



Osa and Dorrit's Adventure

By: Elowen Vettyvelu-Telegdi



Short Story Contest

The Tails of Hope Short Story Contest invited children to write about their beloved furry friend and use their imagination to bring their story to life through words and artwork.

This inspiring project celebrates the deep connection children share with animals and highlights their compassion, creativity, and appreciation for pets of all shapes and sizes. Through storytelling, Tails of Hope provides children with an opportunity to express themselves, build confidence, strengthen communication skills, and explore their emotions in a positive and meaningful way.

As future leaders, children play an important role in shaping a kinder and more compassionate world. Through initiatives like Tails of Hope, we can nurture empathy, confidence, and respect for animals while encouraging creativity and self-expression.

A special thank you to Pickering Animal Services, Pickering Public Library, and Scholars of Pickering and Ajax for contributing to the success of this initiative.





My name is Elowen. I am 7 years old, and I love to draw, write, and read. I am creative and smart.

Have fun and go on adventures!

I wrote this story for my dog and her cousin.



Two dogs, named Osa and Dorrit, were walking in the mossy woods with their owner.

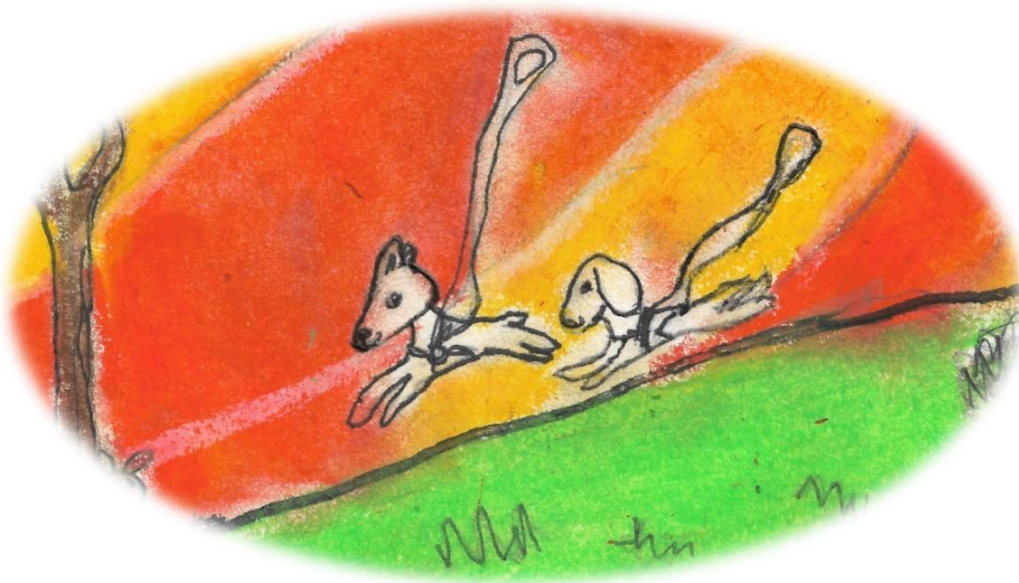
Dorrit didn't look much like Osa. She had a chocolate coat and floppy ears, with yellow eyes. Osa had a mostly black coat with a bit of white and brown. Her eyes were dark brown also.

Their owner had bad allergies. Some dandelion seeds blew into her face. She sneezed and then she tripped and let go of the leadshes! The dogs ran loose!

They were happy, so happy! They ran and played. They did not notice that they were running down a hill.

They ran so fast that soon they were rolling.

They rolled so far that they became lost. When they stopped, they didn't know where they were and they were so dizzy. "Osa, I'm scared" said Dorrit.





"Why are you scared? You're a big and tough dog" said Osa.

"I'm not that big, and I'm not that tough. I'm still a puppy" Dorrit exclaimed.

Splash! Splash! They heard a sound.

"Let's follow that splashing sound" said Osa.

"Good idea" Dorrit replied.

So they followed the sound to the river and there were huge salmon, with glossy silver scales, fighting the current up the stream. It smelled rotten and delicious.

Osa yelled "fish" and darted into the water.

Dorrit followed, but there was a problem. Osa and Dorrit were not good swimmers. They struggled to swim in the deep end of the water.

They began to sing a song.

"Am I dreaming?
Strong currents take me home.
Am I dreaming?
I don't deserve dog bones.
I don't deserve treats.
I deserve my family.
And every night I look up at the stars.
It feels like I'm getting swept away
to a far away land by the seas."



They were carried away to Lake Ontario, holding onto a fallen tree.

Osa accidentally let go, but Dorrit grabbed hold of her leash and pulled her to safety.

The current swept them to shore.

At least they were safe.

"Phew, we're safe" Dorrit said.

"I couldn't have done it without you" said Osa.



They wandered for a few minutes on the shore, and then they spotted a hollowed-out tree. It was the perfect place to have a nap, so they fell asleep in the cozy natural bed.

An hour later, they woke up and got out of the tree.

Osa spotted a brown squirrel and chased after it, with Dorrit following behind her. Osa cornered the squirrel in a tiny hole.

"Squirrel, I'll have you for lunch" growled Osa.

"I'm not a squirrel, I'm a baby bear. My mom is going to be angry with you" said the squirrel.

"That doesn't look like a bear. It looks like a squirrel to me. Do you know what a bear looks like?" Osa asked Dorrit.

"No, I don't" replied Dorrit.

"Then let's leave it alone. We don't want to get in trouble with its mom" said Osa.

"Let's get out of here" they both yelled, and they darted away.

In the distance, they could hear the squirrel-bear snickering.





They were very sad and scared. They never should have left their owner. They thought they would never eat dog food or treats, or have a proper sleeping place, again. They missed their family.

Far away, they could hear someone calling. It sounded like their owner calling their name.

"Osa, do you hear that?" asked Dorrit.

"Yes, it sounds like our family" said Osa.

"Let's follow their voices" said Dorrit.

So they followed the voices a bit further down the beach to an eroded cliff. It wasn't that easy to climb, but it was the fastest way to get up. They started to climb, one paw after another. Sometimes they would slide down a bit, but they helped each other up. Finally, they reached the top!

Osa panted "we're finally at the top."

Dorrit said "I hope we can find them."

They could still hear them calling, but the sound was getting farther and farther.

"I have an idea! Let's bark to call them" said Dorrit.

They started to bark as loud as they could. Finally, they saw some people run out from the edge of the forest.





It was their family! They ran faster than they ever did before and soon they were jumping all over their owners. They were grateful to see them and their family was delighted to see them too. They went back to their home sweet home and earned lots of treats and delicious dog food.

"We're so happy that we found you and I hope you're happy to have a bath" said their owner.

"BATH, NO WAY" barked the dogs.

They were put in the bath with extra bubbles and suds.

They missed the forest and the stinkiness of rotten fish on the river shore.

The end.

