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THEY CALLED ME A STRAY

My guardian told me to hop into the car, we were going for a ride. Great! - that means we're going to the dog park for some fun, and I licked her face in joy.

When the car stopped, it wasn't the park...it was a strange yellow building, and my guardian walked me down the path to the door. I could hear lots of dogs barking, so maybe she was surprising me with a special dog's birthday party.

She ~~spoke~~ to the man inside, and he asked her A QUESTION. Her response to him was 'STRAY'. I GUESS THAT WAS THE SECRET PASSWORD TO GET IN TO THE PARTY. When I turned to see if my guardian was coming, she was nowhere in sight.

Invent

The man came out of the office, put a lead around my neck and walked me down the hall to another room. When he opened the door, there were all sorts of other dogs waiting for the party, so I sat patiently, wagging my tail in anticipation.

I was put into a cage which I shared with a small, unhappy creature who just laid there whimpering. It seemed like a long time, and I finally fell asleep waiting.

The next morning a lady came by. All I could see were her big black boots. But she was with the nice man who brought me back here yesterday. When she asked him a question, his response was STRAY. I HEARD HER SAY "NOT YET" - and she marked something on the door of my cage.

Later they brought me some food and water. Didn't seem much like what you got at a birthday party, but I was hungry and gobbled it down. They took my unhappy room-mate away last night - but I guess I will see him at the party. I fell asleep while waiting. *again*

Suddenly, I was rudely awakened by the lady in the black boots, who pointed me out to the elderly woman standing next to her. The lady asked my name and again ~~she said~~ I HEARD "STRAY." The door was opened, and this wonderful person picked me up and hugged me to her chest, telling me she would love me forever, even if I did only have one eye. And would you believe? - she actually knew my real name. It wasn't STRAY... I HAD ANSWERED TO ALWAYS BEEN CALLED, 'WINK'.

The lady with the boots asked my new Friend who she was, and ~~my friend~~ ^{HER} answered WAS RESCUE. I never heard that name before, but for me it seemed to promise lots of love and commitment.

I never did get to meet all the other dogs at that birthday party, and I'm sad that my guardian didn't hug me and tell me she'd be back. - but the lady named RESCUE keeps hugging me and telling me everything will be okay. When I licked her face, it was very wet and tasted salty...but I guess I can live with that.

^ CAPS

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