

# Skunked by A Dog

Olga Sanderson





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SKUNKED BY A DOG

By Olga Sanderson

CAST

ANN: Mary's sister.

MARY: Ann's sister.

SCHLEPENHEIMER: Ann and Mary's mother's finance.

Place

MARY's living room.

MARY: Oh, Ann, I'm so glad you came over. Now we hope our plan works. Mother has no idea what we want to do and we dare not tell her. She believes Schlepenheimer loves her so that's why he wants to marry her. But we know it's her money he's after.

ANN: I certainly agree. Do you suppose he suspects something? You know, your reason for inviting him over?

MARY: No. I don't believe so. Oh, dear. I believe he's at the door. (*rap is heard*)

ANN: Let good fortune be with us, Mary.

MARY: (*greets visitor*) Why, good afternoon, Mr. Schlepenheimer. So good to see you. Won't you come in and sit down?

SCHLEP: Why, yes, thank you. So good of you to invite me. How are you girls?

ANN and MARY: We're fine and you look wonderful.

SCHLEP: Why, yes, thanks to your mother. She has made me a happy man by saying 'yes' now since I am going to be part of your family this is a good opportunity to get better acquainted. And do call me Schlep. Everyone does.

ANN: All right- Schlep. We agree that we should get better acquainted. It will please our mother. She knows that was our reason for inviting your over.

MARY: What do you think of the house, Schlelp?

SCHLEP: House, what house?

ANN: The house you are going to buy and move into as soon as you're married. Oh, dear, don't tell me you wanted to keep it a secret.!

ANN: *(to MARY)* Are we letting the cat out of the bag? I bet mother was planning a nice surprise. Oh well, Schlep, might as well tell you. Daisy is Mother's St. Bernard dog. Her brother, our uncle, has been keeping him for some time now but he is going on a long trip and Mother intends to take him back. The apartment is too small for a dog that size, but your house will be just the ticket.

MARY: Oh, you'll just love Daisy. She's no trouble at all.

SCHLEP: But those dogs are too big to be kept inside. *(looks worried and starts pacing)*

ANN: Oh, he's well behaved. You will have to buy a king-sized bed. He does take up a lot of room when he sleeps and insists sleeping between in the middle. You will need some good earplugs, as mother and Daisy do snore awfully loud. Of course, you can always sleep in the spare bedroom.

SCHLEP: Well I'll have to think that one over.

MARY: Maybe you should buy an extra TV set. Daisy loves to watch cartoons. She watches them all day but does put up an awful howl if the sports or news is on.

SCHLEP: Well, couldn't she stay outside during the day. We could get a doghouse.

ANN: No. I don't think so. She might develop emotional problems. She is very sensitive. Besides, she eats all her meals at the table.

SCHLEP: What? *(looks incredulous)* You mean she sits on a chair and eats off a plate?

MARY: Well, you can't let her eat off the tablecloth. What a mess that would be. And as long as you keep an eye on your plate, she won't swipe a few licks off of yours. You know, steaks can be awfully tempting.

SCHLEP: Well, I imagine your mother and I will be eating out a great deal so she would have to eat alone.

ANN: Oh, no. Daisy always goes along.

SCHLEP: But they don't allow dogs in restaurants.

MARY: Where mother goes, Daisy is always welcome. Even after the meal they allow her to smoke her cigar.

SCHLEP: Dogs don't smoke!!

MARY: Most dogs don't, but Daisy does. And she must have the best cigar or she starts coughing.

SCHLEP: And to think I gave up smoking and now is expected to put up with this. You know, your mother and I would be traveling a great deal.

ANN: Oh, that's no problem. Mother has always taken Daisy. She just buys an extra fare and Daisy sits up front with the passengers. She would be insulted if she was put in the baggage compartment. Would make an awful racket.

MARY: And if you travel by car, she sits quietly in the back seat. Just no problem.

SCHLEP: *(stops pacing and looks deep in thought for a few seconds)* You know, I was just thinking. I have a friend who lives in China and he wants me to visit him. I really should.

ANN: Oh, what a wonderful idea for a wedding trip. Daisy would love it. She has never been out of the country.

MARY: That would be a real treat for both Mother and Daisy.

SCHLEP: Well, where my friend lives there are lots of elephants, lions and tigers it would be much too dangerous for Daisy, and your mother would be worrying all the time. No. I think I must go alone. In fact, I believe I will get my ticket this afternoon. Yes, this would be best. Will you give your mother my best wishes and maybe I'll be seeing her in a couple of years.

ANN and MARY: But Schlep, your marriage. What shall we tell mother?

THE END