

The Adventures of Rabbie, A Scottish Terrier

Chapter 3

Rabbie Meets The Lord and The Lady

Rabbie was so exhausted from his unpleasant encounter with the birds that he soon drifted off to sleep. The snowy birds wandered in and out of his dreams. They seemed to be everywhere he usually went. Sleep became so fitful he awoke with a start. As he stretched and yawned, his first thought was to trot down to the lake for a refreshing drink. Then he remembered the unfriendly new inhabitants and trotted in the direction of the great Manor House. *There is always a pool of water in that garden*, he thought.

As he trotted through the Manor Garden, he came upon The Lord and The Lady, out for their afternoon stroll. “Halloo, wee Scottie”, they greeted him and The Lady stooped to pat his silky head. Cautiously Rabbie paused to accept her very affectionate greeting. “Well, now, wee Rabbie”, she said, “We now have a pair of swans in the lake. We call them Snow and Cobb...perhaps you have met them and made friends, eh”? Rabbie slowly backed away from The Lady.

Aye, he thought, *I have met them but I cannot call them friends*. Then he turned and went to see about finding that drink of cool water. *Tut*, he mused as he headed to the cottage, *with squawky old Jock Daw and those ill-tempered swans for friends, I shall have to look elsewhere for fun and frolic*.

There had never been swans on the property in the realm of Rabbie’s wanderings, so he could not know that they mate for life and are very protective of each other. In chasing Rabbie from their domain, they had only been following their natural instincts. It is likely they looked upon him as a serious threat to their safety and never saw his kindly eyes nor his playful good nature.

