

Amelie's *Crissmoss* Story

By Ishita N. (6th Grade)

Oh how I miss my older sisters. They always go to this "school," and it's so boring without them. I wait by the front door for hours. Wait, that's them!

"Amelie! I missed you girl!" Amari said, petting my fur.

"Uh huh, I missed you too," added Amaya. Mom came and hugged the girls, then she stroked my ear. I love, LOVE ear strokes!

"Good doggie," mom whispered in my ear. She then said, "Are you girls excited? It's winter break!" Winter break? What's that? Does it have to do with winter and it's delicious snow?

"Of course, mom! Who wouldn't be excited?" Asked Amari.

I got bored with the conversation, and went to find my AmelieBone. I found it underneath the couch, and started to chew on it. I chewed and watched as my sisters dropped their backpacks with a thud. I let out a whimper, but they didn't notice. They talked to mom about their *Crissmoss* plans.

Crissmoss is the bringer of snow. On *Crissmoss*, me and my sisters play in the snow, and then they get to drink hot *cocolate*. I seriously want to try some form of *cocolate*, maybe just a tiny bit. But they always say no. It's very, very tiring, but I don't want to get punished though.

Punishment is me being sent to "the cage," with **NO** toys! Nothing to play with, and being stuck in "the cage" is the worst. I do everything in my power to avoid that happening. My sisters started eating, so I went over to the table for "accidentally" dropped food. But sadly there was no "accidentally" dropped food.

The next day was a weekend, which means my sisters don't have to go to school! Instead their only job was to play with me all day long! We played fetch, find the treat, dance, and more. My favorite game is find the treat, though we don't play that game as much as the others,

After I ate my lunch, I wandered over to the tree. The tree only came out during *Crissmoss* time. Then the girls covered it with *oraments*, and some furry, long thing. The *oraments* were a ball shape, and in colors of red, white, blue, green, gold, and silver. But that wasn't the best part though. The best part was the scent.

The scent was the same as the inside of me and my family's car. It wasn't the car itself, since the scent came from a tree thing that hung in the front of the car. My family calls it a pine tree scent, so maybe this is a pine tree?

"Amelie girl, come here," said Amaya. I woofed, and went to her! "I want you to **STAY** away from the *Crissmoss* tree, okay?" Asked Amaya.

I started to bark, "Of course Amaya, of course!" I then jumped on her, making her fall. Oh how I wish I hadn't done that.

Amaya yelled out in pain, and started to bleed! The bleeding came from her head, and Amari, and mom started screaming. I whimpered, and then heard dad's booming voice.

"What happened?!" He asked. He then finally saw Amaya and started to scream too. He then took out his phone and called someone. The rest was all a blur.

Strangers in white and blue clothes came into the house with a strange bed-like contraption. I barked at them, but they ignored me. Asking mom and dad questions, and placing Amaya on their contraption. I barked some more, and bared my teeth. And of course, they ignored me again. All I wanted to do was express my happiness, and it ended in despair.

The strangers took Amaya with them, and mom trailed behind. Dad took out my food and put it in one of my doggie bowls. Then they left too. What troubled me was that before they left, Amari shot me a dirty look and slammed the door in my face. I whimpered and barked, but no one answered. I was all alone.

Only later that night dad and Amari came back. They didn't even glance at me at all. I could sense their sadness and fear, so I went up to dad and nudged his hand. He shot me an angry look, and that was when I realized they were angry at me. I hung my head, and went to my bed. I wished that they would understand that I didn't know mean for this to happen. But they won't, and maybe for a good reason. Since it was my fault anyway.

I fell asleep to troubled dreams, so when I woke up, I was shivering with fear. I got out of my bed and noticed I was alone, again. I wanted to see Amaya, and tell her I was sorry. Really, really sorry, and that we were supposed to be laughing and happy. Not this, not feeling this emptiness.

The week dragged alone, with so much loneliness inside of me. But finally, Amaya came back home! I yelped with joy, so much joy! I couldn't believe it! Amaya was alright! I charged straight toward her, but mom blocked me and nodded her head no. Oh. They don't trust me anymore it seems. Maybe never again will I see those smiles filled with love directed toward me. I guess I deserve that, after everything.

The next day was *Crissmoss*! The house was filled with laughter and warmth again. We didn't get to play in the snow but that was alright. The important thing was that we're all together again. I decided to take a risk and lay on Amari's feet. And when I did, she shot me a half smile. I was so, so happy!! I woofed in delight, and they all smiled at me! I then realised, *Crissmoss* for me this year, was the bringer of forgiveness. Which I seriously needed! At the end, this was how it should have been. But at least it was like this now, and maybe forever.

The End