

Finding the Perfect Dog
By Samuel Trautman

Once there was a boy who wanted a dog. He read all sorts of books to keep him busy with studying. He looked at all different types of breeds. He found one he liked, a Greyhound. But he knew it was too big for his family. And it wasn't like the cuddly kind he was looking for. He looked some more but couldn't think of anything.

Then, one day his mom recommended a Daschund. Perfect, a Daschund! She used to have one when she was a kid. His name was buddy. Cute name, but didn't fit like a name he wanted for his extra special dog. He decided to go with the Daschund. He rented over a ton of books at his local library. He found a couple of books then left for home. He read them for hours studying about Daschunds. He observed all night. After hours, he felt like a dog would be too much. But then he remembered how much he wanted a dog, and he knew that if he gave up now that cute little dog waiting for him would go to another family.

The next week he looked at breeders online. He went to a breeder finder website and typed in his zip code. He scrolled down, looked up and found a breeder that had just had a litter of seven puppies! This long-hair pooch always caught his attention. His name was Vulcan. Not really a name he wanted. He looked at it as if he were an Oliver. Oliver! He thought, "I have my dog name!"

He showed his mom the website. She said he could get one after their vacation later on. They emailed the breeder, and she told them that they could have third pick. Later that night, the boy was really worked up because he knew that cute long-hair puppy would be gone before he could pick. Perhaps maybe a girl could replace Oliver if he was gone before their turn to choose. But the girl names really stumped him. He wanted a boy too since he has two cats that are girls, and they never really understood him. He wanted one that could really feel him when they were playing. He always wanted to play with the cats, but they were too independent for playing with.

Later that day the boy realized that he had to come up with some girl names if the boys were taken. Angela. Samantha. Veronica. Not sure, there were so many names. He decided that he wanted a boy, no matter what. That night a miracle happened. The puppies have opened their eyes! The breeder sent information and pictures. Cute!

Finally, it was time for the boy to go on vacation. The breeder promised to send information monthly; he couldn't wait to get that email!

After the vacation, the boy got his dog. He decided to change his dog's name to his great-grandfather's, Herman.

Second Prize Winner of the 2011 Friends of Baxter Memorial Library Writing Contest ~
Middle School Fiction Category