

Mrs. Duncan had a twinkle in her eye when she replied, “Oh, my goodness! Are you ready to give Piper away to someone else now!”

Mr. Duncan looked down at Piper who was waiting by the door to be taken for her afternoon walk. He was sorry he had seemed impatient with her puppy behavior.

“Give Piper away? I wouldn’t think of it! Who else would love this little black dog like we do? And who else would take her for a walk every day? You know we need a watch dog, and Piper is good company for us. Say! Won’t she be one year old tomorrow?”

“Yes, tomorrow is Piper’s birthday,” Mrs. Duncan said. “What shall we do to celebrate it?”

“How about a special trip to the park at walk time, and a new toy to play with when we get back?” Mr. Duncan suggested.

Piper cocked her head to one side when she heard her name mentioned. She pulled her leash down from the hook by the door and presented it to Mr. Duncan. She knew she was a very lucky puppy.

