

Memoirs of a Happy Hamster

Ilani Weeks

Chapter I

The Beginnings

I remember being very small and one of many in the litter. My mother was warm and gentle with me but soon I was taken away, to be sold with my brothers and sisters in a pet shop. I was frightened and didn't know what would happen to me.

One day a lady came in and asked to look at me. I was taken out of my container, I was very scared. I tried to jump but I was caught and put into a box to be sold. So began my new life as a pet.

Chapter II

My new home.

I could see nothing inside the box. I was taken to a car and driven to my new home. It was a funny feeling in the car but soon we stopped and I was taken into the house. I was carried in the box and put down in a quiet place. The box was opened and I was free to explore my new surroundings. I kept very still and sniffed to air it was full of strange smells. I was hungry and crept out to see if there was any food. I was pleased to find a big bowl of seeds and grains. I was still frightened but felt better for finding food. After a day or so I grew less frightened and every day the lady would come and talk to me. So I slowly became less afraid. My new home was a big plastic box. But then the lady lifted me from my box and took me and placed me in a big hamster cage. She stroked me and spoke kind words. That night I slept in my new home.

Chapter III

The bath.

My next big adventure was to discover the delights of the bath. The lady picked me up out of my new cage and placed me in a big white bath. The sides were slippery and I could not climb out but I could run around and be stroked. Soon I got used to this happening every day and enjoyed it. I was no longer frightened and I was used to being picked up. I sensed something new was about to happen and I was not wrong. Many times I heard a new voice somewhere in the house. It was a voice I was soon to come to know and trust.

Chapter IV

Christmas

By the twitching of my whiskers I could sense something new was going to happen. I could smell a pine tree and two new people. I later learnt that the tree was called a Christmas tree. It was the time of the year to give each other presents. I was going to be a very special present for a little girl called Ilani. Ilani had been wanting a pet for a very long time I had heard. She was sad because she wasn't able to see her daddy and she missed him very much. I was awakened by voices and I heard a small high voice asking "is it for me?" The next thing I remember I was lifted out and held closely while a little girl gently stroked my head. She told me that she loves me very much and that she would try to be the best carer in the world.

Chapter V

Naming

"What shall we call him grandma?" asked Ilani. "How about Hamlet?" asked grandma "No I want to call him Dandy!" said Ilani. "It's short for Dandylion." said Ilani. "Talking about Dandylions why don't we get some for him to eat?" asked Grandma. Yes! Shouted Ilani in excitement! From then on I was given fresh vegetable treats and I was now called Dandy and which I recognised and came when I was called. As time past I was regularly taken out of my cage and exercised. I enjoyed this very much and when Ilani was away grandma gave me my exercise.

One day grandma took me down to the basement to let me have a run around. She was busy painting and I ran past her and found a hole behind the toilet. It was just the right size for me to disappear down. Ooooooh I had escaped and I was keen to see what lay ahead. I squeezed through another hole and found myself behind the shower. I could hear grandma calling "Dandy!" but I didn't want to come back just yet. On and on I went and I wasn't sure how to get back! I decided to have a little sleep and think about it. I was awoken by a loud crashing noise and a hole appeared above my head and a hand reached down and grabbed me. Ilani's grandad had found me. I heard grandma say "I think Ilani is the best person to exercise Dandy."

Chapter VI

Ilani's bedroom.

My next big adventure was Ilan's bedroom, it is a very nice room. There are lots of sft toys for me to climb on and everywhere I look there are things to explore, like going under her bed. One day I ran out from under her bed without her looking and ran across her room to her library. I hid behind all of her books. I kept very quiet and I didn't come when she called for me. Ilani was very worried and pulled the books away but I dodged and hid. This was exciting I loved it this was such a good game. But I could tell Ilani was getting worried so I came out. Ilani was so pleased to see me so she hugged me, kissed my head and put me back in my cage.

Chapter VII

Up the radiator.

Weeks past and I got tamer and tamer each day. I had a lot of adventures and I was happy as happy can be. One day I noticed that there was a hole underneath these big white things which for humans are called “radiators”. One evening, I tried to climb up this so called “radiator” thing and succeeded! But, suddenly I realised it was getting hot and then hotter and hotter! Grandad downstairs had just turned the heating on! Suddenly my paws began to burn! And I broke into a cold sweat!

Chapter VIII

The rescue!

As I stayed still in the scolding hot “radiator”, I began to hear anxious cries from Ilani. “Grandad help!” I heard her cry! Then I heard footsteps Grandad was coming to save me with his almighty 1 meter ruler! He started by putting it in the top of the radiator and accidentally bashed my nose with it. But then, I grabbed the ruler with my paw and heaved myself up!

Chapter IX

The giant wardrobe.

My next exciting adventure was the top room. It had a colossal bed and wardrobe. It was a giant room. There was tonnes of places I could hide. One of those places was the colossal wardrobe. It had a hole in the back which I could just squeeze through as I am very tubby. I stayed there and chewed for several hours. It was night time so Ilani fell asleep waiting for me. And grandma sat there waiting with a torch. As I came out grandma spotted me from the corner of her eye and swiftly grabbed me and put me in my cage yet again!

Chapter X

The drawers

After the insertant in the top room Ilani had moved me into her little room again with the fascinating library. I was having my daily jog around the room. I spotted a rather good chest of draws that I managed to break into from the back. I then saw some handy nesting material “Not up to my standard but these brand new pink jeans of Ilani will do” I said wearing a gruesome grin upon my face . . .

“Aaaaaagggghhhh” I heard Ilani cry from my cage the next morning. She didn’t think using her jeans as nesting material was a good idea . . .

Chapter XI

Dandy and the ancient manuscript! The final chapter! . . .

One afternoon I was having my daily jog in Ilani's bedroom. Yes that's right I had been forgiven for the mishap in the draws that our last chapter had been about! Anyway, Ilani then suddenly came in the room making me jump. She then put down a rather huge bag on the carpet in the middle of the room. The contents in the bag you ask. Well that is what I wondered too. So I then strode towards the bag trying to be brave. "Who knows what's in that bag?" I wondered, curiously. No sooner had I split inside, the bag it was then picked up and I felt myself moving at a rapid pace. The bag I then noticed was full of library books and Ilani was on her way with me and them back to the library. It wasn't far before we stopped I could hear Ilani and grandma talking to the librarian "Lisa".

I poked my head out of the smelly bag and jumped down with no one realising! In front of me lay a world of books! So I decided to have a quick stroke. But when I came out Ilani, grandma and Lisa the Librarian had disappeared! So I went for a quick run to find out where the three had hobbled off to. But then, I got lost and had no idea where I was. I climbed up a shelf of books and found myself sitting next to a knitted mouse. But at that time I didn't know it wasn't a real mouse so this is what I angrily said, "Where are we, where am I. Can't get any sense out of you foo!". Yes I know rather rude wasn't it. I look back round think I could have been much more polite to that knitted mouse. Then I noticed a sign that said:

CHILDREN

AREA on a door

I thought Ilani would be in there but when I got there Ilani was not to be found. So I wandered off to another room, and found an old manuscript laying on the floor. It had fallen out of a book - shelf. "I can have a good chew on that!" I said to myself, delighted. S I had a good chew, but when I got to the middle I felt something hard.

Suddenly I heard footsteps coming towards the room. It was Sue another librarian so I swiftly scuttled off behind the door.

"Oooh my goodness!" said Sue bending down to pick up the old manuscript I had been having a chew on.

"What's happened the manuscript has been eaten by rats, it's ruined!" She glared around the room as I kept still and quiet. Then Ilani and Lisa appeared wondering what all the fuss was about.

Sue handed the battered manuscript to Lisa.

Both Lisa and Ilani looked at the damaged manuscript. There was something rather familiar about it to Ilani. "Could it possibly have been Dandy!" Ilani said to herself in shock horror.

Lisa was looking at the manuscript and said "Look theres something hard stuck under the cover." They all looked at Lia as she pulled out a very old will!

"This looks interesting!" Lisa said in surprise.

"It looks like a will!" Ilani said "Go ahead and read it!"

"OK" says Lisa reading it out.

"I Charles, William, Pascoe, trescollywhopper being of sound, body and mind do leave my entire estate to Morrab Library, In thanks for providing me with the reference books that helped me make my fortune. In gratertude I leave my house, estate and all my posestions to benefit the people of the town, penzance.

There was a gasp from Lisa and Sue and Ilanis eyes were glowing with excitement!

"Well!" said Lisa at last "The Library will be safe forever!"

Just at that moment Dany, hearing Ilani's voice ran out from behind the door and ran towards her. Climbing over an elderly lady's foot. There was a terrible shriek and as that happened Ilani swiftly grabbed him by the bottom.

"Dandy" said ILani, " You naughty hamster!"

"Well, " said Lisa "If it hadn't been for Dandy we would never have found the will in the ancient manuscript. I think he's a hero we might even name one of the rooms here after him!"

THE

END !

(Further adventures from Dandy may continue.)