



Molly's New Family

by Grace Fearn

Mia and Harry loved living on a farm. Every day after school the bus dropped them off at the end of their very long driveway. Bella the little red dog would be waiting patiently for them with her tail wagging. Then all 3 of them would run all the way down the long dirt road until they got to the house. Mum would be waiting to give them a cuddle and a snack and then they would head off outside to explore.

Mia, Harry and Bella loved playing on the farm.

There were chickens, ducks, cows, sheep and a very old grumpy goat they named Mr Moody. There were chook cheds to look for eggs, dams to look for ducks and frogs and if you were lucky, even catch a yabbie.

One afternoon Mia and Harry got off the school bus but Bella wasn't there waiting. They called and called her name as the bus drove away but no Bella. The children looked at each other worried and ran as fast as they could towards the house yelling out for their mum.

Their mum came rushing out to see what was wrong. Mia and Harry both started crying and were trying to tell their mum that Bella was missing when their Dad pulled up on a quad bike after fixing fences.

Dad told the kids to jump on and let's go and look around. "I am sure she was just distracted as she was having too much fun" said Dad.

"But she's always there" cried Mia, "there must be something wrong."

"Drive faster dad" said Harry in a panicked voice.

As dad drove, the kids looked around. Bella wasn't at the dam where she liked to chase frogs and she wasn't running around chasing rabbits.

Where was she? The children were worried.

Suddenly Harry started yelling "there she is, there she is, quick dad". Dad headed over to the little red dog jumping around and barking madly.

"Silly dog" said Dad. "She's just chased a rabbit down a hole".

The kids jumped off the quad bike and raced over towards Bella. She was barking like mad.

Harry went over to the hole and looked in. "Dad come quick, I can hear something, it sounds like a kitten meowing". Mia and Dad kneeled down in front of the hole and were quiet.

'Shhhhh!' Mia said to Bella who was still barking.

"It definitely sounds like a kitten" said dad. Dad lay down on the dirt and reached inside the hole. "Got it" he said slowly dragging out a very tiny little ginger kitten. "Oh my goodness" the kids said. "Oh he is so cute, can I hold her please?" said Mia.

Dad handed Mia the very little scared kitten and they headed back to the farm. "Can we keep her please dad?" the kids said all the way home. "We will have to ask your mother" said Dad. "Right now we need to get her some water and something to eat".

As they drove back to the farm Mia cuddled the frightened kitten very tightly and Harry cuddled Bella very tightly.

"Our Bella is a hero Dad", said Harry. "She saved that little kitten's life by finding her". "Yes she did" said Dad, "not that I know how a little kitten got itself all the way out here, but she's a very lucky girl"

Their mother was waiting for them as they drove up the driveway. "Look wat Bella found" shouted Mia as she climbed down off the bike. "Oh wow" said Mum "aren't you the clever girl?" said mum patting Bella's head.

"Can we keep her please mum pleeeeeease?" wailed the children.

Their mother looked at their father who shrugged and smiled. "I don't see why not.....". She was then cut off by squeling children who had run off to find a bowl and some food for their new friend.

"What shall we call her?" Harry asked Mia as he filled up the bowl with water.

"Can we call her Molly?" Mia asked.

"That's a good name" said Harry.

They watched her as she drank her water and ate her food. "She's not shaking" said Mia. "That means she's not scared anymore".

The children made her a bed by the fire next to Bella and patted her as she slept. She was very tired after a big day.

Then they patted Bella who was also sound asleep.

It is after all, very tiring being a hero dog.

THE END