

FAITHFUL KEEPER

KEEPER was a lovely creature—a large, light brown, affectionate dog. He lived at the big house of Mr. Torres where there were five boys and one little girl to admire and pet him. Although Keeper loved all the children, he loved best of all the youngest of the family, little Juana. And how Juana loved Keeper!

Keeper would take Juana to school in the morning, and when it was time for her to leave, he would go and bring her home again. When there was a holiday he was by her all day long, whether she was in the house, or the garden, or the street, or playing across the street at the home of her friend Nemesia. Wherever Juana went Keeper went too.

Juana's big brothers sometimes teased Keeper in a friendly way. If any one annoyed them they would say, "Go on, Keeper!" and Keeper would bound off, barking loudly and behaving in a very terrifying way. But with the children Keeper was gentle and quiet, letting them play with him as much as they liked, and not even murmuring when Juana put a dress on him!

But Keeper could be very fierce. He hated anyone who wore a uniform of any kind, be it policeman, or postman, or

nurse, or even a grocery clerk in his long tunic or grocer's apron. And more than once the children's father had to pay for some of the damage that Keeper caused. In fact, the neighbors began to hate "that horrid dog."

And then one sad day their father came home looking very serious indeed. He had been told by the police that his dog was dangerous and he must get rid of him.

"Get rid of our Keeper!" cried the children in astonishment. Such a thing was not to be thought of. But their father was firm. Keeper must go.

The boys said it was a shame. Poor little Juana didn't say very much. She crept quietly away to her room, threw herself down on her bed, and cried as though her heart would break.

Keeper found her there, and she put her arms around his neck, and told him again and again how much she loved him, and how she would never, never forget him, not if she lived to be a hundred years old.

In the evening, after the children were in bed, someone came and got Keeper, and took him to a neighboring town thirty kilometers away. Juana cried again when she knew next day that Keeper had really gone, and the boys found life very strange without their old friend.

One morning, about a week later, when Juana went out on the front porch before breakfast, whom do you think she found sitting on the porch? There was Keeper!

Somehow or other—no one will ever know how—he had found his way home; he had walked from the town thirty kilometers away, back to the big house where

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Juana and the boys lived. His feet were sore and bleeding, and he was very, very dusty and thirsty. His eyes had "a pleading look" as Juana's mother truly said.

"He shall never go away again," said Juana's father. The boys cheered, and as for little Juana, never before in her life had she been so happy.

Keeper was delighted to see everyone again, especially little Juana. Back and forth he wagged his old tail, and lifted up one of his poor sore paws, and licked Juana's hand to show how pleased he was.

Juana and Keeper were greater friends than ever after that, and even the neighbors, when they heard the story of the dog's devotion and faithfulness, said, "We won't complain about him any more!"

And so little Juana and the boys again had their friend and companion, faithful Keeper.

SOME QUESTIONS

1. Do you like dog stories?
2. Did you like this one? Why?
3. Do you think Keeper was really a dangerous animal?

FAITH

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repeated words of Jesus in which He said, "For verily I say unto you, If ye have faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye shall say unto this mountain, Remove hence to yonder place; and it shall remove: and nothing shall be impossible unto you."

Saint Luke quotes Jesus as saying, "If ye had faith as a grain of mustard seed, ye might say unto this sycamine tree, Be thou plucked up by the root, and he thou planted in the sea; and it should obey you."

Let us remember that without faith, we can do nothing; that with faith, all things are possible.

FAITH

Say not the struggle naught availeth,

Say not that labor is in vain;

Say not the enemy ne'er faileth,

And as things are they must remain.

For while the tired waves, vainly breaking,

Seem here not e'en an inch to gain,

Far back, through creeks and inlets making,

Comes silent, flooding in, the main.

And not by eastern windows only,

When daylight comes, comes in the light,

KITTY KAT

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2. What did Dolores do when she was called?

3. Was that the right way to do? Why not?

4. What sound did Dolores hear?

5. What did she do?

6. What did she see?

7. What did Kitty Kat do at first?

8. What did Kitty Kat seem to think of the sounds made by the keys?

9. Where did he sit?

10. Then what happened?

DESSERTS

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the juice. Bake the pie crust first, and then add the lemon filling. Keep the whites of the eggs for the meringue.

Whip up the whites stiff, add a little pulverized sugar, and then spread it on top of the pie. Put in the oven for a few minutes.

Pie Crust

Use three cupfuls of flour (sifted) to which has been added two teaspoonfuls of baking powder, one teaspoonful of salt, two cupfuls of lard, and one cupful of water. Roll to the proper thickness and bake quickly.

In front, the sun climbs slow, how slowly,
But westward, look, the land is bright.

—Selected.