

Love At First Sight

Love at first sight. It's real. I wouldn't have said so three months ago, but then I met Oscar, and my whole world changed.

It was a Sunday; one of those summer afternoons when the sun shone but not in a sweltering, bothersome way. A glorious, English summer day. The kind of day people fall in love.

I'd had a lazy morning. A much-needed lie-in followed by slow stretches. Freshly brewed coffee. A slice of buttered toast. I read for a while in the sun room. Pottered about in the garden. At noon, I put on my walking shoes and made my way to the village fair on the Green.

I spotted Oscar from several yards away. Something deeply profound stirred inside me. He must've felt a connection, too, because he never took his eyes off of me as I wended through the crowd towards him to say hello.

Our first moments together were electric, like nothing I'd ever felt. We took a walk. Sat on the grass and listened to a local band play familiar tunes. Snuggled on a bench and watched the world go by. Gazed into each other's eyes. By the time the fair vendors started packing up their wares, I knew I had to have him. I couldn't live without him.

Oscar came home with me that day and we spent our first of many nights together. When Monday morning arrived, I couldn't bear the thought of us parting. I called in sick to work just so I could spend the entire day cuddled on the sofa with Oscar.

He's been with me ever since, and I can honestly say, I've never been happier. Life has never felt so joyous, so complete.

My husband Simon, who's been deployed overseas, is coming home tomorrow for the first time in three months. I had to tell him about Oscar, of course. Couldn't keep him a secret. Simon wasn't pleased at first; he said I'd acted impulsively. Hadn't thought things through. But when I told him how much I loved Oscar and couldn't live without him, Simon acquiesced. He said he would need to take some time to adjust, but we would make it work.

Simon's been home for two days. Oscar hasn't left his side. Whenever I enter the room, he'll lift his golden head and wag his tail half-heartedly, but Simon is the sole recipient of Oscar's affection. And Oscar gets all of Simon's.