



Introduction

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Chapter 1: A Triumph Of Surgery

By- James Herriot

Chapter 1: A Triumph Of Surgery

Summary

1. James Enquires about tricki:

It was when James was driving that, he saw Mrs Pumphrey and tricki walking down the street. He stopped his car to see how Trick was doing. He was shocked to see that he had become fat like a sausage and was lacking energy. After enquiring from Mrs Pumphrey about Trick's condition, he advised her to immediately stop giving the dog extra snacks between meals. He also wanted her to make him exercise daily along with a strict diet in order to improve his health. Mrs Pumphrey confessed that it was very difficult for her to do so but she agreed upon giving it a try and walked off with tricki.

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2. Herriot Received an Expected Call:

Mrs Pumphrey called James Herriot, the vet, hurriedly, as Tricki had refused to eat food. Her concern grew even more when he had bouts of vomiting. James drove to Mrs Pumphrey's house with a firm mindset that the only way to cure Tricki was to get him out of the house for some time. He suggested to Mrs Pumphrey to hospitalise him for a fortnight for observation so that the proper treatment can follow. Although it broke Mrs Pumphrey's heart, she allowed James to take Tricki along with him to his surgery.

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He carried the dog wrapped in a blanket to his car. All the house helpers started to get together the blankets, rugs, bowls, coats etc that they thought Tricki might need during his hospitalisation. James started to drive off as he knew that his car could not carry so many things. All that Mrs Pumphrey managed to put were a few of his coats. Tricki left for the hospital leaving his caretakers behind in tears.

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3. Tricki's Stay and Recovery at the Hospital:

Tricki laid motionless on the bed that the vet made for him on the first day. He was put on a water diet for almost two days. Even the household dogs didn't bother him as he seemed uninterested in anything. After two days, he started responding a bit. On the following day, he whimpered (cried in low and weak sound), trotted (walked briskly) and joined the hound (hunting dog) in the garden. Later on the third day, he ran with enthusiasm when the food was served.

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He also gulped (swallowed) down the extra food that was put out for him. His recovery was speeding up.

He had started running all day long and found joy in being bowled over and squashed. In spite of being a high maintenance dog, he had fitted in well with the gang of shabby and unkempt ones.

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4. Mrs Pumphrey's Concern:

Mrs Pumphrey used to phone the vet's clinic several times a day. She was keen to record his recovery and maintenance at short intervals. James brushed away her questions about Tricky's dressing, according to the weather but he didn't fail to assure her that Tricky was out of danger. Upon learning about Tricky's improving health, Mrs Pumphrey started sending additional food items, wine and brandy for Tricky, although this was not required. So the vet and his partner consumed these additional items themselves.

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5. Tricky's Better Condition:

After two weeks James called up Mrs Pumphrey to inform that Tricky was fit and could go home. Mrs Pumphrey reached the surgery within half an hour. While the chauffeur (driver) held the door open, she enquired about Tricky's actual condition. She was concerned about his well being and wanted to be sure about it. James found Tricky playing with the pack. He had become healthy and strong in his two weeks stay.

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As James carried Tricki out to his mistress, he jumped off his arms and landed in his mistress lap. She was very happy at finding Tricki as excited as he used to be. He licked her face and wagged (swung) his tail. The chauffeur and the vet settled the dog's stuff in the car while Mrs Pumphrey thanked the vet for the 'triumph of surgery'.

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Conclusion

In the chapter – A Triumph of Surgery signifies how rich parents indulge their children with expensive items, which prove harmful for their kids' health in the long run.

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