

Kitty and Axel  
Story 15  
Goodbye

It's August, in fact late August. In the early morning there's a hint of fall in the air, a microscopic drop of coolness. The light too has changed with a tinge of burnt umber. The children are inching toward the beginning of school more or less willingly.

Axel: Kitty, I have to tell you something. I don't want you to be upset. Well, I do want you to be upset, come to think of it. But you must brace yourself for some bad news.

Kitty: Okey dokey, I'm ready. If it's too awful, I'll bite your leg.

A: I'm not kidding around, Kitty. What I have to tell you is that I'm moving.

K: So go ahead, move. You shouldn't lie around all the time, anyway. And please notice that I said lie and not lay.

A: Very good. I'm glad you finally got it. But you must listen now. I'm moving to Santa Rosa.

K: Who said so? Why would you do a thing like that? It's a terrible idea. Anyway, nobody asked me my opinion. Who am I? Just nothing, not worth considering, chopped liver? What? How can you do that, Axel?

A: I'm going to live with James. I'm his dog after all. And, I have a job.

K: Axel, you've caved in, a job of all things! We don't do jobs.

A: I'm going to train dogs, the helping kind. Look at what a good job I did with you. You're pretty well behaved now, with a few minor improvements.

K: I won't be good without you. I'll lay around and bark, poop in the house and bite babies. I'll cry and whine, never sleep, not eat anything ever again then I'll just die. And you'll be sorry. You'll come to visit and I'll be gone and you'll say, where's Kitty? And they'll say, oh she died of a broken heart. And there will be my grave with beautiful flowers growing all over it and people will come to visit it from the ends of the earth because they will remember their own dear pets who gave them joy and solace.

A: I'll be seeing you, Kitty.

K: Bye, Axel.

This is the last Kitty and Axel story. Thank you to our dear readers.

MCD, August 20, 2007