

Dog Heaven

GRADE LEVEL AND CATEGORY FORM

(To be placed on the front cover in the bottom right corner)

GRADE 5

Fiction

Poetry

Nonfiction X

I was five years old when we got our first dog Lucy. Lucy was an english bulldog. Lucy was white with brownish tan spots on her belly. She had a light brown spot that was shaped like a diamond on her forehead, and a big brown spot on her back that was shaped like a duck paddling in the water. She also had the softest ears.

We got Lucy from one of my mom's co-workers. Lucy was born in Alaska six months before moving to Wyoming. Lucy was one of the two puppies left from the litter. My mom's co-worker asked us if we could watch Lucy for a couple of weeks while they traveled to get the rest of their stuff in Alaska, we said "yes".

The first thing Lucy did when they dropped her off was poop on the dining room floor, but she was good the rest of the time. Lucy was so good and became a part of our family quickly so when they asked if we wanted to keep her we said yes!

Lucy was a very good dog she'd play with us during the day, protected us at night and most of all she would keep us entertained all day. Lucy liked to go camping, swimming and fishing, she basically did everything with us.

Lucy had been seeing me off to school since pre-school. She would wake me up for school, and sometimes keep me up at night because she snored so loud! Lucy was always there waiting to greet me when I got home from school, always so excited to see me.

I was in fourth grade and my brother Jed was in second. It was Thursday, May 25, 2016 my cousin Mari's birthday, a day I will never forget. It was a normal day, my brother Jed, and I were getting ready for school, packing our backpacks, waiting for our Grandma who was the crossguard at our school to pick us up. It was our last day of

school before Memorial Day weekend. We were excited and so was Lucy she paced all morning following us around going in and out of the house.

Once Grandma showed up we kissed Lucy goodbye and put her outside. The weather was nice that day. We got in the car and headed to our school. Once we arrived at school, Jed and Mari got out of the car to bring Mari's cupcakes to her class. I stayed in the car with my Grandma, and heard my Grandma's phone ring, it was my Uncle Jesse calling. I was eavesdropping and I overheard Jesse say Lucy got her leg run over by our neighbor's truck and she was hiding under my Mom's car. I immediately started to cry. My Grandma hung up the phone and gave me a hug.

My Grandma called my Aunt Ashly to come get me to see if I could get Lucy out from under the car so we could take her to the Vet. My mom was out of town for work and my dad was at work with no phone service. Minutes later my Aunt Ashly had arrived so we drove to my house. My other Aunt, Hollie met us there with Jed and Mari in the car, (Hollie was Jesse's wife).

Once we all got out of both cars Mari and Jed ran to give me a hug then we all looked under my mom's car where they had said Lucy was. But she wasn't there. So we got back in both cars and headed down the street where we saw her on our neighbor's lawn. Immediately I jumped out of the car and ran to her, I hugged her and saw on my fingers there was red blood, that's when I yelled to my aunt "she's bleeding"!

I started bawling, once my brother saw the blood he ran to the other neighbor's house and started pounding on his door with his fists.

The neighbor had a dog named Tank, an American Bulldog, and Lucy liked playing with him, so once in awhile Lucy would go over and play with Tank.

The neighbor would get a broom and use the handle of the broom to open our side gate. Lucy would run over to his house when he opened the gate when we weren't home. I think Lucy mainly liked going over to Tanks to see what he had left in his food bowl. Tank ate people food, so it was a treat for Lucy when he had left overs.

My aunt realized Jed was pounding on the neighbor's door, so she grabbed him and brought him back. The neighbor came out of his house looking clueless and saw us crying then saw Lucy and told us "don't cry" but, I just rolled my eyes in anger almost wanting to punch him. Soon he walked to my Aunt Hollie and told her that he accidentally opened the gate then she ran out, and he forgot to open his, but I don't believe it was an accident!

Momentarily our other neighbor who accidentally ran over Lucy with his truck came and apologized to my Aunts in tears. He offered to pay for all of the medical bills, which made me a little happier. Moments later we all hopped in my Aunt Ashly's car to take Lucy to the Vet.

When we arrived at the Vet, we signed in, and then they took Lucy to the back room for x-rays. Soon they called us back to look at the x-rays, she was badly hurt, and to get her fixed we would have to take her to Evanston and it would cost around \$5,000 dollars.

My Aunt Ashly, facetimes my mom so she could see Lucy and us and told us to wait for my Dad to evaluate the situation. We left the Vet and Lucy to go to school, but

we were too worried and sad to stay. We went to my Grandmas instead and waited to hear from the Vet.

Two or three hours had passed and then my Dad arrived at my Grandmas. We opened the door and didn't see Lucy, so we asked where she was and he told us she had to be put down. They may have been able to fix her leg but they didn't think she would be able to go to the bathroom on her own. Immediately Jed and I broke down in tears.

Once we settled down we went home and started digging a hole to make a beautiful grave in our back yard for Lucy. Before we put her box in the hole, we opened it and gave her a kiss and said our goodbyes. Soon we called our Mom to tell her that Lucy got put down and told her about the grave we dug for her. Minutes later the next door neighbor came over while we were in the process of making her grave and said "I wonder who opened the gate?" so my Dad had a little talk with him and sent him back home. My dad was upset, you could hear it in his voice when he talked to our neighbor.

We finished filling in her grave and settled down for the night. Before bed we called our mom and said goodnight, then got in our beds to sleep. Although, all of us had a hard time sleeping, we managed to get some sleep so we could head to the airport in the morning to pick my mom up.

The next weekend we bought flowers that would bloom every year to plant, and bricks to accent her grave, along with Lucy's favorite toys. Since that day everything has been so different, we miss her and so do our cats Swiffer and Mo.

We have pictures and a lot of memories of Lucy. I remember when I got to bring Lucy to my first grade class for "bring your pet to school day". My brother Jed will always remember the time we took Lucy for a walk, Lucy started barking at some other dogs and ran. While Jed was holding on to Lucy's leash he didn't let go, So Jed's head got ran into a fire hydrant. Jed had to go to the hospital to get his head glued!

Even though she's gone we will always remember the good memories of her. Lucy will always be our first family dog. If there is a dog heaven I know Lucy is there having fun, and watching over us, oh and she is probably snoring so loud keeping the other dogs in dog heaven up!