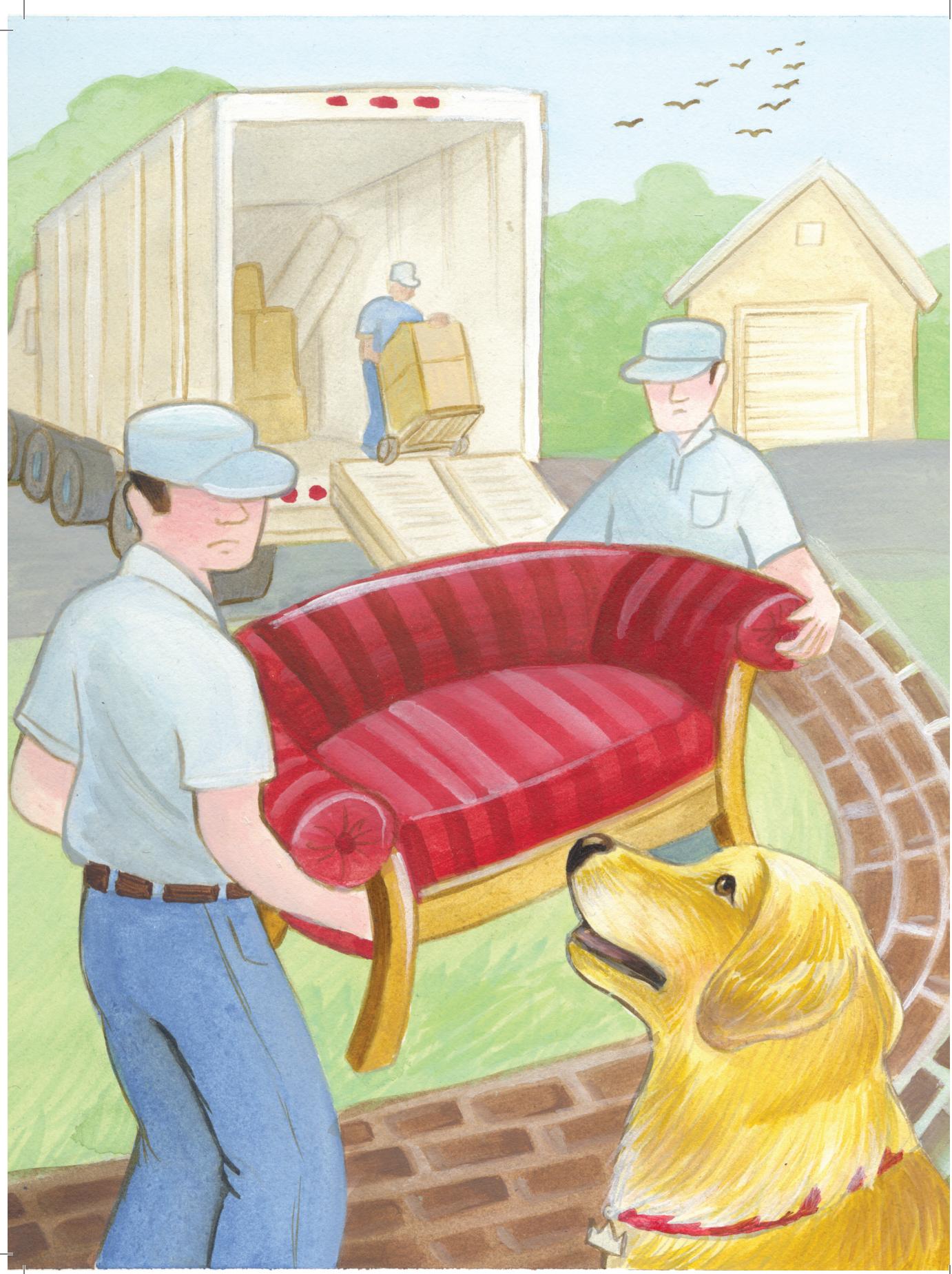




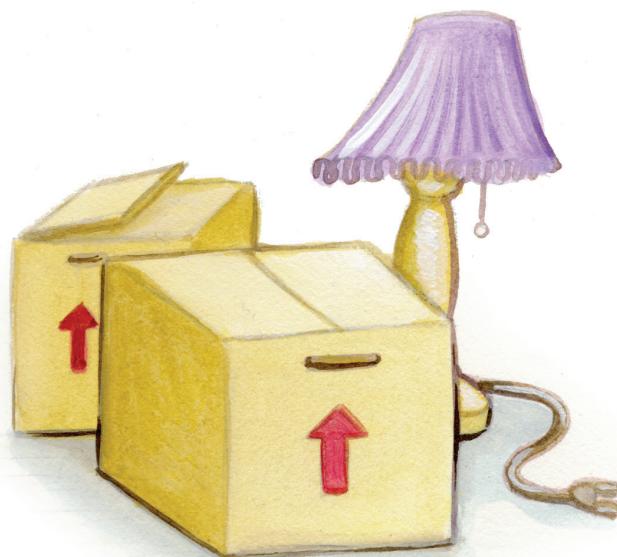
They say that all of us, even me, will be moving to a new neighborhood in a few weeks. Annie's mom says our new home is very nice. The new neighborhood is surrounded by trees and walking paths.

Annie looks very sad as she hears this news. When we go back up to her room, she tells me she will miss her friends and her old house.

I try to make her feel better by giving her a kiss. This makes Annie smile. She hugs me. She says she is glad she can count on me for friendship.



Chapter Three

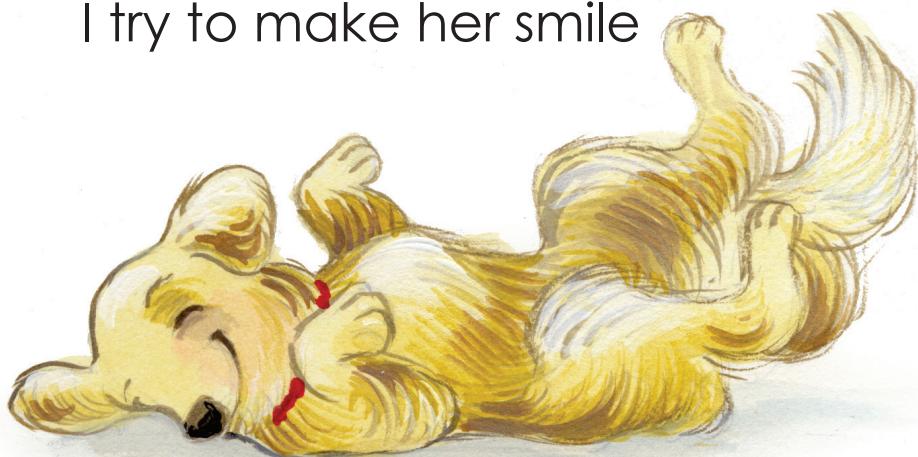


The day of the big move is very confusing to me. I see people carry things out of our home and put them into a truck.

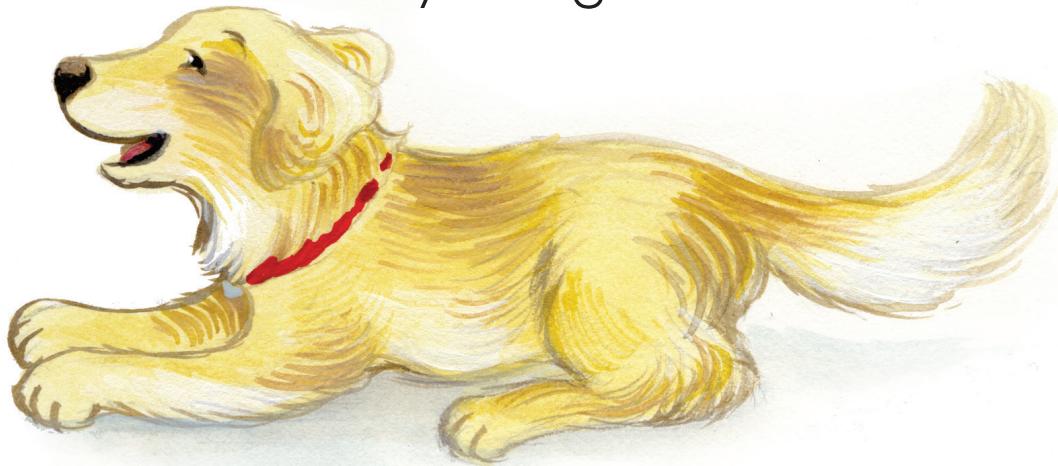
Annie still looks very sad.



I try to make her smile



by doing some tricks.



After a while, Annie tells me to jump into the car.

All her friends wave good-bye as we drive away from our old home.

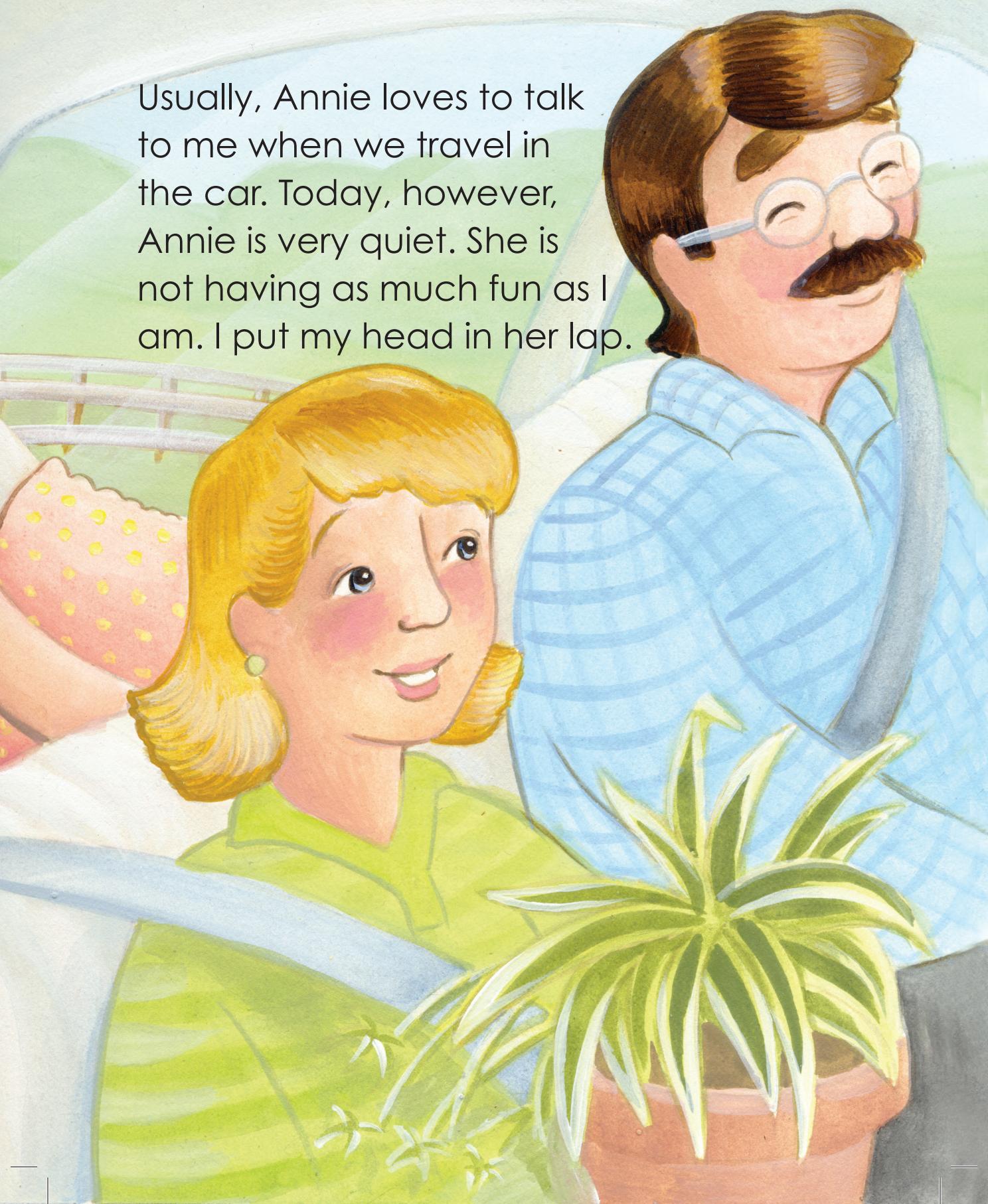


A colorful illustration of a young girl with brown hair in a ponytail, wearing a purple shirt and a red beaded necklace. She is looking out of a car window. A golden retriever dog is sitting next to her, also looking out the window. The car is driving through a rural landscape with green fields and a white fence. A red dog bowl with the word "TREASURE" is on the floor of the car. A lamp with a purple shade is visible on the left. The overall style is a soft, painterly children's book illustration.

Being in the car
with Annie is always
exciting. I look out
the window and see
interesting things.

We drive through many
cities. We drive by fields
with different animals.

Usually, Annie loves to talk to me when we travel in the car. Today, however, Annie is very quiet. She is not having as much fun as I am. I put my head in her lap.







Chapter Four

At last, I feel the car slowing down. We turn onto a street lined with trees. Then we turn into a driveway. The car stops. I see a big house in front of us. Annie gets out of the car. I jump out too and walk beside her.

I am glad Annie is with me. I am a little scared to be in this new place. Annie seems a little scared too.



Annie's mother shows us our new bedroom. It is very pretty. There is a large window.

○ I wag my tail as I spot a squirrel running across our new backyard.

Annie pets me. Once again, she is quiet. I think she misses her friends from our old neighborhood.





Chapter Five



People start moving things from the truck into our new house. Annie finds my favorite tennis ball. We go into the backyard to play.

She throws the ball across the lawn. I run after it and bring it back to her.

I love this game! I bark to let Annie know how happy I am to be with her.

But Annie is still unhappy. I sit down by her. She tells me her birthday is only two weeks away. She says she does not know if anyone will be at her birthday party. She does not know any of the children in our new neighborhood.





Annie wants to invite the neighborhood kids to her party. But she does not know how to make new friends.

I wag my tail to tell her not to worry. I have a plan to help her make new friends!



Chapter Six

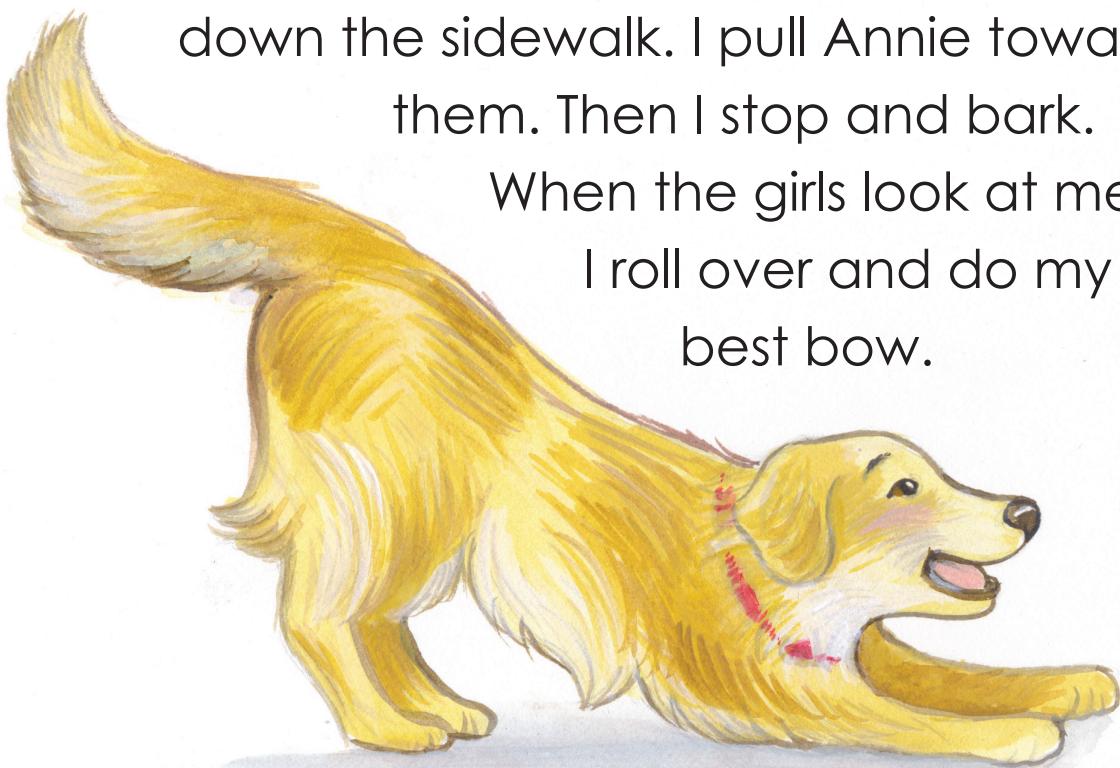


The next morning, I wake up very excited. I pick up my leash and bring it to Annie. I bark and twirl to tell her I want to go for a walk.



As soon as we are outside, I begin pulling Annie. She has to run to keep up with me. I see some girls talking to each other down the sidewalk. I pull Annie toward them. Then I stop and bark.

When the girls look at me, I roll over and do my best bow.



The girls laugh. They walk over and ask Annie if they can pet me. They say I am the most beautiful dog they have ever seen. Annie smiles as she tells them my name is Treasure.

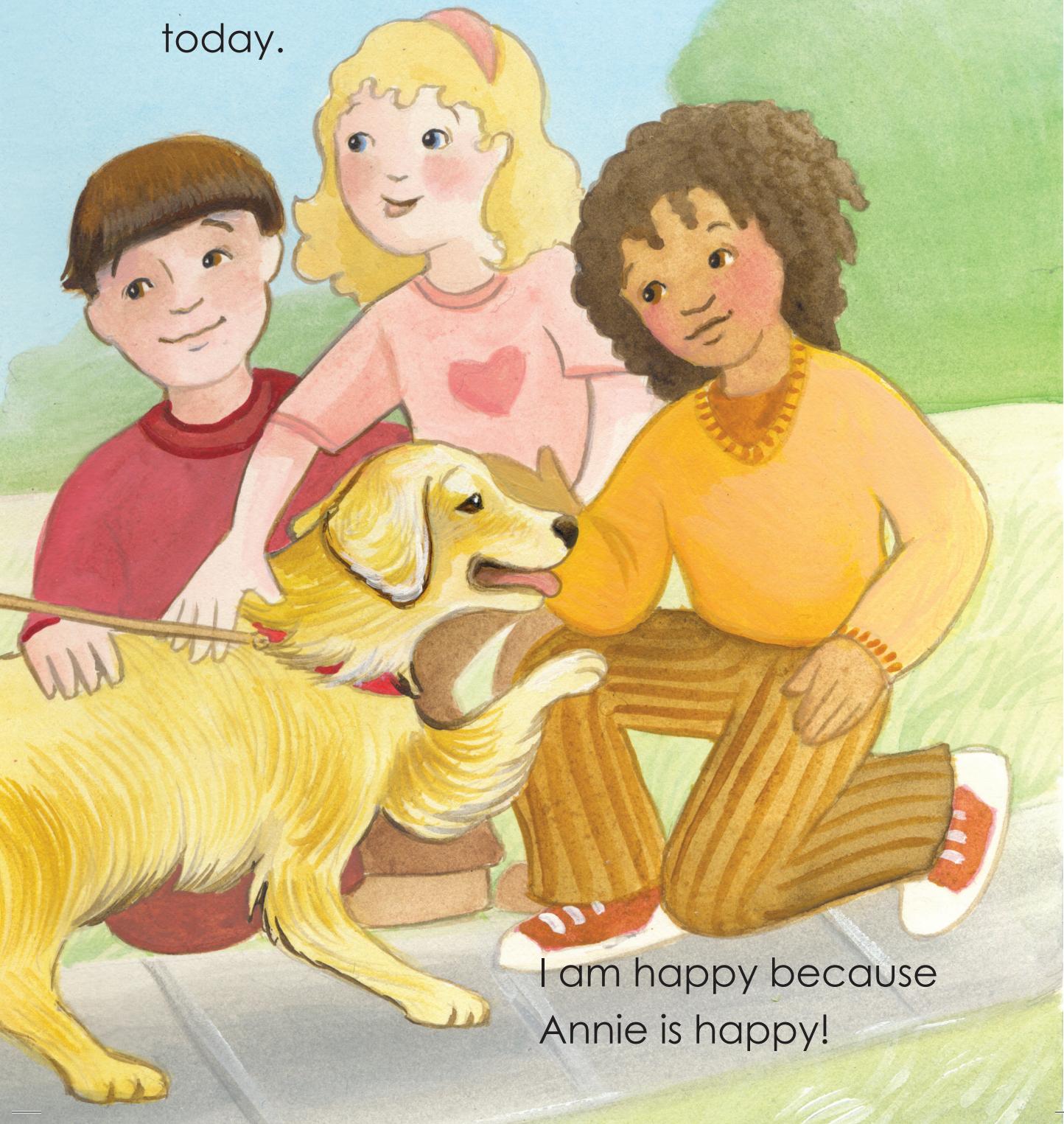
She says I know many tricks. Annie tells the girls we have just moved into their neighborhood. The girls tell her they are happy we live here.



Then I see more kids down the block. I pull Annie again so she can meet those kids too. I am having so much fun walking Annie!



Back home, Annie tells me she is excited because she made some new friends today.



I am happy because
Annie is happy!



Chapter Seven



Two weeks later, Annie has her birthday party. It is fun. All her new friends are there. Annie opens many gifts.

A colorful illustration of a birthday party. In the foreground, a golden retriever dog wearing a red bandana with the word "TREASURE" on it is sitting on the floor, looking up. Behind the dog, three children are seated at a table, smiling and eating cake and ice cream. The table is covered with a yellow cloth and has three plates of cake and ice cream. There are also balloons in the background. The children are wearing yellow, red, and pink shirts.

The kids eat cake and ice cream.
Even I have a bowl of ice cream.
I really love ice cream!

After the party, Annie comes over and hugs me. She says I had given her the best gift of all.

She says the best gift was when I helped her make new friends. She thanks me and says she will always treasure my gift.





I lick her face and wag my tail
to tell her she is welcome.