

Jaggy,
Our Savior

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CHAPTER ONE

The terrible night that took Jaggy's mother and siblings came flooding back and seeped into his dreams. His golden coat made the moonlight reflect off of him. His small ears could attract sound like his spots attracted light. It happened when Jaggy and his siblings were scuffling when a hunter came into their neck of the forest. The hunter was very strong and had a huge gun and had taken his mother, his brothers and his young sister all eleven weeks old with a few baby shots with that gun. Jaggy, being the runt of the litter, was the only one still alive.

His peaceful sleep was now restless in the large wire cage. The room he shared was one with two other lions, twins that had been kept by a very dangerous drug dealer as pets. The two lions were named Rory, who liked to roar more than anything else, and Simba, who was very intelligent and knew more things than the average lion.

Jaggy is also friends with a leopard named Leo and a tiger named Mican. Mican lost an eye but was still a wonderful fighter. The restless sleep soon woke Jaggy up and he paced around the wire cage. He knew something was up. Something bad. Maybe a kid was being kidnapped. Or maybe someone was killing another person. Usually his dreams represented what he was going out to do. He wouldn't know until someone came down to get him.

The next morning in the Carpinal house the phone went off. Carl got there first and answered. His wife, Rachel, listened with her brow covered in multiple creases of worry. Carl was saying, "Mmm.... Okay sir..... Yes...Where is this?...Alright.....we're coming now." While talking Carl was scribbling the stuff he heard onto a little sticky note and when he finished he looked at Rachel gravely.

"We have to go to the county line. Some robbers, some say they're street teens, others say some thirty year old person. We don't know, so they are asking us to bring the "beloved Jaggy" to help with this case." Carl sighed.

Rachel called Amy. "Amy, get Mike and go get Jaggy hooked into his harness. We are going to the edge of Julpor to investigate some burglary. Be ready to put him in the truck in ten minutes!"

Two seconds later Amy's singsong voice floated down the stairs into the kitchen. "Yes mom, we are coming." Amy and Mike stumbled down the stairs and ran outside. The two kids strode into the big cat room. They spotted Jaggy pacing nervously and the other big cats could sense his anxiety. The lions were cuddled together, shivering. Leo was very tense and Mican was pawing the trees in his cage that he liked with enough power to nearly pull them out of the ground. Amy and Mike went over to Jaggy's cage and opened the door but barred the way so he couldn't get

out. Mike guarded the cage and Amy slipped inside with the safety harness.

Jaggy knew that something was up. If the harness was being put on him he also knew that he was being put in a car which would take him somewhere so he could help good people find bad people and catch them. Jaggy stepped over to Amy. He remembered the first day he was here, a couple days after his mother and siblings were killed, whining and trembling with fear. For all he knew he could get killed or hurt so badly he was put out of commission. The young, one year old jaguar had no idea what he was getting into.

Amy put a piece of the harness on and gave him a treat, and then put on the next piece and gave him a treat, and so on because the treats made him less fidgety. If he was not fidgety it was way easier to put the harness on correctly, without it breaking or him getting out of it. The harness was on and they were getting Jaggy into the trailer on the car that helped transport him. He started whining and whimpering for someone to stay with him and comfort him and make him happy. Carl pulled open the driver side door and jumped in and Rachel climbed in the passenger seat.

“Mom,” Amy said. “May I please sit in the trailer with Jaggy so I can keep him calm and so he is not scared when we get to the county line? PLEASSEE?”

Rachel sighed and nodded.

“Thanks!” Amy said ecstatically and hopped into the trailer with glee. Mike got his video camera in case someone wanted footage so they could see what happened, when it happened, and where it happened.

Meanwhile Amy crooned to Jaggy.”It is alright boy.....nothing can hurt you....good boy.....it is alright.”

That kept Jaggy pretty quiet and still until they got to the county line of Julpor where it was really bumpy and it was scary when you could not see out of the car. He started growling this time and yowling in anger. It was all Amy could do to not let Jaggy know she was more panicky than him and she was so close to screaming at her father to slow down, when the car slid to a stop on the dirt road.

When the Carpinal family jumped out of the car or in Amy’s case the trailer they looked around. They all squinted for the sun was blazing down like there were a hundred suns and not just one and there was dust everywhere. The most famous detective, Mitchel Rathinal was scouring the grounds in search of clues to this case of whatever happened. Apparently the only thing he had found was a small useless-(to him) - rag. The rag felt rough and it was covered in dry oil strong enough to smell three miles away.

Mr. Rathinal sniffed and said this, “This is covered in chloroform. It can knock someone out in two to five seconds.” Suddenly, the famous detective

fell forward in a dead faint and Jaggy rushed over there just in time to catch him and cops rushed over to help the famous detective and the even more famous, jaguar. Jaggy felt like there was a mountain on top of him and he could not get it off. The poor jaguar was crushed beneath the ample weight of Mr. Rathinal, world famous detective that was knocked out by some chloroform.

One of the cops, Chief Markinat was very helpful since he had been a paramedic, nursed the poor detective back into the real world. He made sure that the man was lying down before he got out a first aid kit and some sort of cloth.

Meanwhile, Jaggy limped off to find a tree and rest, not that there was many. They were in a desert filled with nothing but sagebrush and cacti that only covered half of his immense form. He collapsed under a very fat and tall cactus and fell asleep. He woke up an hour later because Amy was pouring water over his neck and head to cool him off and wake him up. Jaggy struggled to his feet and allowed the harness to be put on and then someone to lead him off to attend to all the crime stuff.

The jaguar suddenly smelled something. He strained on the harness and struggled heavily to get away from the cop that was holding him. The cop, Lieutenant Bradley realized this and let the harness line slack. Jaggy was off in a hurry but still he went slowly enough to find out what this smell was.

Fifteen minutes later the smell was so strong Jaggy knew it was what he had been sent here to look for. Three minutes later Jaggy saw the people he knew was what he was looking for. He strained and struggled for one second and Lieutenant Bradley immediately let the harness go. Jaggy was off in a flash so he could get the teenage boys he saw that had the smell of the street and had money that smelled of another person he did not know. He was sprinting so fast that he slid to a quick stop before continuing.

Other people barreled out of his way as he hurtled toward the two boys. The young jaguar crashed into the two of them since he had wide strong shoulders and he had aimed for between them.

Before they knew it, Lieutenant Bradley had slapped the cuffs on them, and Jaggy was towing them back through the walkway he made, growling at anyone who came near him, when they finally made it back to the spot that Carl had parked the truck and the cops had parked their cruisers and Lieutenant Bradley threw the two boys inside and locked the door, so the two boys could not get out. They returned the money to the owner, Layla Ripath, who thanked them so much and asked to pet Jaggy. They let Jaggy decide. Jaggy's decision was obviously yes because he leaned into Layla and let her pet him.

The reporters of News Channel 43 were there and had videoed the jaguar and his family for the

news. Mike had tagged along and had gotten better footage because he had been right next to the lieutenant as the whole scene had unfolded.

That night, after they got home, Jaggy was given extra special treat. He got a piece of T-bone steak. Late that night, Jaggy heard gunshots. BANG! BANG! BANG! He could smell the smoke and he knew something had just been shot. The gunshots made himself miss his mother, brothers, and sister. His flashback to his mother and siblings made him feel lonely and like a piece of him was gone, like a hole in his heart, like an animal with a broken leg that was left behind to die and get eaten. Soon his entire body was so racked with pain and loneliness that he gave his loudest cry and woke the other animals up.

The cry traveled to Mike's bedroom window and woke him up, too. He went and got Amy up and the two woke their mother and father to ask if they could go out to see him. Rachel and Carl debated about it and finally they decided that they could go see him but they could not go in the cage. Then, the two adults told the kids to go out of the room for a minute while they talked some more some more. Finally, Carl called them back in.

"Mom and I have decided you can also not try to touch him or any of the other animals because they might be mad and they might try to hurt you. You are allowed to toss them treats through the wire but don't put your hands IN THE CAGE." Carl's voice rose at

the end to make sure that the two middle school kids understood that they must not go in any of the cages.

“Yes sir.” Amy and Mike answered meekly as they walked out of their mother and father’s room.

They walked down the stone covered path with no shoes and wincing every time they stepped on a sharp rock, but they never stopped. Amy got to the door first and she pulled it open. The two kids went in and Mike pushed the door shut. The two split, with Amy going to the storeroom to get treats and Mike going to talk to Jaggy and the other animals.

In the storeroom, Amy found some meat that Jaggy liked and a big piece of wood he could use to gnaw on and calm himself down. Amy dragged the stuff that she had found and took it to Mike.

“How are we going to get that wood in the cage, Amy!?! It is HUMONGOUS!!!” Mike exclaimed.

“Don’t worry. I am using Dad’s wood choppers. That should work. Shouldn’t it?” Amy answered.

Mike shook his head in disbelief and sighed. Amy got the choppers and came back with more wood and chopped them all in quarters so they would fit through the wire of the cage. Meanwhile, Mike tossed all the animals some meat to chew on over and over again till there was no more to throw and he went back in the storeroom to get more. Amy chopped the rest of the wood and gave the jaguar three pieces and the other animals two pieces because they all seemed anxious and nervous.

Mike came back with the meat and thought, “Oh boy. I bet we are going to be up all night. Might as well get something to pass the time.”

“Amy, go get a deck of cards or a couple board games. We ARE going to be up all night tonight. I can just tell because-”

Jaggy suddenly let out a mournful, “Mmmmmmmmmeeeeewwwwwwww.”

“That is why.” Mike declared.

CHAPTER TWO

The next day the phones rang and rang and rang. Every time it was some reporter or news person calling to either interview them or video or get permission to come to his next rescue or scene that he was in. They decided that they would do two of the interviews on the two most popular shows and two broadcasts on the radio and three of the most popular TV shows were allowed to video his next predicament. Days after his “rescues” were full of phone calls and people answering phones. The worst was afternoons because the most people are up then.

The next day was Sunday, and they always took Jaggy to church because he helped the church by giving some of the money he earns by rescuing people and his other heroic things he has done for people. The best thing Jaggy had done was rescue a drowning child in the ocean and he had earned five thousand dollars! Three thousand had gone to the church.

Sometimes they took Rory, Simba, Leo, and Mican to church, too. Today was one of those days. If they had all the animals with them, they would call the church to tell them that, and the church would take chairs and a big stand outside. The animals were loaded onto a larger trailer made to transport car parts, but were now transporting big cats instead.

Five hours later, the animals were eating large rations of meat, and the people were all having a variety of food such as vegetables, meat, starch, and other foods.

“Aaaahhhh, I gotta nice full belly now. That is the second best thing right now to me.” Someone mumbled next to Mike.

“What in the world is he talking about?” Mike wondered underneath his breath.

A few hours later, they got home and discovered a message from the police. It was talking about a burglary two miles away from their house on Maple Street. The house number was 3861 and it was a 1985. The only thing the police knew was that he was a very obese man and he was very small and stout. So off they went to the house on Maple Street, that old little brick house. It seemed like Jaggy never got any rest! When they got out of the truck, the scorching, May sun beat down upon them with merciless rage.

The Carpinal family walked up past the front walk, through the grass, because Jaggy’s feet might get hurt from the burning walk. The family and the jaguar knocked-(or in Jaggy’s case pawing)-and a very ample woman answered the door in a flurry of tears and tissues. She cried in grief, “The-someone took some of my collectors coins I have collected all my life. And they were all so fancy.”

She dismissed them and walked away sobbing, tears pouring down her face, and into the wad of tissues covering her mouth and nose. The family of nine counting the animals stepped into the fanciest hallway they had ever seen. It had many different glass plates hanging on the walls and the carpet was an Oriental rug that was a beautiful light blue with a greenish tint in the middle. The dining room was just as fancy with a beautifully carved table of the finest cherry wood available.

The table also had pictures carved into them of presidents such as George Washington, and pictures of first ladies such as Eleanor Roosevelt. Then into another hall, there was a large cabinet and a drawer that was open and had an open bag of famous collector coins half gone. When they had walked into the hall Jaggy had gone ridged and tense. Jaggy sniffed and circled the cabinet and then took off to another room of the house. It was the master bedroom where he sniffed around like a dog and found a drawer almost completely closed but not quite. Jaggy went tense and Mike took the drawer handle and pulled it open...

CHAPTER THREE

And they all saw many pairs of ladies underwear!! But on top of that underwear was a note folded into quarters and taped together with masking tape. Their eyes popped open partially at the sight of a clue the police might have missed and because there were, well, underwear sitting there in plain sight.

“Nobody touch it or you’re grounded! I am bringing the police in here. Even you Rachel.” Carl snapped.

Carl stepped out of the room with Jaggy so the police would know he was there for a reason. But the police encountered him before he got past the hallway threshold since he had been calling for them in his loudest voice possible.

“What is wrong?” one of the cops asked.

“There is a note. In the underwear drawer. Folded up into quarters. And the quarters are taped together in the center.” Carl answered, trying to remember every little detail.

“Thank you, sir. That is very good information. We will now be going in. Oops! Gotta call the rest of the cops.” One of the other cops answered. They all pulled out radios and a couple pulled out gloves to pick up the small note so they would not put fingerprints on it.

“We’ll send the note to the lab af-”

“JJJJJJaaaaggggggyyyy!” Amy suddenly screamed.” Where is he?” Tears poured down her long, thin cheeks and onto a very beautiful white blouse she had worn to the church. She remembered the day she brought him home. He was scared and whimpering with fear and he was also cold because it had been in the middle of the night and they had been out late for dinner to a restaurant three blocks away. She remembered that he had liked being in her backpack and had snuggled down deep inside of it. Apparently he had found a very strong scent and he felt he should follow it.

Jaggy sniffed around and followed the scent like a police canine trying to find a drug dealer and catch him. He followed the scent outside and down the street. Down the next street and up to one of the houses he sniffed and ran straight into the door. He shook and started his mournful crying. One of the canine dogs on the scene heard it and followed it right to the young jaguar who had cried enough to make anybody open their door. The man in the house opened the door holding a bag of collector’s coins, saw the police, shut the door, and ran out of the way of the door that was soon knocked down.

“Go get him dogs, err, and jaguar!” The cops yelled.

There was a fierce little bulldog that was no match for Jaggy. When he saw the gigantic jaguar towering over him in the doorway his little eyeballs

nearly popped out of his head in surprise. He was so scared and was about to run away when Jaggy powered through the opening in the house and smashed the little bulldog into the wall where he stayed cowering in fear and destroying the front door. Jaggy and the canines worked together and cornered the man into a corner but it had a window that was open. The man darted through just before Jaggy leapt at him.

Jaggy, not caring about what happened to the house at the time just powered through the wall scattering plaster, glass and wood everywhere! The canines were shocked at the huge opening the baby jaguar-(who wasn't even two yet) - had just made. The police got there as the last of the dogs darted through the large opening in the wall. The police also stood there open mouthed and staring. Tentatively they stepped through.

They gasped as they saw the jaguar overcome the man and the dogs tackle him down. The jaguar swatted him lightly onto his back and the dogs moved his hands into handcuff position. Jaggy kept a paw pressed down hard and all of the dogs kept up a chorus of growls howls and occasional snaps at the man who was named Robert Calipso. The man struggled a bit but stopped once he realized that he could not get away. The police hurried over and let Jaggy keep him still with a low, rumbling growl and a

strong paw as they slapped Robert Calipso in the cuffs.

Now the dogs and jaguars were a sight and reporters and other citizens had swamped the area and there was hardly room to move aside from the rumbling and growling jaguar. Then about a mile away there was the sound of a siren and Jaggy stopped short. When Robert Calipso tried to move Jaggy snapped his tail into his way and swung his head with an open jaw. He snapped down two inches from the man's nose and went ridged again.

Then he started growling loud and clear. A couple dogs joined in then more and more until all of the dogs were howling, barking, and growling and Jaggy the loudest of them all started a strong, deep, mournful cry. That drew the cruiser to the men and the animals. As the cruiser drew closer the dogs one by one stopped howling and growling and barking. Jaggy was the last one to stop after ten minutes of that loud, deep, mournful crying and whimpering when he heard his owner's car. He started yowling this time, deeper and louder than he had before and it drew his family near. They had gone home after they could not find Jaggy and had mournfully been hoping that he would be found and returned to them.

Meanwhile, Robert Calipso had slipped out of the cuffs and was trying to find a time to break away. When the young jaguar's family came, there was so much commotion nobody knew that Robert had

slipped away. Then the man holding the handcuff keys looked at where Calipso was standing.

“HEYY!! Where is old Calipso!!?” The cop yelled in surprise and anger when he saw the handcuffs lying on the ground, the steel bent in an odd angle so the cuffs were larger and the person in the cuffs could slip out of them.

Jaggy, now alert, growled and led the dogs off in a fierce chase to catch Robert Calipso. They split apart into small little groups to catch the nasty, cologne filled scent of Robert Calipso. The group of dogs to the right and middle both found different scents so Jaggy went to check on the scent for both groups. The scent in the middle had cologne in the scent but it got fainter before he got twenty feet away. The group to the right had the same scent but theirs was much stronger and got stronger as they went along.

CHAPTER FOUR

The police and the others decided they would ride in the cars but they decided not to when they found out where they were headed. Straight for Devil's Ditch, the steepest, deepest, muddiest, and rockiest ditch in the entire town of the small, or miniature would be a better word since Julpor only has about fifty thousand people to make their miniature population. Devil's Ditch was about seventy-five feet deep and thirty feet wide. There was also a river about ten minutes of a walk to the right of this ditch, depending on how fast you went. The police crashed through the brush with the Carpinal family right on their heels. Suddenly, Jaggy and the dogs stopped for they had lost Robert's cologne smelling scent.

They spread out under Jaggy's commanding growl to sniff around and Jaggy worked right alongside of the dogs. Then the dogs started growling for they had found Robert's nasty scent once again. Jaggy and the dogs loped across the ground. The brush around them started to get thick and hard to plow through, so Jaggy forged ahead and crushed the already half flattened brush ahead. Seeing the flattened brush, Jaggy knew they were on the right course.

Then, the brush was gone and they were slipping down the steep ditch. The dogs and Jaggy were smart enough not to move much as they might break something, but finally they started to slow down and pile up. The area around them was filled with hard, dried mud rocks and they were sharp! They decided to clear the rocks out of the way so nobody else got hurt falling down. Jaggy and the lead dog, a mixed German shepherd named Shep, gathered the rest of the dogs into two different groups and each led one of them.

Shep was almost as tall as Jaggy and almost as muscular as Jaggy, too. He had trained for the canine team for three years. The best thing he had done was save a man from being killed and then shot from a cannon into the ocean. Kind of strange but the people who were going to kill him were pirates so it makes some sense.

Anyways, the young jaguar had a lot of experience when it came to organizing groups and Shep knew next to nothing about it. Now the canine was growling, trying to get his group organized when Jaggy stepped in to do his favor to Shep. He obviously knew next to nothing about organizing groups. Jaggy clacked his teeth in the face of the nearest dog and swatted some others and even tried to bite one. Now that Shep understood how to get the dogs attention he was a master at it.

The two groups covered the entire area of Devil's Ditch and only found small disappearing traces of Robert's scent. He might as well be gone for good.

Suddenly, the animals heard screams of help. Apparently, the police and the Carpinal's had not seen Devil's Ditch and had started tumbling head over heels down the muddy wall. The animals discarded all thoughts of finding Robert Calipso and directed all their attention to the police and the Carpinals. Jaggy scrambled over to the side and all the dogs followed. They all started climbing up the steep side in an attempt to cushion the falls of all the people but there was way too much weight and the dogs and Jaggy could not handle it all.

They tumbled down, like coconuts off a tree in an earthquake, like water droplets falling from a tsunami. Jaggy tumbled the fastest and came down the hardest since he was the heaviest but earlier the animals had cleared the rocks out of the way. That had seemed like a very good idea to Jaggy in case someone else fell down this horrible ditch.

"Good job, Jaggy." Came a gruff voice from one of the police officers. One by one the dogs picked themselves up off of Jaggy. Jaggy was sore but he too picked himself up off the hot and dry ground. He shook painfully and then yowled for everyone to follow him and everyone did. Jaggy recalled seeing an area that was not as steep as the rest of Devil's Ditch's walls and would be easier for the police and Carpinals

to climb up. They could escape this horrid, hot ditch. They all scrambled up the wall that was not as steep as the rest of the ditch and every animal and person escaped the dreadful ditch.

Now, the dogs and jaguar followed another sign of Robert Calipso with the humans hot on their heels. Again, Jaggy and Shep split the other dogs into two different groups and they all spread like butter. The young jaguar's group moved kind of to the right and Shep's group moved practically two inches to the right of the farthest dog to the right. This helped them keep track the scent of Robert Calipso and stay on the right track. About ten minutes later the animals discarded the idea of being in groups. They scattered about following dead end scents and some of the dogs gave up but Jaggy and Shep were determined to find Robert Calipso and they kept working.

Suddenly, Jaggy found the disgusting cologne filled scent and knew it was Robert's. He yowled and cried until the animals and the humans came and then he bounced off still calling for everyone to follow him. Jaggy and the dogs had now completely restored their energy by standing around sniffing, and now were loping, and covering much more ground than any regular human but everyone kept up. A couple dogs kept their noses to the ground to make sure the animals were still following the right scent of Robert Calipso. Then they howled because the scent had gotten stronger!

Encouraged by this news, all the animals started getting faster but then they slowed down to a complete stop so the people could get on the Jaggy's and Shep's back because there were only a few police men and Carl. The kids were forced to stay behind with Rachel because Robert was a very dangerous man. The canine and dog did not want to lose their people because then they would be lost, and they might not ever see them again, and none of them wanted that happening that is for sure. The animals started off at a trot so the humans would get used to the dog or the jaguar's gait before they went fast. Then they got quicker and even faster that they almost ran right past Calipso.

One of the police on Jaggy's back dove off of him and tackled the man. Then another man on another dog that had handcuffs jumped off of his dog and put the man in the strongest pair of cuffs he had. Another one of the police had stopped his dog, which was Shep, leapt off with his radio in his hand. Shep started stopping all of the dogs so Jaggy decided to help after the rest of the police that he carried got off of his back. But Calipso struggled so he went to help the police.

Calipso gave him one look and grumbled, "Great, I get caught by some dumb cheetah, err, jaguar, leopard, whatever this animal is!" Then he turned his head a couple inches and saw all the dogs - (there were fifteen of them) - all standing and

watching him angrily and the most peculiar thing was that a dog and jaguar had people on their backs. All Robert could do was freeze and stare in a very peculiar way.

That helped the police get the handcuffs on Robert real tight and the policeman who had rode on Shep had already called the station to summon some of the cruisers so he could not get away again, hopefully. Since there was not enough room for all the dogs to fit with the police in the cruisers that had been summoned, the Carpinals decided to take some home for they could feed and bathe and give them a place to sleep before the police came back for them.

That night, Jaggy had more visions of his mother in his dreams. They were trying to warn him about something but he could not tell what. In the house, Mike bolted up in bed. "Was that the barn door creaking open? Or is someone coming into the house?" He thought and decided to check the barn first. When he opened his window he heard Jaggy and the dogs howling for help and he could see the door was open. Someone was inside the barn maybe trying to kill Jaggy or the dogs!! He immediately closed his window.

"MOM!! DAD!! AMY!! WAKE UP!! Someone is in the barn!!" Mike screamed. He could hear his dad already downstairs and rummaging for his pistol and bullets. He knew his mom was also downstairs because he heard someone in the garage looking for

some golf clubs or any other metal thing they could hit people with. Amy was also doing something with her electromagnets that she could attract metal like guns or the metal piece on a syringe. Mike decided he could go downstairs and find some rope that they could use to help keep the intruder rooted to his spot or they could hit him with it, too.

Finding the longest piece of rope, he showed his father what he was going to do and said, "This is going to be a nasty surprise to whoever is in that barn."

The four people of the Carpinal family crept silently toward the barn door and Mike held the rope ready to snap at the man or woman in the barn. They crept slowly up the walk and Amy slipped inside for the person was dumb enough to leave the door wide open and it let them know exactly where they were and if they were about to run into something or not. The family crept in and Amy's electromagnets started working their magnetism immediately. They got a really strong pull on something and a man gasped. The rope in Mike's hand flew steadily as he snapped it in the direction of the gasp and they heard a howl of pain.

Suddenly, a tranquilizer tip flew out from the direction of Jaggy's cage. Carl flipped on the lights in time to see a man darting toward the storage room with a big red mark on the side of his arm. Some dogs were struggling to get away from the magnetism the

electromagnets had to their collars. The barking and whining distracted the man and Mrs. Carpinal had time to give him a good thwacking with her golf club. He stumbled away from the door and crashed into Jaggy's cage making the hook unlatch from the metal it hooked onto.

A low rumbling escaped from Jaggy's throat as he leapt toward the man for the cage door was now standing wide open. He sank his teeth into a bright orange vest and his nose was immediately filled with the cologne smelling scent of Robert Calipso! He gagged and Robert sensed that this was the one chance he had to break away. Suddenly, Robert kicked Jaggy and smacked him on the stomach. Jaggy let go immediately and scampered away favoring his right front paw. He whimpered and sat down to lick it.

Meanwhile, the dogs had taken Jaggy being hurt as a weakness to Robert and had tackled him to the ground. Mike had been holding the rope and had now gotten into a place where he could capture Calipso. A couple years ago, Carl had taught Mike to tie a lasso and had shown him how to the lasso to capture something. All the lessons paid off. He could tie a lasso knot in ten seconds and he could rope something on the first try perfectly without having to fix it.

Swinging the lasso, he put Robert in his mind's eye, closed his eyes, took a deep breath, and tossed

the rope right onto Robert's head and tightened it instantly.

"Halp! He is very heavy!!" Mike exclaimed grunting. Amy darted over and helped Mike tug the rope and the very stout and obese man. They grunted, dragging the man away from the dogs, slowly but steadily. Mrs. Carpinal went over to Amy's electromagnets and switched them off. The dogs howled with joy including Shep who had been shuddering at the strength he had to use to fight and still stay unconnected with the electromagnets.

Now that his neck was free of strain, he leaned down to lick a small puncture in the side of his leg which had been made from the flying needle from the syringe. When he was done, he stood and shook himself and then even started howling in rejoice, for another win for him and another defeat for man was one of his favorite things. Besides treats like bacon or the best type of treat, Beggin' Strips.

"Now, who wants to go get a nice tasty treat? We have a very special surprise!" Mike said mischievously as he bound the great and mighty and now powerless Robert Calipso to a cement post outside that Jaggy used to drag around to get stronger and bigger. The cement post was as heavy as Robert and twice his size. Jaggy limped out leading the rest of the dogs to his way into the house and Mike slid a huge sliding glass door open.

“Come on in!” he exclaimed. Jaggy, forgetting his pain and the dogs barreled into the opening but were as calm as lambs once they were inside. When they got inside they could hear Carl on the phone with the police and they could tell he was explaining the entire scene word for word. The smell of bacon cooking and the sound of it sizzling made Shep bark happily and all the other dogs joined in. Mike opened the fridge and pulled out three huge hunks of meat that the family was going to be giving to Jaggy anyway before this happened.

Mike cut the hunks of meat that were about ten pounds each into one pound chunks. Then he gave each dog-(there were ten dogs) - two pounds of meat and four strips of bacon and Jaggy four pounds of meat and four strips of bacon. The jaguar ate the fastest and was begging for more. They gave each animal one more pound of meat and Jaggy still finished before anyone else. After everyone finished they all got up and went outside to check on Robert Calipso. What they saw made them gasp in surprise.

CHAPTER FIVE

He was gone!! Jaggy went tense and bolted down the street. All the dogs followed him barking and howling in anger. This man just could not be contained and neither could the jaguar. The Carpinal family brought out the other big cats and set them loose asking them to find Jaggy quickly. Mican found his scent and the Carpinal's jumped in the car and followed the one eyed tiger down the road and into a dense forest that was full of tight turns and narrow paths but somehow they made it through. Mican had been on the right path because soon Mike could hear the dogs howling victory and Jaggy's deep voice growling victoriously throughout the forest.

The sight the family of four saw was a mind-boggling sight. The dogs looked like they were having a wild party that consisted of jumping over each other and tag and even Shep was having a lot of fun jumping and running around like a maniac. They were so loud they couldn't hear the car pull up and they didn't even notice them until Robert who was being sat on by Jaggy moved and yelled, "HHHHEEEELLPPPP!!!"

The Carpinal's walked over and Amy dragged Jaggy off of Robert while Mike grabbed the frayed rope and rewrapped into a gentler but just as firm hold. Robert gasped for breath and struggled to his feet. He grunted painfully with each step and almost

started crying when he pulled himself into the spacious SUV that the Carpinals had brought. Mike strapped the seatbelt on and then coaxed the dogs into the trailer with the big cats.

About thirty minutes later, the Carpinals, Robert, and the animals had arrived at the police station to drop Robert off and fill in the rest of the story and listen to his story of how he got away and found their house and the rest of everything. Then the Carpinals sadly left the dogs at the station and left with only the big cats to return home.

When they got home, they unloaded the trailer and let the five big cats loose to roam in their cages if they wanted to but they were smart enough to go to sleep. When Mike got into bed it was three thirty in the morning and he fell asleep immediately, but his parents and Amy stayed up to talk about Jaggy and his future.

Finally, at five fifty-five in the morning they went to bed and slept till seven thirty for the next day was orientation day and they could not miss that. Mike went into Amy's room and woke her from a fitful sleep. Then they snuck into their parent's room and leapt onto the bed making it creak and shake. Carl and Rachel groaned but after a couple minutes of bouncing around on the bed, they grumpily got up and got dressed. Amy and the adult Carpinals had large dark circles under their eyes and Carl nearly fell asleep at breakfast. His face came a few inches from

his cereal bowl and nodded a couple times before he lifted it again.

But it was good that Mike had taken drivers ED when he was fifteen when he got his permit to drive with an adult in the passenger. Or else they might have all died when Carl drove. Now he had a driver's license and could drive on his own now. With the keys in his hand, he got into the front seat of the SUV and shut the door. Jamming the keys into the hole and turning around to watch what was going on behind him was a very hard thing to do at the same time but somehow Mike managed to do it.

Ten minutes later, the SUV was in a parking spot and the Carpinal family was stumbled out of the car.

"My, my, Mrs. Carpinal. You look very tired. Did you have a midnight rescue?" Mrs. Ranoimin, Amy's new homeroom teacher, asked.

"As a matter of fact, we did and then three of us had a two hour talk afterwards. I am glad Mike did not stay up with us, because we were woken up by the kids and we usually wake the kids up and Carl could not keep his head up in breakfast and almost flipped his cereal bowl into his lap." Mrs. Carpinal answered with a shudder.

"Well, your daughter here will be well taught in this classroom and all her other classrooms." Mrs. Ranoimin said with a warm smile on her face.

"Thank you Mrs. Ranoimin. I think you will be a good teacher for Amy. Don't you think so Amy?" Mrs.

Carpinal asked. Amy nodded meekly for she was very tired and the circles under her eyes shined more than ever. She blinked a couple of times and shook her head and then even rubbed her eyes before she spoke.

“I think so too, Mom. Thank you Mrs. Ranoimin. I can’t wait to start school. Oh, and Mrs. Ranoimin may I please help you in setting up the drug prevention in the morning? I know you needed help with that and I will be available Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. And is there a tutor I can go see for my math because I am a little behind.”

“WOW!! What a lot of breath for someone in high school! The answer to both questions is yes. I will need a LOT of help. Thank you for asking me for help. The person you can go to for tutoring is Mrs. Rockmatin. I will set you up for the most convenient day with her.” Mrs. Ranoimin said panting a little.

“I think the best day would be Tuesday Mrs. Ranoimin. That is usually the day that is the freest from all our other activities.” Mrs. Carpinal said as her eyes kind of glazed over from being tired.

“Alright, I will set this day up with Mrs. Rockmatin. Have a nice day Mrs. Carpinal.” Mrs. Ranoimin said.

“Amy we must go meet up with your brother and father. They are probably waiting for us. Thank you, again, Mrs. Ranoimin.” Mrs. Carpinal said. Amy smiled and then she and Mrs. Carpinal left the room.

Meanwhile, Mike was with his teacher talking to her.

“Mrs. Dead – row – leath – in – all. . . when is a time I can be tutored for math? I was pulled out early from school because of Jaggy.” Mike asked his junior high teacher.

“Well, I know that Mr. Catnipper is a very good math tutor even though he is not a math teacher. But the math teacher does not know much about the math she is working on for seventh grade. Is that what you were asking me?” Mrs. Dedrolethonal asked in her very deep, gruff tone of voice.

“Yes, thank you Mrs. Dead – row – leath – in – all. Ummm, may you please set it up for me . . . please?” Mike asked.

“You can call me Mrs. Dedro instead of my full last name because sometimes I even slip up on it and it is my own last name. Oh, and yes I will set up a time for you with your tutor with Mr. Catnipper. When would you like it?” Mrs. Dedro asked. Mike looked at his father and realized that he had fallen asleep. Mike went over and shook him awake. He grumpily answered Mike’s question and stood up to lean against the wall so he would not fall back asleep.

“Apparently my father said that Tuesday would be the best day. But if that is not convenient for you I will change some stuff around to be able to tutor because I need the help seriously. The subject I struggled in was math so I definitely know I need this

help.” Mike answered and then the teacher and student said good bye and walked away from each other.

“Let’s go dad. We can meet mom and Amy in the hall or at their classroom. I do not know where th-”

“We are right here Mike!” Amy exclaimed from behind him. “Don’t say we were not here because we have been right behind you the entire time!” Mike froze and then turned around slowly. His eyes popped open because sure enough Amy and his mom were standing in the doorway of the classroom.

“When did you get here?” Mike asked.

“A couple of minutes ago. Why do you ask?” Amy answered.

“Wwwwweeeelllllll, I kinda, err, well, I can’t, uhh, say her name, uhh, correctly.” Mike answered as he pulled on his earlobe like every time he is nervous and put a half- hearted smile on his face.

“Wow that is sad Mike. Tell me her name and I will pronounce it easy.” Amy bragged.

“OK! Mrs. Dead – row – leath – in – all! Try pronouncing that!” Mike exclaimed with a smug smile on his face.

“Fine! Mrs. Dedrolethona!!! See I can pronounce that! But I will admit the truth. The only reason I know how to pronounce it is because she was my reading/ English teacher. It just takes a while to get used to it so don’t feel bad. I had to call her Mrs. D. when I was with her so you are doing better than I did.” Amy said.

“Okay, break it up kids! We need to get your father to the car. He fell asleep standing against the wall!” Their mom snapped, shocking the children from their little debate. Amy and Mike looked at their father and raised their own eye brows almost an inch higher than they should be. Mike went over and shook his father carefully so he did not fall down and that woke him up. His father stayed in one spot till he felt steady enough to walk and then took a few steps down the hallway and stopped because the area was chock full with people all trying to leave at once.

After fifteen minutes, the famous Carpinal family had made it back to the truck, and were now trying to actually get onto the road. Because there were so many people trying to leave the school, it was very dangerous to try to drive more than two miles per hour. Actually it was still dangerous to drive two miles an hour because Mike might accidently ran into someone.

About half an hour after getting home from the school, the jaguar’s family got a phone call that they needed to go to the mall immediately. The person on the phone hung up before Carl, who had answered the phone, could ask why or even say a word at all. The face of Carl twisted and contorted itself into a very, extra puzzled look.

“What was that about Carl? And why are you looking so confused? You are never confused!”

Rachel exclaimed with her own confused expression on her own face.

“Well, some lady called and was telling me that we had to go to the mall in Mirrorville Square and bring Jaggy, but I don’t know why.” Carl said.

“Well you might as well go wake the kids up and I might as well go get Jaggy from his cage. Let’s split it so we don’t get yelled at from this lady that called.” Rachel announced with a long rub of her eyes and nice, comforting yawn.

Rachel slowly went down the stairs and went out the easiest way to get to Jaggy and his friends. The backdoor. She stepped over the rocky path that led to the old, rickety barn and pulled open the door. Jaggy was nestled in some straw that was also covered in wood shavings and bits of meat he had obviously decided to save for a later time.

Then Rachel walked into the storage room. It was probably the messiest that this storage room had ever gotten. After digging through some supplies and having no luck in finding the harness she would need, she got an odd idea that it was in the fridge that they used to store their meat for the big cats.

She could not believe her eyes. There was the old harness the kids had lost, a pair of keys they had lost a couple days before Amy had found Jaggy at the big top, an old flip flop that Mike had lost, and a couple of other items that really should NOT be in the fridge at any time.

“I wonder how this stuff got in here and Amy and Mike could not see it even though it was right in front of them. Huh. I am going to have to get on to those two about not cleaning this storage room like I have told them so many times to do. Oh well. I found what I needed.” Rachel mumbled. She grabbed the harness and went to Jaggy’s cage and rapped lightly on it with her knuckles. Jaggy’s head lurched up.

Rachel opened the cage door slowly and stepped inside. Last time she had done this she had done something to make Jaggy mad and he had tried to bite her twice. Jaggy growled when she came close but Rachel knew that he was welcoming her and not trying to warn her to stay away because of the tone in his growl. Now she slipped the harness over his head and was locking it into place when Jaggy went tense and then jumped away from Rachel and out of the cage door!

CHAPTER SIX

Meanwhile, Carl was having no luck getting Amy and Mike to wake up from a nice, long afternoon nap and finally went downstairs and got a metal pot and spoon to bang together. He went up to Mike's room since he was the lighter sleeper of the two kids, and smacked the spoon down on the pot.

Mike jerked the blankets off of his head and listened to Carl.

"We have to go to the mall. Some lady called and asked us to come as soon as possible. I need you to do some things for me. Okay?" Carl asked. Mike nodded hesitantly and his brow scrunched up in confusion.

"Okay, dad." Mike answered.

"Okay the first thing I want you to do is scream and wake Amy up so that I can talk to both of you at the same time. Go ahead and scream now, but first go into her room and scream something that will scare her, like losing Jaggy."

"Yes sir!" Mike agreed and this time not as hesitant. He opened the door and walked into Amy's room.

"JAGGY IS GONE!!!! AMY HELP US FIND HIM!" Mike screamed as loud as he could. Amy jerked away the blankets as Rachel walked into the room.

"Hey, kids. What Mike just yelled is true. He really is gone. I hate to say this but he left and he has

his harness halfway on. He could easily be stolen or killed or any other horrible thing could happen to him.” Rachel added as she looked at both kid’s faces with a very sorrowful expression on her face. Amy’s face fell when she heard the news and then she stripped off most of her clothing and pulled on a pair of jeans, a long sleeved shirt and a pair of hiking boots.

“Get on the same attire I have on and get down to the garage. Meet me in five minutes and I will have a plan to find Jaggy and bring him back home. I am already formulating one in my head. Go!” Amy snapped with a stern expression.

Mike darted to his room, shoved his dad out the door, shut the door, stripped off his own clothing and pulled on the exact same attire that Amy had wanted the family to put on.

The same thing happened in the adult Carpinal’s room. Rachel went into the bathroom to change and Carl stayed out in the middle of the room. They all went to the bathroom and went down to the garage to talk about the plan and let Amy go to the bathroom to before they left. She told them her plan and then they all jumped into the SUV and drove off.

“Where to first, Amy?” Carl asked the high schooler with the map.

“Well, we are nearing Devil’s Ditch and we need to turn to the right soo- hey that is where Jaggy plowed through last time! And it is also flat! He must have gone the same way. Go in the direction of the

flattened brush.” Amy’s words bounced together and pushed off of each other as she spoke. Carl swerved around a tree and then turned in a half circle to get in to the right path and then sped into the direction of the flattened brush. Suddenly the car lost all sense of the ground and was sailing through the air doing all kinds of flips and turns, straight into the worst ditch in the history of ditches.

Then the car hit earth again but it was still going down the very steep drop of Devil’s ditch. Carl slammed the brakes and the car flew the air again and this time landed in the flatter area of Devil’s Ditch’s steep hill. The SUV slowed to a stop on a small patch of rock and dust and Carl stepped out, with a limp.

Inspecting the car was probably the hardest thing he had done in his entire life. The SUV was probably the tallest car and he had no ladder to use to look up top from the freaky fly through the air.

“Well, all seems good.” Carl said

“Are you sure?” Rachel asked unsteadily.

“Yeah I am sure. The only thing I can’t see is the top of this old SUV.”

“I wonder if I am able to see up there. I’m taller than you ya know and I actually had to break down a car weirder than this, car in my ninth grade science class, so I am actually better than you are with cars, especially SUV’s. Do you want me to check it out for you?”

“Sure but be careful. We’re right on the drop.”

“Okay. Thanks.” Rachel answered and then she hopped out of the car. Scrambling up the side of the car was very easy for someone who could go ten feet up a smooth wall without sliding down. Her fingers were losing their grip when she made it to the top of the SUV. There were no serious injuries to the cars metal top but there was a small crack and that could lead to water damage.

“I wonder how that got there.” Rachel wondered aloud. She rubbed her finger over the crack. She could tell it was deep and it was also sharp. When she pulled her finger away from the crack, her finger was oozing blood but it wasn’t that bad. The car and her hands made a screeching sound when she slid down the smooth side of the SUV.

“It was not too bad but there is a nice, deep crack going through the metal and there will soon be a bit of water damage soon but that is probably all I can remember.” Rachel told the family.

Turning to Carl she said, “Let’s go down as slowly as possible so that crack doesn’t get any wider or deeper than it already is by us bouncing around like crazy. Okay?” Rachel gulped as Carl drove slowly toward the steep drop at two miles per hour. When they neared the edge it felt like it was taking forever to reach the dropping point.

CHAPTER SEVEN

Seconds changed to minutes and minutes changed back to seconds when they dropped, starting at two miles an hour and changing straight to fifty miles at the least. They coasted to a shaky stop right in front of a very thick boulder that would have destroyed them. When the four people got out of the car it looked like they had taken the roller coaster ride of their life. They had all shut their eyes when they dropped and were now blinking at the bright sunlight that filtrated through the ditch of the devil.

The four people stumbled about in the middle of the ditch, trying to relocate their leg's circulation and their eye sight. When Rachel had completely regained everything she needed to scale the SUV's smooth side so she could check on the crack in the roof of the car. It was much bigger but not as deep as the other piece that was first pierced. When she slid down she checked the belly of the car. The air conditioner was dripping as normal but nothing seemed to be wrong.

Returning to the rest of the family she told them about the car and its piercings'. The two kids still looked a little dazed by the ride but they seemed to understand what was going on. Everyone in the family got back in the SUV and Carl drove out the side Jaggy had showed them out of when they had fallen down the ditch.

Suddenly, Carl pulled over to the side very quickly and he almost hit a mud rock that looked very identical like the other one they had almost run into.

“What’s wrong dad?” Amy asked.

“Well I think I found Jaggy’s paw prints in the dust that covers all the dried mud. See? Look out of that window! I said look! See a weird shape in the dust? That is a paw print. The only animal that can come down here and still find his way out is Jaggy. He is the smartest animal on this planet and the entire universe.” Carl raised his voice on the end and it echoed around the car. The other three humans looked where Carl was pointing and sure enough there was paw prints covering the ground at every yard. Apparently, he had been running full speed. The car forced its way through the last part of the ditch and started climbing as fast as possible up a small mountain.

Carl stuck to the side so they could still see the paw prints in the dust. He also drove very slowly so they could keep track of the paw prints.

“Mom, I am getting really hungry. I mean like famished, hungry.” Mike complained.

“Lucky for you I packed many snacks and some water bottles for all of us or you would have been complaining the entire way while we tried to find Jaggy.” Rachel smiled a smile that looked more like a smirk. She opened a pack filled with all kinds of

delicious snacks like Ruffles and Honey Maid graham crackers and even more delicious, Oreo Gripz.

When Mike and the rest of his family had eaten their fill on snacks, they had made into open country where only squashed brush noted Jaggy's appearance and disappearance. The brush soon was gone and they saw more paw prints.

Then the Carpinal's SUV screeched to a deadly halt. They had almost driven into a massive lake. But across this lake they could see a blur of yellow and brown tearing down the country side and then it stopped and stood to attention. It looked across to the other side of the lake, the side the Carpinal family was on, and then took a flying leap into the water. The blur of yellow and brown threw water droplets everywhere and made ripples cascade through the lake. The blur was half way across the lake in fifteen seconds and was jumping out of the lake a couple seconds of seconds later and was clawing the side of the trailer.

Before anyone could stop her, Amy was jumping out of the truck and hugging the blur which turned out to be Jaggy. He leapt up and put two bulky paws on her shoulders and they danced about the area. The rest of the family took turns playing with him and having a good time. Then Mike opened the trailer to a comfy bed of straw and a huge hunk of meat and some fresh water that Jaggy could have if he wanted.

"Well, if I recall correctly, we were supposed to go to the mall as soon as possible. And I think it was

the Julporne Mall we were supposed to go to. Am I correct honey?" Carl asked.

"Well, by what you told me that was where I guessed we needed to go so I guess so. Amy where are we and where do we need to go next?" Rachel asked Amy. Amy pulled out a map and began to study it and the road around them which were covered in interesting landmarks.

She squinted at the map and said, "I think we can turn around here and head back through the brush. I also see a way we can avoid Devil's Ditch if we go slowly enough. Alright, that looks good. And where is the area of the devil ditch we nearly brok- HEY!!! What happened! How, wha-, whe-, the map. It got destroyed. Something got in here and tore a piece off of it and I can't find it. How are we going to find our way back?!" Amy sobbed in horror and grief.

"I, ahh, I am going to, uhh, go check, umm, on Jaggy if, err, uhh, if that is alright, uhh, with you mom." Mike asked in an awkward way. "Maybe he has it. I mean yes it is unlikely, but I don't know what else could have gotten it. And I am surprised Amy didn't see the destruction before understand what I mean?" Mike looked around to see blank faces and thought, "Apparently not."

"Well, I gue- Hey, now that is an idea. Dad gives me your phone please. I need it." Carl rummaged through his pockets and pulled out his phone and handed it to Mike.

“Thanks, Dad!” Mike said as he turned it on. Flipping through the apps, like Angry Birds and other games he found Google. Opening Google, he typed in “maps of Julpor” and got many results before he found the one he was looking for.

“Here, Amy. You can look off Dad’s phone to get us where we need to go. Hey dad, turn around the car and go the other way.” Mike said. Amy took the phone from Mike and studied it for a second.

“Turn left..... Now right..... Go straight through this intersection..... Left..... Right.. Right Right Left..... straight..... SLOW DOWN!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!! Right one eighty turn..... We are here.” Amy barked the directions loudly and clearly too. Carl turned into a parking lot for the mall and found a parking spot almost immediately because no one was there except for police officers and the dogs and one of them was Shep. He was barking orders to the other dogs like Jaggy had taught him to and he even bit a dog hard on the tail to make him stop being lazy.

The dog yelped and ran away from Shep as fast as he could and got to work immediately so Shep wouldn’t come near him again. Jaggy trotted over to Shep to say hello and nuzzle him. Shep did the same and then went right back to work sniffing around and stuff. Carl went over to talk to the police officer who owned Shep.

They had a hushed talk and then Carl came back over and explained what happened at the mall and why everyone had evacuated the area. Mike told Jaggy what happened and he darted off like he had understood, which he probably had. Shep and Jaggy met together and went and made the dogs get into some small groups. Last time it had worked so they were going to try again.

The harder they worked the more smoke they could smell. It soon got to be too much for the dogs and jaguar. They went over to the people and collapsed one by one. Five minutes later, a couple police came back with water and multitudes of space masks including some for dogs and one for a very special jaguar and of course some for everyone else that was there.

Now the dogs drank the water very quickly but Jaggy drank it slowly so he could save it for when he needed it the most. They decided that they could let a few dogs sleep at a time and the rest would work. The dogs that did sleep only got fifteen minutes though.

After everyone had some sleep, the dogs and jaguar found the trail of the person they were trying to find. All the dogs went crazy over that so Shep and Jaggy had a very hard time getting the animals under control but somehow they did. But they also lost the trail and they got mad at the dogs. Jaggy snapped at one of the dogs and Shep attacked another one.

The dogs shut up immediately and got right back to work before anyone could stop the fight. Mike ran over though to make sure the dogs that got attacked were alright before he let them back to work.

Jaggy and the dogs worked hard to find the scent again and even though he only got a whiff of the scent, Jaggy could still remember a lot about it. Multiple dogs found random scents and the scents they found were complete failures. Then Shep barked a rejoicing call and started galloping around the parking lot.

He traveled through mud with the dogs and Jaggy at his side and then at the end of the puddle, slid to a slippery stop. The police and Carpinal's ran over to investigate. There at the end of the puddle of mud were brown, muddy footprints that looked humongous. The youngest dog investigated one of the footprints and started yapping like a spoiled Yorkie.

CHAPTER EIGHT

Jaggy came over and, carefully so he would not destroy it, sniffed the footprint. He growled and then took a long flying jump into the air and crashed down on the other side of the footprints, and darted off down the parking lot, following the footprints.

Shep and the other dogs chased after him as fast as they could. The people chased after the dogs. The nails scratching, the boots clomping down, and the slapping of the sandals could be heard a mile away.

The jaguar was hot on the trail of a young man. The smell told him that. His claws raked the asphalt into small chunks. His tail flew straight behind him. His fur rippled through the wind. He looked majestic and handsome. He followed the footprints across parking lots, through the street and even into a mall and right back out. People darted out of his way so they didn't get trampled to their death.

Then he saw someone who was matching the description he was given. A young man about twenty-five years old and wearing khaki shorts with a bright blue tee shirt and flip-flops. His feet were also very large. His tummy bulged and when he saw Jaggy he got real nervous and fled.

But he was no match for Jaggy. The boy jumped in a desperate attempt to break away from the jaguar but he fell and the jaguar was upon him. Jaggy latched his teeth onto the man's shirt and growled when he tried to get away. People crowded around and it made it hard to get around.

Once the guy knew he could not get away from Jaggy, Jaggy jumped toward the nearest person and nearly destroyed the stuff she had bought. Then he leapt toward another person and tried to bite that

person. He growled in a nasty way as he jumped to another person.

The man just followed in awe at the handsome jaguar tearing his way through the crowd. When he got through the jaguar ripped the man's shirt apart and then pawed at him. Underneath all the other clothing he wore, there were matches, lighters and a gas mask.

Jaggy roared and howled. He howled and roared some more but with no luck at all. There was no other choice but to find his way back to the mall and his family. He dragged the man by his pants all the way to a crosswalk. He roared as loud as possible and the cars screeched to a halt so the people inside could see what had made the ferocious noise.

While the cars stopped, Jaggy darted across the road before the cars and their mean sounding motors could run over him and this man he was dragging. In one giant leap he was over a hedge that surrounded the mall. The young jaguar with all his strength grabbed the man for one last monstrous drag across the parking lot to his family.

Meanwhile, the dogs and people gave up chasing Jaggy and were walking slowly back to the mall when they heard a growl that turned into a roar which then turned into a deep howl. The people and the dogs ran to the mall to meet the jaguar. What they didn't expect was to see a stranger being dragged along with him.

“Who are you?!” Mike demanded the stranger Jaggy had dragged over to them. Jaggy growled right next to his ear and that frightened the man into speaking.

“My name is Michael Mitchell,” Michael rushed on. “And yes, I put the smoke in the building because I needed to do something to lower the population of this town. My boss wanted me to and if I don’t do what he says I am in a lot of trouble. I will tell you my boss’s personality and name and everything I know about him so you can catch him because he is very nasty. He lives down on Cart Avenue and has bought the entire area. He has this area set up like a battle field. It is definitely a wonder how he navigates through it because I always get lost.

Let me tell you his figure. He is so tall but he’s fat. He is very fat. Only a quarter of the stuff in his yard can hide him but there are also woods nearby that he has run into for protection from the police.

He can navigate his way through the entire woods. He also has a very long face with one mole that is right on the tip of his nose which comes down in a sharp point. He also has eyes that change color with his mood. When they are brown he is happy and when that brown has a tinge of red in it he is mad and when they are gray he is sad or upset over his very weird wife.

His name is Cordial Masterson and his henchmen say he is also a part time serial killer and

his wife loves that. His children are following in his path and they look exactly alike. There are two boys and one girl. The girl is learning physics so she can destroy the world if her father is unsuccessful and his sons love to build these unique contraptions that actually work and Cordial has used them on the world before.

I can also draw a picture of him if you want me to. I think he also wants to destroy me right now so I am very glad you are taking me in and I hope this helps you find him. There are so many bad people in this world and he is the worst of them.”

“Well, thank you for willingly giving yourself up buddy. Us police appreciate that.” One of the police said. “I think you should be let free on one condition. But I don’t know if my buddies here would agree. Let’s ask them, shall we. What do you think we should let him go on one condition for giving himself up and willingly speaking without being told or even asked at all?” All the police nodded except for one.

“What is the one condition Captain?” One of them asked.

“That is exactly what I was going to ask,” said another. A lot of other policemen nodded again. Soon there were many police all talking at once and trying to make themselves be heard over all the others.

“OKAY!!!! I know what I am doing and now I will tell you the condition if you will listen! The condition is that he is always being tracked by our tracking device.

If he goes somewhere he can't go into without starting to go bad we will be alerted immediately and he will, no matter what, go to jail. Does that sound alright with you guys?" the Captain asked.

"YES!!!" Many police shouted and caused such a ruckus that it could be heard a little more than a mile away. Jaggy was dodging feet and multiple other things like falling radios and guns. Michael was doing the same and they met up. Growling Jaggy kept moving forward. Michael slid backward and then darted through the crowd of men so that he and Jaggy could have some peace.

Jaggy darted out of the crowd over to a barrel that Michael had sat down on and laid his head apologetically on Michael's lap.

"I know you feel bad but you don't have to say sorry. It was my fault for letting my boss take over me like that. Why don't we go ask Captain for that tracker so I can walk home? Okay?" Michael asked. Jaggy looked up at him and locked his eyes on Michael's.

"I take that as a yes. Let's go little guy." Michael beckoned. Jaggy and Michael got to their feet and went over to Captain, who was watching the police.

"Umm, sir. Do you have the tracker with you? It is getting dark and I want to go home and see my wife and children." Michael asked.

"Yes I do have the tracker. Here it is. Have a nice walk home young man. Actually do you want a ride

home? I can drive you to your house.” Captain asked Michael.

“No sir, I don’t need a ride. It is around the block. Thank you for the tracker and see you later.” Michael called as he walked off.

Jaggy walked to the car and smacked it with his paw. The Carpinals took that as a sign that it was time to leave the little party and go home.

“Mom, where is Amy?” Mike asked.

“Helping your father load Jaggy into the trailer.” Rachel answered groggily.

“Oh.”

“What’s wrong?”

“Uhh, you know we’re rolling down a hill right now and Dad is right next to you and Amy should be next to me but she’s not. Never mind. Why am I talking to you about this problem? She was with dad. Dad where is Amy at!” Mike demanded.

“She’s in the car.” Carl said uneasily.

No, she’s not. Look for yourself if you’re not happy.”

“Fine!” Carl pulled over to the side of the road and opened his door. He stepped out and pulled open Amy’s door.

“Oh. She might be in the trailer. I do remember her asking me about the trailer and I wasn’t paying much attention so she could have gotten in the trailer. I’ll go check.” Carl said with wide open eyes. He walked out to the trailer.

GIRL!! LEAVE ME ALONE YOU MONSTER!" She gave a tremendous kick with her legs and knocked the man off balance. He teetered and then fell over backward while wind milling his arms.

The man had some knives out so she hopped over and got one to saw at the ropes. Frantically the man jumped over but Amy defended herself with the knife. She cut the man's arm and he howled in pain.

"If you stop I will cut the ropes and let you turn me in." He cried. "My name is Cordial Masterson. I want to destroy the world. I am almost done to. I was the one who sank the island, Atlantis. I am almost done sinking both Antarctica and Arctic. The Aleutian Islands were made by me in a failed attempt to destroy Alaska.

I also made Hawaii. The islands were made when I accidently made a machine that made things rise. I even made Japan. The volcanoes in Japan were actually the only things in Japan that rose out of the water at first. Then they kept erupting and erupting and then they made Japan and its islands. Interesting, huh? I don't think it is because I didn't want Japan to be made. Well, I made and destroyed a lot of things in this world. Th global warming start was also by me.

I guess everything is done by me. My daughter is probably as smart as I am. My sons are the base of my contraptions. They build everything and I love it because they always work."

Amy nodded silently and narrowed her eyes again. Then using one of her toes she ripped off the fold that was tied over her mouth.

“You know, before I turn you in I want to do something.” Amy smiled in a smug way. Then she whistled as loud as possible. A deep growl that vibrated through the trees in the forest and across his fields and acres of grass and right back to Amy. She smiled.

Carl heard it as he opened the trailer and he listened closely. Jaggy perked up from inside the trailer at first from the sound of it opening and then to the sound of a whistle and then a loud growl that made Jaggy’s heart pound harder in his chest. His body shook with joy and he pawed the trailer.

Carl opened the door and let Jaggy out of the trailer. He jumped to attention and started to sniff the wind while Carl got back into the truck.

“Amy was taken but she is doing that call that she made up to call Jaggy when she’s in trouble so he’s responding to it proba-” Carl started but never finished because Jaggy had started his side of the call.

“HHHOOOOOWWWWWLLLLLLGRRR!!” He howled and then went down to a deep growl a second time that vibrated through the woods and all the way back to Amy.

Amy smiled again. She listened to Cordial stutter and then explained.

“That was Jaggy. He is on his way.” Amy said. Sure enough Jaggy was on his way. And fast. He had tore past Carl the second the door was opened and was now racing faster than the SUV could go. Amy had just finished speaking when he arrived with her father and brother and mom just seconds behind. Cordial jumped up and ran. He was very fast for a very fat person. His shoes flew off as he ran to show very disfigured feet that helped him run faster and turn better.

But Jaggy was catching up fast. Cordial grabbed a gun he had accidently left out and fired up into the air. Before the bullet came down Jaggy had tackled him and had already left a deep groove from his claw in Cordial’s face. That made Cordial mad and he fired another round right at Jaggy but it did nothing. The man finally gave up and Jaggy sat down. Mike and Amy were already there before Carl or Rachel.

Amy grabbed Jaggy and gave him a big hug.

Mike took the gun from Cordial and pointed it at him and asked, “Where are you wife and children? We need them.”

Cordial answered with a raspy voice. “They are in the house on the third floor where the bedrooms are. Why?”

“It’s not just you who is going to jail. You’re kids are going to the juvenile hall for kids and you’re wife is going to be put in the cell next to you. I can guarantee that. But are you sure about that?”

“No.”

“Alright then. Call them. As loud as you can yell, call them.”

“Fine. REBECCA! EMILY! RAYMOND! CADEN! COME OUT HERE NOW!” Cordial yelled using his loudest and angriest voice. The sound from the people in the house tumbled through the windows and out to them as some people crashed out of their beds.

“What’s wrong Cordial? Are you getting arrested again? It sure looks like it because I can see these flashing lights out by the end of our driveway.”

Rebecca called back.

The Carpinal family looked at each other. The flashing lights meant the police had come which meant Jaggy had awoken them which meant-

“RUFFF, RUFFF!!” Shep jumped out of a vehicle and darted toward Jaggy. The two danced for a second and then got right back to business.

“Just get OUT HERE!!!” Cordial yelled.

Jaggy growled a ferocious growl and slammed lightly into the house and splintered the plaster a bit.

“Get out here or the house is gonna FALL.”

Cordial screamed apparently terrified of the jaguar destroying his house.

Jaggy reeled back to hit the house again and Shep joined him. When they hit the house it swayed and more plaster fell. Suddenly the door burst open and three kids and a woman stumbled out. Shep

barked and yelped and Jaggy drove them toward a police car before he started to sway himself.

More dogs joined and Jaggy got dizzy and swayed more. Finally the dogs and Jaggy drove them into the waiting hands of the police. Cordial ran after them blindly and got handcuffs slapped on as he tried to run by. Then the police told Jaggy to destroy the house. So Jaggy did.

The dogs joined him and they powered through each room and destroyed the entire place. Jaggy found a box of stolen money and expensive jewelry before a piece of plaster fell and hit him on the head and he blacked out. When the police stopped hearing the sounds of destruction they ran in to investigate.

They found Jaggy lying on the ground with the chunk of plaster being lifted by the dogs. The police lifted the heavy body of Jaggy and brought him out through the destroyed wall. The dogs followed and when Amy saw Jaggy she burst into tears. Carl opened the trailer door and let the police inside. They laid Jaggy's body down gently in the straw and then called to the dogs. Then one of the police tried to remove the box in Jaggy's mouth from him but he could not lift Jaggy's jaw. The other police tried it and they just couldn't undo his jaw enough.

"Shep! Stay in here with Jaggy and keep him comfort please." The police asked the wise German shepherd. Then they left and Carl slammed the trailer

door shut and locked it with Shep still inside but a small light on.

The jaguar soon awoke after the family hit the road and was surprised to find a box in his mouth. He opened it and then Shep and Jaggy sorted through it and found many things that should not be in a box. The box contained stolen jewelry and many other things like stolen money and even a one-million dollar coin collection that had to have been stolen like the rest of the things.

Soon Jaggy's eyes started to glaze over so Shep checked him out. He found a spot where Jaggy had apparently been shot because there was some lead embedded deep in the muscle and it was starting its work on Jaggy's body. Jaggy whimpered and then passed out again and this time stayed out.

Carl parked the car near the barn and opened his door. Amy's face was still streaked in tears when she glumly got out of the car. Carl and Amy went to the back of the trailer and unlocked the lock that held the door shut. Carl slowly lowered the door and Shep whined pitifully.

"Jaggy, wake up." Amy sobbed, new tears streaming down her face. Carl checked him over.

"Get back in the car, Amy. Jaggy might die if you don't." Carl said grimly.

"Why?! Why will he die? What is wrong dad?!? Tell me now!" Amy demanded through a fit of crying. Carl sighed.

“Well, I don’t want to tell you this but if you insist. During one of the rounds of shooting Jaggy got shot in the neck and his body was able to delay the effects it would have on him but it couldn’t hold out for long. During the trailer ride his body must have given up on holding the blood back and the lead is in one of his muscles. I can see the muscle so it must be deep.” Carl explained. Amy’s eyes widened and she let tears pour down her face.

“I know it is hard Amy but you need to control yourself. You can’t be crying like this all the time. Alright?” Carl asked. Amy nodded and tried very hard to control herself but failed miserably at it. When she did get control of herself they were almost at the vets. She was shaking hard and was cold but she didn’t complain.

CHAPTER TEN

When they entered the vet's office she got even colder. Jaggy's body was also getting cold and very stiff but his heart was still beating even though it was slow. The most experienced vet took jaggy in immediately and laid Jaggy as gently as possible on the table with Carl's help.

"I'm Dr. Pentinol and I will do the absolute best to help our jaguar, the savior to this town if I should think so. If not for him so many people would be gone now and Julpor would be one of the smallest towns in the U.S. history. But back to the business. I have a couple small questions." Dr. Pentinol said.

"Have at it Dr. Pentinol. We can answer all of your questions." Carl said and the Carpinal family all nodded an agreement to that.

"Okay, first question. Why is the dog here and what is his name? Oops, that is actually two questions, but carry on." Dr. Pentinol asked.

"The dog is a best friend of Jaggy's and we would like to keep him here until Jaggy's visit here is over. And the dog's name is Shep. He is a German Shepherd and he is very sweet." Carl answered.

"Alright. Now to Jaggy. What happened to him?" Dr. Pentinol asked again.

"Well it's a long story and I guess you want to hear the entire thing. Well, let me start from the beginning. Amy was stolen, no she was kidnapped

and taken to Cordial's house," Carl began to explain. Cordial got kicked by Amy and that gave her the advantage so she called Jaggy here to come help her with her special call.

Jaggy came over after Cordial got the advantage and Cordial found a gun he could use. Hmmm. It looks like you don't know Cordial at all. Well, Cordial Masterson is a mastermind genius guy. He is trying to destroy the world as Amy told us while Jaggy and a group of dogs were going through the Victorian house and destroying it.

But a piece of plaster knocked Jaggy out. The police then carried him to our trailer and laid him inside and left Shep to stay with him. Jaggy had found a metal box with a large metal handle in his mouth and had locked it in his mouth so that no one could get it out. Not even the police. So it is now in the trailer if I am correct.

Jaggy apparently passed out completely in the car and hasn't really woken up. Never mind I take that back. He is staring at us with a blank expression on his face. Oh well. We found out he was shot when we got home and I investigated deeply about the reason his eyes were glazing over.

Now here he is."

"Wow, what a story. Well let's check him out after I finish writing this down." Dr. Pentinol said in a flurry of scribbling. He walked quickly out of the room and returned a few minutes later with some

interesting little tools that Jaggy tried to growl at. Jaggy even tried to bite one but he could hardly move his body and decided to yowl in pain instead.

“Dr. Pentinol, what are you doing with Jaggy?” Amy finally got the courage to ask.

“Well, Amy, it is very hard to understand but I will try to explain. What is going on in his body is the bullet has spread lead through his body in the blood stream. That starts to downgrade his ability to do things.

What I am doing is trying to siphon the bullet that is still breaking down out of his body. Then I will maybe send it to the lab for tests but still I might not. The bullet is probably half way gone by now so I will be able to get some of it out and that will delay effects even more. Maybe even for days he will be only slightly affected by the bullet. Do you understand this Amy?” Dr. Pentinol explained while working with Jaggy and the bullet. Amy nodded solemnly, soaking in all the details while watching the doctor work his magic on Jaggy.

“Thank you, Dr. Pentinol. I greatly appreciate it and I also understand and I hope my family feels the same. Jaggy is part of our family and we’ll feel a bunch of sorrow especially since me and Mike are going to school tomorrow.” Amy thanked the doctor. All of the family nodded agreement and smiled sadly.

“Well, you’re welcome. I can tell that you are feeling much sorrow and grief Amy since you are not hiding it very well. I have another question. What is Jaggy’s real name? I know you didn’t call him Jaggy because I was able to see every bit of you walking home with a young jaguar in your hands.”

“His real name is Joseph but since everyone calls him Jaggy we gave in and call him Jaggy too. But he will respond to Joseph.” Amy said. As if on cue Jaggy raised his head when Amy said the name Joseph. Everyone laughed and Jaggy twitched his paw in anger at the flashing tool that was centimeters from his chest.

“Well I got as much of the bullet out of him as I can right now. There is probably a little less than ten percent of it still in his blood stream. That is very good. Don’t you think Amy?” Dr. Pentinol asked kindly. Amy nodded her approval. Jaggy lifted his head and whined. Shep and Amy instinctively got up to comfort him but Dr. Pentinol blocked their way.

“I don’t know if he will bite so I don’t want you going over there. Okay?” Dr. Pentinol asked. Amy and Shep hung their heads and stepped backward. Shep shook his body and suddenly reeled back to charge. Amy grabbed a hold of his collar and pulled him backward. Dr. Pentinol was surprised and he put a syringe full of medicine to put him to sleep in the wrong spot and Jaggy collapsed onto the table.

CHAPTER ELEVEN

The experienced vet moaned.

“I just put him in coma by accident. His body must not have been able to handle it in that spot. Shep! Bad boy. You know better than that. I know for sure because you are a police dog and they train you to be good. Oh, why am I yelling at a dog? They know next to nothing.” Dr. Pentinol grumbled. Amy started crying again but it was way more controlled than the last time she was crying.

“Shep! Bad dog!” Amy cried. She snapped a leash on him and dragged him out to the car. She threw him in and almost slammed the door shut, unaware that Cordial was standing right next to her. Cordial grabbed her before she could shut the door and Shep leapt out and bit Cordial hard. Amy collapsed to the ground.

“Owwww!!” Cordial screamed. The scream traveled through the walls of the vet’s building and straight to the experienced vet and the Carpinal family. Mike and Carl instinctively leapt up and darted toward the door. Rachel jumped up a split second afterward and beat Carl and Mike to the door to the outside.

Rachel skidded to a stop and looked toward the direction the scream had come from. She saw Cordial holding his arm and Shep latched on to his pant leg. Amy was on the ground and was

breathing shallowly. Rachel's eyes widened in horror when she saw Amy on the ground. Carl and Mike joined her and they ran toward Cordial and Shep.

Cordial saw them running towards him and snatched Shep by the collar. He started to run. Carl snatched the keys from Rachel and darted toward the SUV. He started the car and sped toward Cordial. Cordial heard the car and dropped Shep to the ground where he collapsed too.

After a second, though, Shep got back to his feet and continued the fight. Rachel ran to Amy and picked her up and took her toward the vet's building. Amy was laid down and slowly she came back down to Earth. Amy started mumbling something that was garbled and hard to understand. Rachel checked Amy over for anything that was wrong and found thick bruises on the back of her neck.

The SUV was quickly gaining on Cordial and Cordial was getting scared. He had tried every single trick he had thought up, even the one where he turned in a circle and then headed in the same direction he had been heading but nothing tricked Carl. Carl was the best at teasing people and finding out their tricks. He soon had passed Cordial by a few yards and then he skidded to a spot right in front of Cordial.

Cordial narrowly managed to avoid the car but Shep was happily waiting for him on the other side. Shep knocked him to the ground and growled a

growl that only Jaggy knew. Shep was getting better at this and he had almost mastered it but Jaggy might be gone now so he would just have to practice on his own.

“Blast that dog and jaguar and all other criminal catching animals in this blasted world! I can’t believe I was fooled by my own kind too. It’s so embarrassing and.... and..... and annoying!” Cordial sighed.

Shep growled even louder and louder like he had understood. Carl leapt out of the car to hear Cordial say that and he snapped his own retort back at Cordial. Shep whimpered

“You yourself should be sorry that you said that. I guess it is embarrassing but sometimes you need to KEEP THOUGHTS TO YOURSELF!!!! What if Shep understood you? If you were Shep, how would you feel? You know that we can’t read minds and neither can the animals. So why can’t you KEEP THOUGHTS TO YOURSELF? This is not a rhetorical question so you can answer it.” Carl shouted in anger over the words Cordial had snarled.

Cordial thought about that for a minute and then snickered, “I wouldn’t like it, but I wouldn’t understand so I don’t care. I don’t care about any animal except my own pit bull so I don’t take back what I said and that’s that.”

Carl glowered at Cordial but didn’t say anything. Then he pulled out his phone and dialed the

police number, 9-1-1. The dispatcher that answered was very nice and answered all of Carl's questions and then also knowing that Shep was with him and she was also very glad about that. She wasn't surprised that they had found Cordial because no real damage had been done that the police had documented against him.

"I'm sending a few men over right away. Shep will also be taken home tonight to if that's okay with you guys. I know Jaggy's at the vet's so it will be pret-" The dispatcher started saying but Carl cut her off quickly.

"Shep must stay with us tonight. We need him. The kids need to know that they have some animal with them that's not a big cat sometimes and they also love dogs. I need him to stay. Anyway, Jaggy might die. He is in a coma and might never wake again. That is why we need Shep. I hope you understand." Carl snapped quickly to avoid being cut off by the dispatcher.

"Ahh. I do understand. The town will be at a great loss if the great Jaggy dies. He is a very special animal and we would all miss him a bunch. Where is the vet's office? I need to be able to send the police to the right one." The dispatcher said sympathetically. She sniffed a couple times and swallowed hard. Carl could tell she was coming close to crying and he tried to comfort her.

“It’s alright. We will be crying ourselves on the way home. The directions are to go to the vet’s on Maple Avenue. Then come to the vacant lot to the right of it and you will find us. I will also turn on the SUV’s lights so you know which right I am talking about.” Carl explained carefully. Suddenly Mike came stumbling up to Carl.

“Amy wake up now. Wake up. We don’t want you to be in a coma like Jaggy.” Rachel crooned to the still unconscious Amy. When she said Jaggy Amy started mumbling and grumbling about things but it was too garbled to make out. Rachel smiled and then got some ice cold water and poured it over Amy’s face very slowly. Amy’s eyes snapped open but it didn’t look like she could see anything.

Rachel leaned over across Amy’s face but Amy didn’t even blink. Her eyes stayed blank and unmoving. Her body started to go limp. Then Rachel realized that Mike was standing over her and watching the entire thing.

“Go get your father and bring him here with Cordial locked up in the back. We need to take your sister to the emergency room and quickly. Go.” Rachel said calmly though her face was pale and her eyes were filled to the brim with tears. Mike turned and ran as fast as he could toward the lights of the SUV.

He got half way there and had to slow down to catch his breath. He kept running though and he got to his father in a couple minutes.

“Dad, let’s go. Get Cordial into the SUV and let’s go. Amy migh-” Mike started. The sounds of sirens filled the air along with Cordial’s groans. Six men came up running and dismissed Carl and Shep immediately once the dogs caught Cordial from a massive struggle. Cordial’s breathing was heavy and it sounded like he was a panting dog.

Shep jumped into the SUV when Carl opened the door for him and then Mike and Carl climbed in. The SUV roared back to the veterinarian’s building and screeched to a halt. Rachel lugged Amy into the backseat and then got in. the SUV sped toward the hospital as fast as possible. Police knew they were allowed to speed because of Jaggy and they never got a ticket for it.

The hospital was almost empty so Amy got right in and was rolled on a gurney to the room farthest from every door that leads to the outside. Amy was hooked up to every machine they needed to do tests with and they found out that not only was Jaggy in coma but now Amy was too!

CHAPTER TWELVE

In the vet's, Jaggy was getting to moving around. He twitched his entire body every ten minutes and he opened and closed one claw every fifteen minutes. This was recorded in Jaggy's medical folder and sent to Rachel and Carl.

“Amy is in good condition. The only thing is she might not be able to make it through this sort of coma because it is the hardest coma there is. Being squeezed around the neck stopped her from breathing enough so we will have to hook her up to a breathing machine. Her heart rate is good and her reflexes are almost as good as her mom's. The only thing we can't do is do anything with her neck. She flinches even in the coma every time we touch her neck and she has already let out some sound. She might be okay but again this is the toughest type of coma to get through so she might not.” The doctor that had come out immediately was very nice and helped the Carpinal family understand what was going on with Amy.

Rachel had tears flowing down her face. Mike was crying but you could hardly tell on the outside. Carl was staring at Amy grimly. Even Shep's head was low and he was obviously upset. They were all sniffing and snuffling. Finally Rachel burst.

“We could have prevented this. We could have kept her from going outside. Why did this happen. It's

the second time tonight and by the same dumb person. I hate it. It is the worst thing that could ever happen in life.” Rachel cried. Carl walked over to comfort her. He put a thick hand on her shoulder and Rachel laid her head on his shoulder.

“It’s alright. We’ll make it through this time. God’s just testing us and seeing if we can put up with this. Okay?” Carl asked Rachel. Rachel nodded to choked up to speak.

“You guys need to leave soon because the visiting times were finished and done with a long time ago. I hope you guys have a safe drive home and a good night’s sleep. And thinking about what you said, you must be Jaggy’s owners. Am I right?” the doctor asked.

“Yes, sir you are. How did you know? Wait I know how. Since we didn’t come earlier today it must have been an animal and the only animal that can go into coma with a lot of people talking about it is Jaggy. I think I explained that.” Mike said hurriedly.

“Well son. You can certainly talk up a storm. I think you explained it because I understand perfectly. You explained awesomely to me. I like that. But it looks like your sister won’t be going to school tomorrow, eh?” the elderly doctor asked Mike with a grim smile on his face. Mike nodded tiredly because it was already eleven o clock and there was school the next day. Mike yawned and Rachel saw it and stared at her watch.

“We need to go Carl. It is already eleven. Bye doctor... wait you never told us your name. Mine is Rachel, this is Carl, and this is Mike.” Rachel said gesturing to each person.

“Well, you’ll be surprised but I am Dr. Pentinol’s brother. He and I both love being doctors when we were young but he liked to doctor our stuffed animals and I liked doctoring people like my dad. That is why we are both so experienced and is why we don’t doctor the same things. I was born before him so I am about ten years older than him. He looks like my mom while I look like my dad. My name is Dr. Pentinol like him but we are at different places so it doesn’t matter. Kind of interesting, huh?” Dr. Pentinol asked the stunned Carpinal family.

They stared at him with wide eyes and gaping mouths and then shook their heads.

“Good bye Dr. Pentinol.” Mike said shakily. Dr. Pentinol smiled as the Carpinal family filed out the doorway. Then he looked at Amy. He stared at her for a long time before leaving the hospital.

Meanwhile, Jaggy’s breathing got better and better and he would shift his body every once in a while and his heart rate got faster and then would slow down like he got upset or excited. But he never opened his eyes or even twitched his eyeball. They stayed closed. Every once in a while an assistant would come in and pour a little bit of water over his

body to keep him cool and even got out a toy that he could smack in his sleep. But nothing helped.

The night shift at the hospital checked on Amy at about two A.M. and found out that her breathing had gotten worse and her heart rate was way below the normal human heart rate. The doctors that worked the night shift came in to try to help her but all they could do was get some water into her stomach and a little bit of food. A couple doctors almost started to cry and one of them did. The doctors filed slowly out of the room and back to their original places throughout the hospital.

Also, the Carpinal's had gotten home and had went to bed immediately without dinner. They were too tired to eat much less cook. The family woke the next morning and the phones immediately got busy. They were hardly able to get a few phone calls in themselves without getting a call by one of the pesky little reporters and radio stations and every talk show on the television.

After handling all of the phone calls they could manage while getting in a few of their own to say they would be going to the hospitals today and be spending a few hours at home. They first went to the animal hospital to spend some time with Jaggy before the visiting hours at the St. Barrow Hospital for Kids.

“Jaggy looks excellent. I think he'll wake from the coma tomorrow. Wow!” Mike exclaimed with bright flashing eyes. Rachel smiled and Carl nodded happily.

Little did they know about Amy. The hospital soon opened to visitors so the Carpinal's left Jaggy with happy smiles and hopeful hearts.

Amy had gotten worse over the night and was now almost dead. Slowly she was losing her grip on Earth and she was sliding down the steep hill to death. Rachel started crying immediately and Carl did all he could to comfort her but he could do little. Mike let tears flow down his own face but he kept his jaw locked. Doctor Pentinol walked in and he himself showed horror on his face. He hadn't expected this.

"Dr. Pentinol! Is there anything my parents and I can do to help my sister here? And can you please run tests for all other sleep related illnesses? I think she might not have a case of coma. Don't you?" Mike demanded angrily.

"Ahh. Yes. There is one thing I can test for and she does have some of the symptoms for it. I thin-" Dr. Pentinol said. Suddenly Rachel's cell phone started beeping crazily. Rachel picked it up and gulped. It was the vets. She flipped it open and listened. Then she smiled a hazy smile that got bigger and bigger with each passing moment until she was beaming from ear to ear.

"Just a second. I want to say something to my family," Rachel said covering the mouth piece. "Jaggy woke up and is eating and drinking regularly. He will be perfectly fine!" the rest of the family smiled and then started talking all at once.

“Tell the-” Mike said excitedly.

“Give me the key-” Carl’s eyes gleamed.

“-m we are in their-” Mike tried to finish.

“-s Rachel so we can leave to go see him. Let’s go.” Carl said ecstatically.

“-debt and that we are so thankful for them!”

Mike finally finished. The Carpinal family quickly left to go get their jaguar from the vet’s office and bring him home. The SUV roared down the highway and onto the dirt road that led to the vet’s office. Carl sped up into a parking spot and screeched to an abrupt halt. The family charged into the waiting room, through several doors, and to the cat room. Jaggy was not in there so they went out to the exercise ring and guess who they saw!

A bunch of dogs and cats but no jaguar. The family of four tore back into the waiting room where they found Jaggy waiting patiently. Rachel’s face turned beet red when she saw everyone that was waiting laughing at them so she hastily dragged the boys and jaguar out to the car.

“Amy is doing a little better I think. She has started breathing stronger and her heart rate has gone up. I think she is coming out of coma!” Dr. Pentinol smiled. “And I did test her for any other illnesses, Mike, and I am completely certain that she is in a coma. Are you happy?” Mike nodded happily and smiled. Jaggy was curled up on the floor and resting his head on a chair. Then he stood up and

walked over to Mike rumbling. Mike smiled and then looked back up at Amy and his parents.

Over the next few days, it was busy with school and jobs that the family could hardly squeeze in time to see Amy but they did. Her room had been decorated to have some of her things in it while obstructing the hospital's view.

Amy only had one more day to be in coma before they diagnosed it as something else but it was almost like she was in a deep sleep. She got too much air in her now if they used the breathing machine. Her heart was beating normally and she was doing great.

The next day, Amy opened her eyes for a brief moment before she fell back asleep and then she opened them again for a longer period of time when the doctor was with her. The hospital called Rachel and the Carpinal family took off down the road to pick her up. They made sure to grab Jaggy and put him in the trailer.

They took Amy home, let her get situated and comfortable, and then threw a huge party in celebration.