

When Siggy Met Phyllis

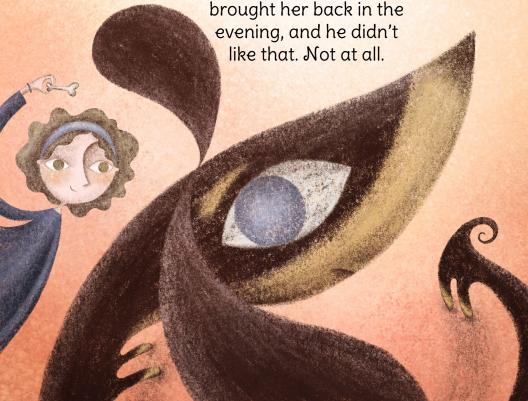
"Puppy 3," said Mrs Beaton, "are you still not going to play with others?"

The tiny dachshund turned to look at the lady who was speaking. He tilted his little head to one side.

He didn't know how he felt about her.

She was the one who brought him food and cared for him, so he quite liked her.

But she was also the one who took his mummy away in the morning and only



Puppy 3 was only five weeks old. So, there were lots of things he didn't know.

For example, he didn't know he was going to be called Siggy – mostly because nobody had named him yet.

He'd heard Mrs Beaton say, "I don't name my puppies because this makes it harder for me to let them go to their forever home."

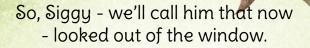
He wasn't sure what that meant, either.

As usual, Puppy 3 (soon to be called Siggy) sat by himself by the window.

He was thinking little puppy thoughts.

He was thinking about breakfast and his mummy, while he watched the world outside.





He was watching some robin redbreasts outside. He saw a mummy, a daddy, and a baby robin in a little nest in the oak tree at the bottom of the garden. The parents were feeding the baby some worms.



Siggy wondered what the wriggly things tasted like.

He kept watching, and around him, all his own baby brothers and sisters were playing a game they called Rough and Tumble!

There were no actual rules in Rough and Tumble. Everyone just piled in and jumped on top of one another until they all got tired. Whoever was on top at the end, won that round.

They played this game a lot. Sometimes, a dozen times a day. Then their mummy was brought back by Mrs Beaton, and the puppies used the last of their energy in excited delight and a quick feed before they all slept deeply and dreamed sweetly.



During the day, while the other puppies cavorted, Siggy mostly preferred to just watch the world outside on his own.

He was a thoughtful little puppy.

What he didn't know was that the world outside was about to visit him inside.

And change his world forever.

If he hadn't been so interested in the robins outside, he would have heard Mrs Beaton go into the hallway.

He would have heard the doorbell that called her to the door.

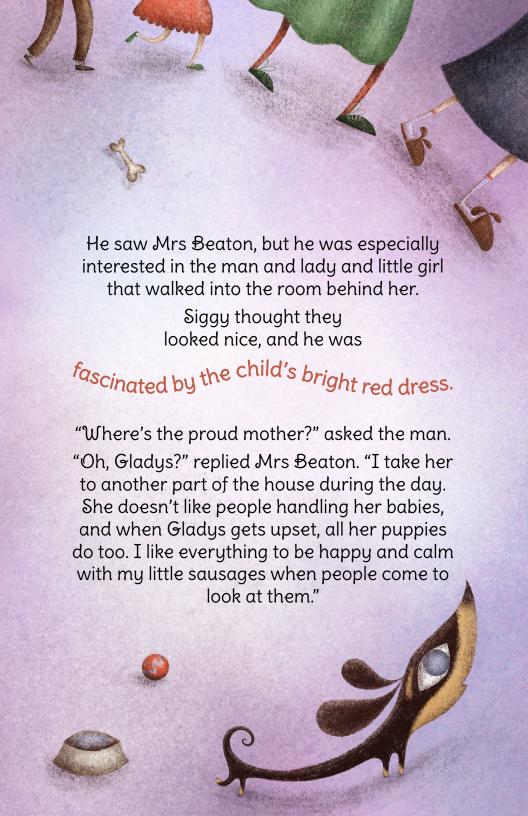
He would have heard people – two adults and a little girl – say that they had come to look at the puppies.

Siggy didn't even know he was called Siggy yet, and he certainly didn't know anything about what was about to happen next...

But when the door opened that morning, he would remember what happened next for the rest of his life.

When the door did open, this time Siggy heard it, and he looked around.



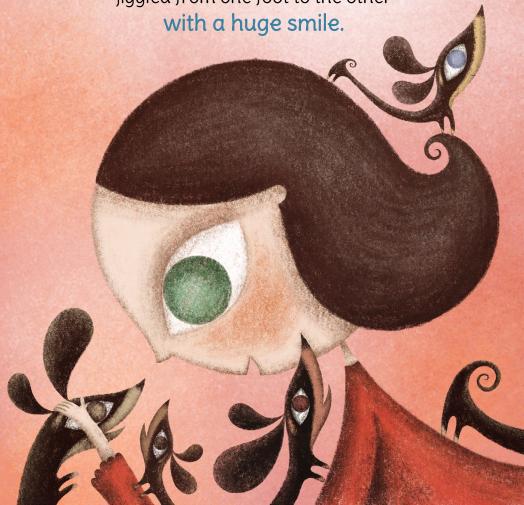


The adults began to speak amongst themselves, and Siggy lost track of the conversation.

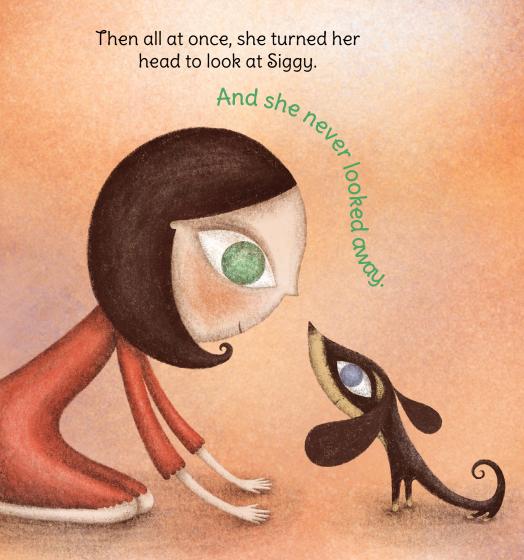
The girl gazed at the puppies, watching them playing, without looking at Siggy.

So, after a little while, Siggy lost interest and started to watch the robins again.

The child continued to peer at all the tumbling dachshund puppies, her face a happy mix of delight and concentration. She giggled and jiggled from one foot to the other

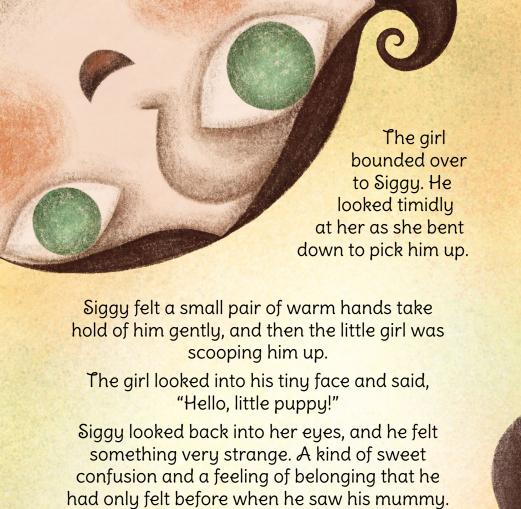


Then all at once, she turned her head to look at Siggy.



The little girl stopped jiggling and stood still. She tugged her mummy's arm and spoke eagerly to her parents, pointing at Siggy.

Then the adults spoke to each other, and they nodded and smiled.



He didn't know what this was. Like I said, there were a lot of things he didn't know. But he knew that he liked the feeling. His big blue eyes gazed up at the girl's face above him.

Siggy had just fallen in love.

"Is that the one, Phyllis?" asked the lady.
"Do you like him?"

"What's his name?" asked the man.

"That's Puppy 3," replied Mrs Beaton. "I never name them, or it breaks my heart to let them go."

She smiled sadly and then added, "And it only confuses them if they have a name and then their forever owner changes it."

"I think we should call him Sigmund!" said the lady.
"What do you think, Phyllis?"

The little girl said, "Sigman?" She found Sigmund difficult to say.

Her parents laughed.

"Not Sigman, Phyllis! Sigmund!" her daddy replied.
"I like it."

"I know! Phyllis – what about Siggy?" said her mum. "Can you say Siggy?"



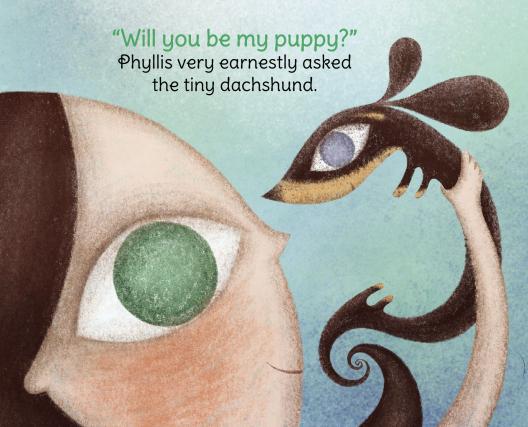
She looked at the little dachshund. "Hello, Siggy!" she said softly.

Siggy looked back at the girl, and he saw himself reflected in her big green eyes. If he had been able to explain, he'd have said that those eyes were filled with love.

His own eyes were filled with love too. "I'm Phyllis," said the little girl.

The baby dachshund made a sweet puppyish noise in reply. The adults heard him make a few soft little barking and snuffling sounds as he wagged his tail furiously.

But Phyllis heard him say, "Hello, Phyllis!"



Siggy looked deep into her eyes and seemed to nod his little head as he made another puppy sound.

"Yes!" he said. Phyllis heard him perfectly.

"He said yes, Mummy! He said yes!" Phyllis cooed and hugged the puppy close.

"Are you going to be my forever human?" whispered Siggy.



"Yes, Siggy!" answered Phyllis, looking into his eyes again. "I'm always going to take care of you. We're going to have such fun together!"

"Aww! Look at them!" said her mummy.

"I think we have a winner!" laughed her daddy.

The little girl and her little dog continued to have eyes just for each other.

Daddy and Mrs Beaton went into the next room, and when he came back a few minutes later, he was holding some papers.

"He's all yours, Phyllis!" he said.

Phyllis felt her heart burst with joy. "Thank you!" she said. "Thank you, Mummy and Daddy. I promise I'll always love him and care for him."

She brought Siggy over, and clutching him tightly in one arm, she hugged her mummy, and her daddy hugged them both.

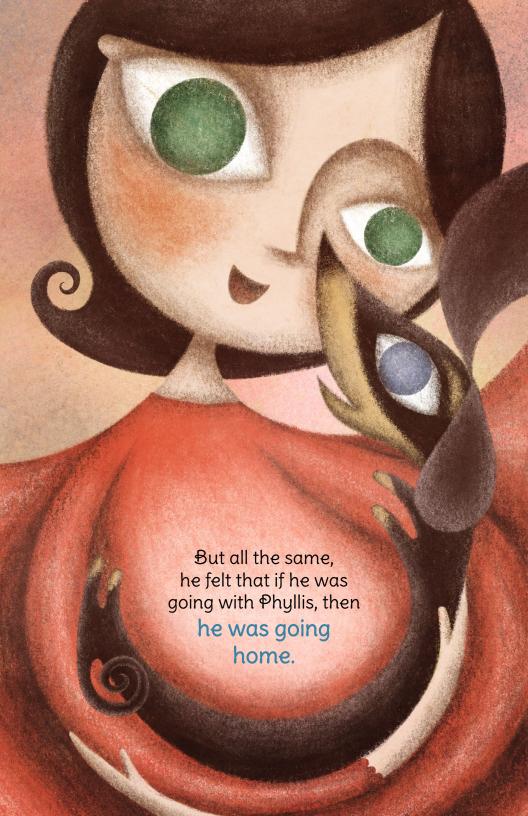




Siggy said goodbye to his little brothers and sisters, who hardly noticed he was leaving, but he didn't feel sad.

He didn't know where he was going, and he would always remember his mother, Gladys.



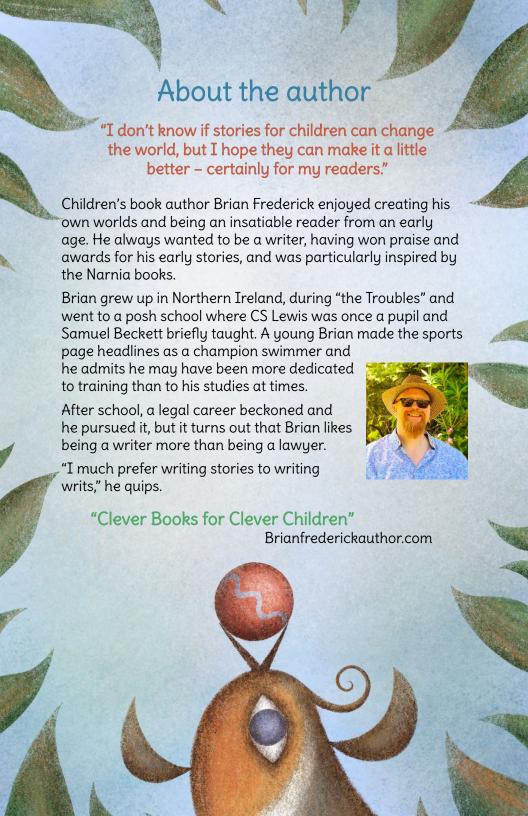


The End

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Siggy the Soccer Dog and Siggy Saves Christmas COMING SOON!







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Join Siggy, as he learns about the happiness that comes from keeping promises, during his romp through a fast and fabulous adventure that ultimately takes him into the deep dark woods...

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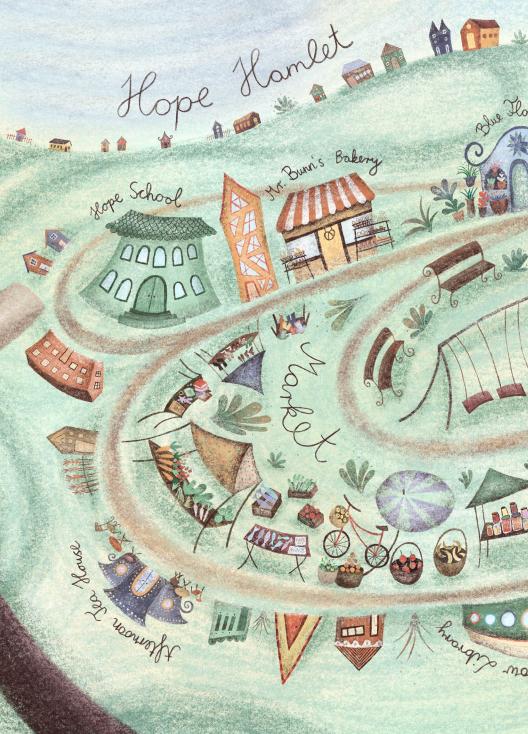
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This is where Siggy and Phyllis live now...





Do you believe in love at first sight?

You WILL after this...

Phyllis is excited to go with her parents to choose a dachshund puppy.

When she gets there, she's transfixed by the cute, cavorting pups as they play, but she can't decide.
Then, all of a sudden, one of them speaks to her...

"This is a beautiful little prequel for you to introduce you to Siggy and how he fell in love with Phyllis the very first time he met her, when she was choosing a puppy...

But - Beware! You May fall in LOVE too..."

Brian Frederick, Author



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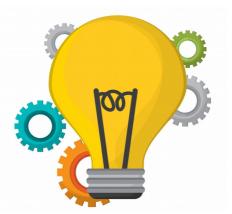


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