

January 2022

Welcome to...

The Skyler Scoop!

Chapter One: In Which We Meet A Very Good Dog.



**A Very Happy, Healthy, 2022 to All My Ol' Buddies at the
Sepulveda Building Materials Charity Golf Tournament!**

Hey there! Remember me, your old friend Paddy? I just had to write and tell you what The Humans got me for Christmas: Look! A puppy! **THEY GOT ME A PUPPY!!!!** I understand you were a really big part of making that happen, so thank you VERY much!

She's been really busy learning stuff (and chewing on me) so I'll let her tell you all the details, but I just wanted to say hello and **thank you**. You guys are THE BEST!

Love and wags,

Your old friend Paddy and the new kid, Skyler

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Hi there! Nice to meet you! Skyler, here, GDA/TLC puppy in training reporting for duty—whatever the heck that means. I hear I'm going to help someone when I get bigger. So far, I know how to lick and to cuddle. Anyone need to be licked? Anyone need some loving?

I AM ON IT!!!

There. Almost ready for graduation!

Retired breeders Paddy and Ellie could barely contain their enthusiasm for my homecoming. They're just so well trained they hide it well.

Gooooo doggies.



The Humans are really nice, and have this amazing feature—they have pockets so they ALWAYS have treats! If I wore pants, would I always have treats? These are the things I wonder about...

Turns out The Humans have raised 11 puppies before me. I'm relieved to find out someone knows what they're doing!

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One of the first things I learned was to sit and wait for my dinner. You think it's easy? YOU try it!!

(Full disclosure... this was not week one)



Okay, it's not that I'm not grateful for this nice cozy dog bed or anything, but I'm just curious as to why the black dogs get to be on those nice Big Dog beds that The Humans sit on and I'm supposed to stay down here on the floor. Any thoughts on that? Paddy and Ellie just laugh every time I ask them...



I mean seriously. Shouldn't a face like this give me couch access?

Oh wait, I have a higher purpose, don't I?
I keep forgetting!

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When I was finally old enough to leave the house, my sister Spirit and I went to this really fun place called Sepulveda Building Materials!

Turns out Humans spend a lot of time doing something called “errands”. It’s a little bit of a mystery to me, but so is the length of a CVS receipt. Anyway, for a little puppy, everyone says I’m very well behaved!



I really love going to the grocery store. Everything smells soooooooo good and everyone is always happy to see me. It’s a little hard to remember that the food is not there just for me, but I’m learning.

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Just to prove I'm not making up this whole "I'm obedient" thing, here I am graduating from Puppy Kindergarten. That's my sister Spirit sitting next to me—she passed the class too! Phew.



Speaking of Spirit, she (ahem) lives up to her name! Being a service puppy in training isn't ALL work, and we make the most of our play (and rest) time. It's fun having a sister!



Christmas was really fun! There were lots of happy, jolly people and I remembered not to eat the tree (or the children).



After Christmas, there's this thing called, "New Year's Eve". I hope I'm not supposed to be a party animal because I seem to have a little problem staying awake until midnight... but at least I slept right through the fireworks!



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So here's the thing.

Way back when, when I was just a little puppy up at GDA/TLC, surrounded by my littermates, I was a little worried that once I went home with a puppy raiser, I might be a little lonely for others of my own kind.

Little did I know that would not be an issue.

This is a picture of what they call "a normal day" at Camp Matthews. I'm not so sure about the "normal" part, but it sure is fun!

Thank you so much for everything you've already done for me, and I can't wait to make you proud of me! Lots of love to you and your family, and stay well and happy!

Love and wags,

Skyler

Guide Dogs of America/Tender Loving Canines Puppy in Training