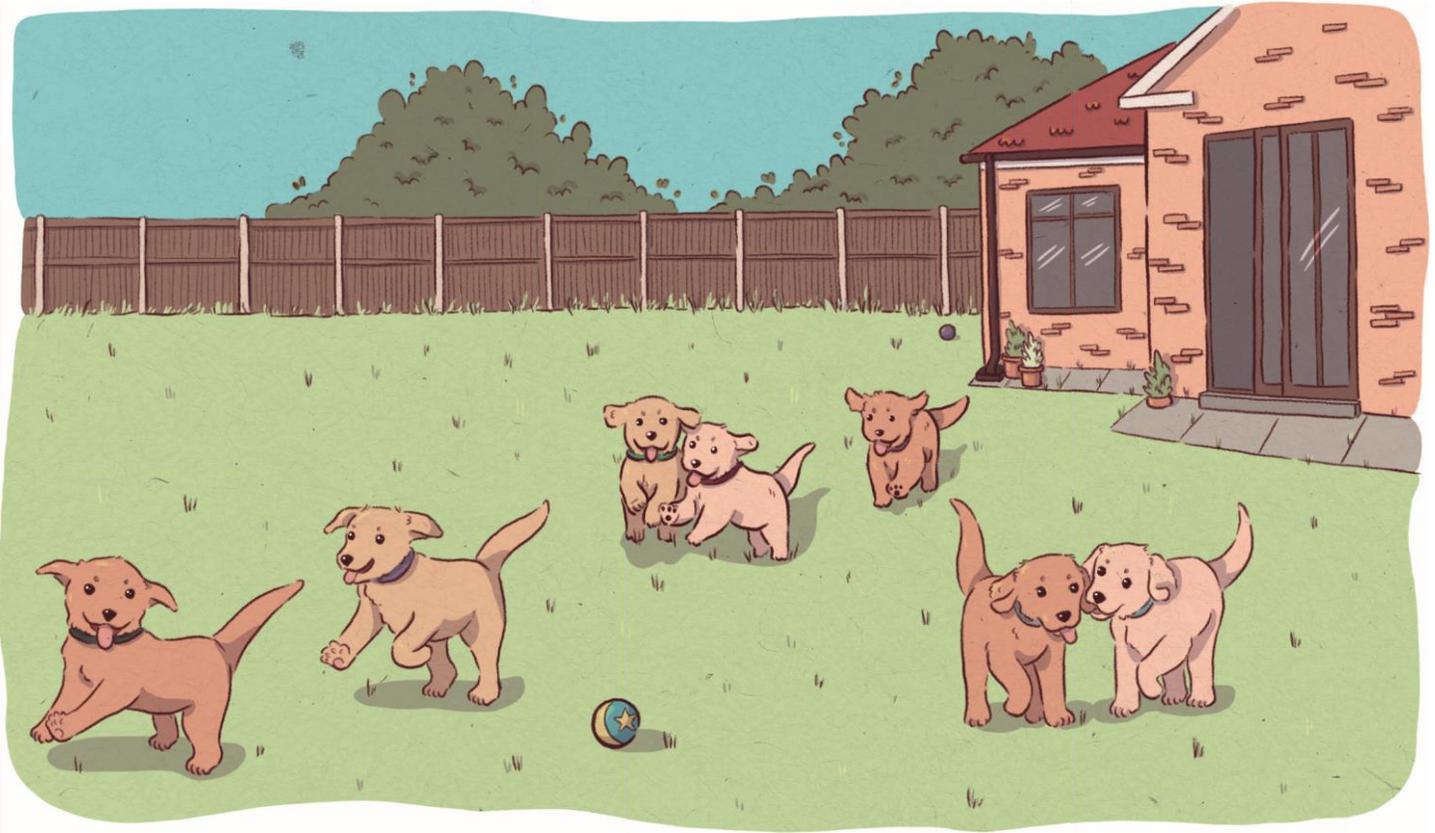




Chelsea's New Beginning

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The big sun rose over a huge field. It was a magnificent, joyous day for playing outside. A small house sat next to the field, and it wasn't long before seven Golden Retriever puppies came sprinting out. They raced through the field, playing and pulling each other's tails and ears. The puppies were beside themselves with ecstasy as they felt the sun and wind on them. They each wore different-colored collars around their necks.



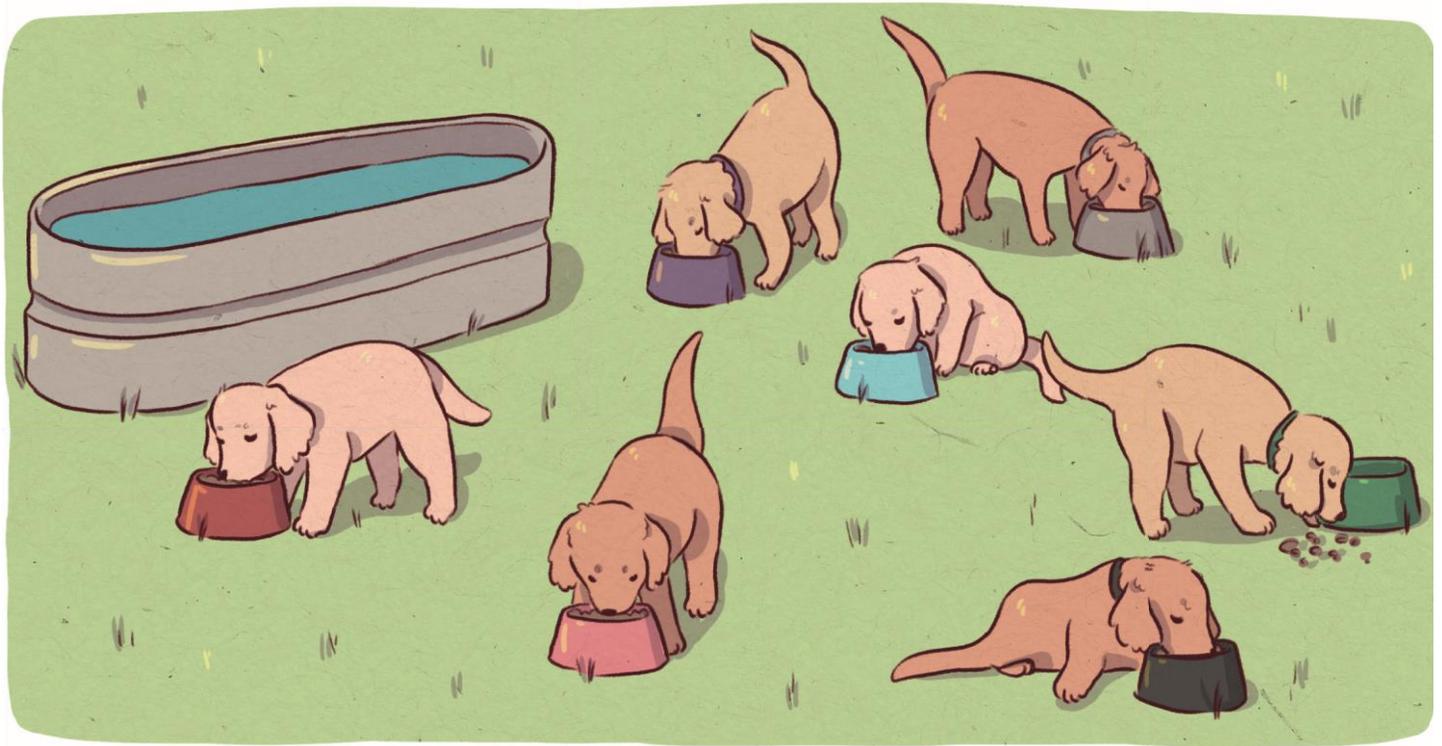
A pink-collared puppy chased after her wrestling brothers, yapping, “Hey! Let me join you guys!”

Despite being ignored, she refused to give up and pinned one of them down.

“I got you! I got you!” she wagged her tail, biting her brother’s ear.

Her brother shrugged her off. “You got me just this once. It’s no big deal!”

As they played, a bell rang, signaling breakfast time. The puppies quickly scampered toward the source.



“I smell chicken! I hope there’s plenty for me!” exclaimed a sister wearing a red collar.

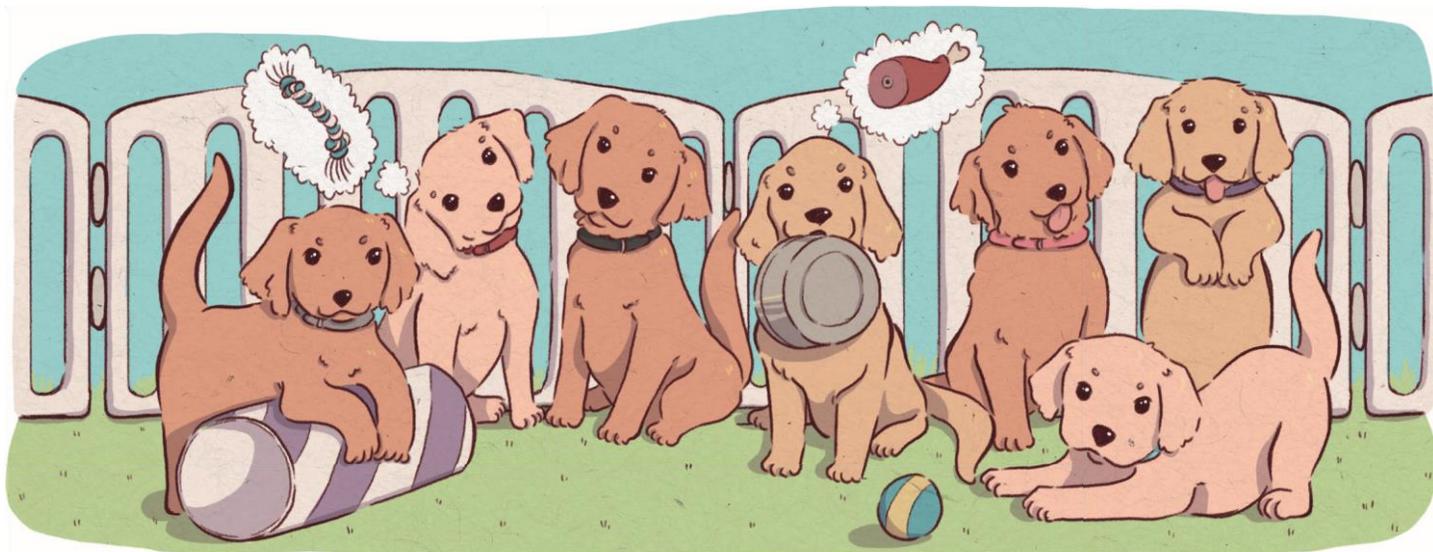
“I’m so hungry I could eat a whale - with chicken!” chimed in a brother sporting a gray collar.

“Me too!” added a brother bearing a black collar. “But what’s a whale?”

The puppies darted towards a rectangular patch on the field where a woman was setting out seven clean plastic bowls filled with puppy kibble, topped with chicken pieces. A water trough sat next to it.

“Eat up, puppies! We have to get moving!” the woman urged.

The woman took each puppy to a pen in the backyard. They looked at each other, puzzled by the new surroundings.



“What’s going on, guys?” asked the inquisitive sister in the pink collar.

“This is weird.”

“Maybe she’s bringing us some treats!” suggested the black-collared brother.

“Or a toy for tug-o-war!” said the green-collared brother. “Or a big meaty bone!”

“Pfft, that’s silly,” said the cynical sister with the purple collar. “Why would she put us in here for that?”

“We can dream, can’t we?” the brother in the green collar grinned hopefully.

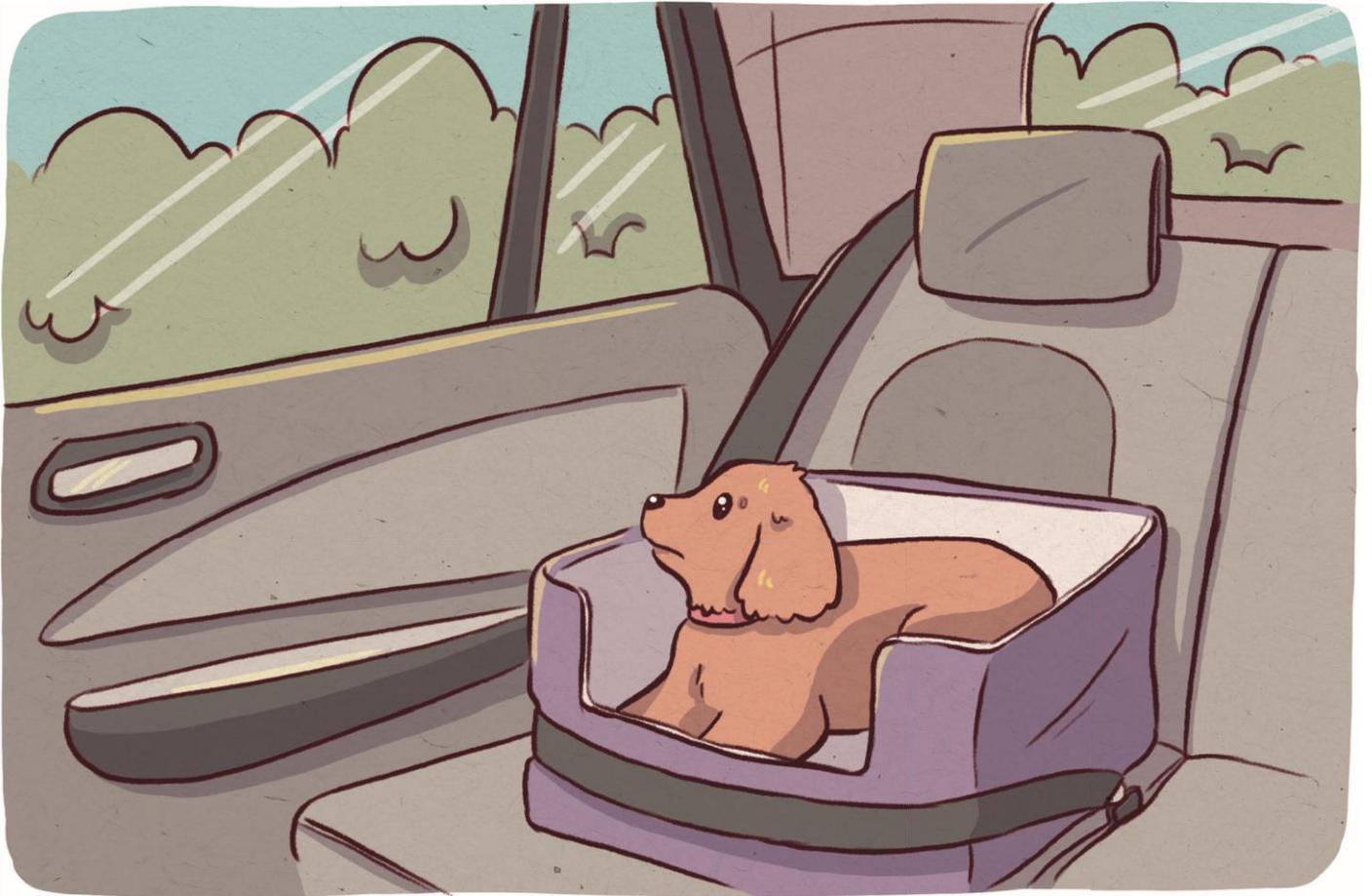
Before long, strangers approached the pen, making the puppies nervous. But when they saw children with the strangers, the puppies became calm. One by one, each puppy was taken away by a different person or family.



A young man and woman picked up the pink-collared curious puppy. They seemed kind enough, but she couldn't help but feel perplexed. Who were they? Where were they taking her? Would she ever see her mother, brothers or sisters again? Why were they calling her Sedona?

"What are you doing? Where are you taking me?" she whimpered. She yipped as they carried her.

But they couldn't understand her. The puppy realized that humans could never understand her or her family.



Before she could say anything to her siblings, the family carried her towards a huge metal object that she had never seen before. They opened the door and gently set her down into a leather seat. The inquisitive, curious puppy pulled in a deep breath and continued to watch the faces of the people in the object she entered.

She thought her surprise was over until the big machine started moving.

A moving house? Her eyes glowed as she watched the trees outside. This was her first time inside a car. It was just the beginning of all the things that were to come.