

Kermy and Pepper

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英语阅读

可米和胡椒

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· 莱斯利 埃伦 著

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Contents

Chapter 1

Pepper and Tabby ... page 5

Chapter 2

Meet Kermy page 9

Chapter 3

Friends page 14

Chapter 4

Enemies page 20

Chapter 5

No Talking page 23

Chapter 6

All Alone page 26

Exercises page 32

to D.F.B. and T.R.B. with love
with special thanks to Toni Vinyl

1 • Pepper and Tabby

“Good-bye, Pepper,” said Max as he put on his backpack. “I’ll see you when I get home from school.”

Max **waved** good-bye to his dad and walked quickly to the school bus.





After Max left the house, Pepper jumped up. She looked through the window and watched. Max **climbed** onto the school bus. The door of the bus closed, and Max was gone.

"Don't worry, Pepper," said Dad. "Max will be home before you know it."

After Dad left for work, Pepper was glum. She had no one to **play with** until Max came home.

Tabby, the cat, was home. Tabby was very big. Tabby was also very old and a little bit grumpy.

Tabby sometimes **growled** at Pepper. Pepper wanted to play. Tabby did not.



The time **passed** slowly. Pepper waited and waited for Max to come home. Max was late.

Soon Pepper heard sounds outside. Max and his mom were coming.

Why was Max late for home?



2 • Meet Kermy

The door opened. In came Max and his mom. Max was carrying a box. The box had small holes **all over** it. Max's mom was carrying a large cage.



Max opened the box very carefully. Out **stepped** a bird. The bird was green and white. He had shiny black eyes and an orange beak.





Max looked over at Tabby. Tabby was fast asleep. Then Max petted Pepper and **pointed to** the bird.

"Pepper," said Max, "this is Kermy. Kermy is a parrot. Some of the feathers on Kermy's wings have been trimmed. He doesn't fly very well," Max told Pepper.



Kermy was spinning **in circles** on the floor. Max and his mom started laughing.

"Mom," asked Max, "when will Kermy start to talk?"

"The vet said that Kermy is old enough to begin talking now," said Mom. "We'll have to **train** him."

Pepper looked at Max. She looked at Mom. Then she looked at Kermy.



As the days went by, Max tried to teach Kermy to talk. Over and over Max said, "Hello, hello!"

Kermy looked at Max. He looked at Pepper when Pepper **barked** her hello. But Kermy did not talk.





Kermy had a large cage where his food and water were kept. The door of Kermy's cage was always open. Kermy **hopped out** whenever he wanted.

Kermy had lots of toys. One of his **favorite** toys was a small ball with a bell inside. Kermy liked to roll the ball with his beak.

Would Kermy always play alone?



One morning after Max left for school, Kermy was playing with his ball. The ball rolled across the floor. It landed right **next to** Pepper's paw.

Pepper **sniffed** the ball. Then she pushed the ball with her nose. The ball stopped right at Kermy's feet.