

The Cat Mystery

Dixie the dog was in the yard, barking furiously at a passing cat. His friend, Tutu the parakeet, who was in her cage, looked at him, confused.

“Dixie,” Tutu asked him, “what is your problem with cats? They haven’t done anything to you.”

Dixie stopped barking and looked at Tutu, tilting his head. “I don't know what you are thinking,” Dixie said, “but they are not our friends.”

“Why not?” Tutu insisted. “They don't seem so bad.”

Dixie went up to Tutu’s cage and stared intently at the parakeet. “Because they always try to eat you, Tutu. I don't like how they look at you. I don't know what you are thinking, but I hate them because they are a threat to you. They are the worst.”

Tutu was silent. For the first time, she understood that Dixie’s hatred for cats was not out of malice, but from his protective instinct. And that made her feel very safe.