

## Adventures of Papri and Poppy

### By Eleanore Reynolds

We open in Papri's bedroom. We see a dog curled up in her lap. Papri's keyboard is going "clicky clack" as she is typing... "Here's how it all began...."

*I was walking through town, when I saw an adorable puppy coming my way. I quickly called my mom. I had to ask her something important. For years my best friend Indu, (you know her as Inquisitive Indu), had been telling me about all the cases she never would have solved if it weren't for her wonderful dog, Ila. This was my chance to get one of my own. I had to explain to my mom that I would take care of it, walk it, feed it, pet it, and do all the things I would need to do to have a dog. She agreed, and said she would meet me at the pet store in an hour.*

*You know me, I'm always thinking about all the problems there are in the world, because I like to solve them. It was then I realized I would much rather rescue a dog and help dogs who are in need. I called my mom again and said, "Change of plans! We are going to the pet rescue society!" Carlos (that's Compassionate Carlos) had texted me the perfect spot to find a dog. Once we walked inside the pet rescue, I knew exactly what dog I wanted. She was a golden retriever and I saw her chasing her tail, trying to figure out a way to stop her tail from wagging. At first, she tried sitting on it. It popped right back up! Then, she tried to put her paw on top of it. She realized she wasn't that flexible. Finally, she tried to put it in her mouth. That worked, but she was panting heavily. Her tail got soaked. I admired how many times she tried to solve her problem, and realized this was the dog for me. I realized she didn't have a name yet so I had to solve this problem too! I noticed how her tail kept popping up, then I saw a vase of flowers nearby- full of poppies! I knew exactly what I was going to call her. "Hi sweet girl! Your name will be Poppy!" She gave me a big slobbery lick on my face.*

*After she had all of her shots and spent three weeks training, I knew that I could use her to solve even more problems in the world. I also knew she would be very happy to help me with it! Poppy has a great sense of smell and she encourages me. She keeps me going and is very determined. I couldn't wait to tell my friend Tino (that's Tenacious Tino), all about her.*

*Today something crazy happened. We went to a pet friendly grocery store. I take Poppy everywhere now. An old lady at the grocery store was trying to get a can of tomatoes off of the top shelf. I asked her if she needed help and she said, "That would be great, Dearie, thank you." As I was climbing to the top shelf to reach the can, I accidentally knocked off a jar of tomato sauce. It crashed on my head and then shattered on the floor! I was out cold! My mom told me that while I was on the floor, there was a huge commotion. Poppy had run off to get help and my mom came from the other aisle of the store. A few minutes later, Poppy arrived with the store manager who had a first aid kit in hand. Poppy had something strange in her mouth- it was a toy ambulance!! Poppy is so funny.*

*Suddenly I heard a scream. "Oh, somebody help me! That man just stole my wallet! How will I ever pay for my tomatoes now?" Poppy reacted quickly. She dropped the toy ambulance and rushed out the door of the store. I got worried she might get hit by a car. We rushed after her. She was loudly barking as she was sniffing the sidewalk. A man was running and held something small and brown in his hand. Poppy quickly caught up to the man and started tugging on his pants. In the chaos, the man's pants fell down and several other wallets came tumbling out onto the sidewalk. I ran to Poppy and saw red stuff on her face and thought she had been hurt! It turns out, the red was tomato sauce! The store manager was able to get the police in time to get things sorted out.*

*In the end, the lady got her wallet back, we cleaned the tomato sauce off of Poppy, and the thief was put in jail. We end this story with a happy Poppy and a happy Papri. The End!*

Papri gently strokes Poppy's back as she closes the computer, takes off her glasses, and turns out her light for the night. "Tomorrow will be another interesting day." she says, as she thinks about all the problems they'll solve. "Goodnight Poppy. I love you."

#### **About the Author:**

Eleanore Reynolds is a fifth grade student at Millwood School in Virginia, USA. She has two pet dogs, Leeroy and Oskar, who cause more problems than they help solve. She was inspired by Leeroy's tail when writing this story.