



The Mystery of the Missing Cookie

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The afternoon sun poured warmly into the kitchen, casting a golden glow over the countertops. Jamie skipped into the room with a rumbling tummy, his eyes fixed on the ceramic cookie jar shaped like a friendly bear sitting on the shelf.



Jamie reached up on his tiptoes and carefully lifted the heavy lid of the cookie jar, anticipating a delicious chocolate chip treat. He peered inside, but his smile quickly vanished when he saw nothing but empty space.



Confused and disappointed, Jamie looked down at his feet and noticed a trail of tiny, golden-brown crumbs scattered across the shiny kitchen tiles. The crumbs formed a perfect, messy line leading right out of the kitchen doorway.



With the spirit of a true detective, Jamie bent low and began to follow the trail, careful not to step on the evidence. The crumb path wound its way down the long hallway, hinting at a very messy thief.



The trail led Jamie straight into the cozy living room, ending abruptly next to the big armchair. There, a large blue knitted blanket on the floor was twitching and moving all by itself.



Jamie gently lifted the corner of the blanket, revealing his fluffy puppy, Max, curling into a tight little ball. Max looked up with wide, innocent eyes, trying his best to look like he had been sleeping all day.



As Jamie looked closer, he couldn't help but notice the telltale signs of the crime. Max had tiny cookie crumbs stuck all over his wet black nose, and a half-eaten chocolate chip cookie was tucked safely under his paw.



Realizing he was caught red-handed, Max let out a soft whine and drooped his ears, wearing a hilariously guilty expression. Jamie stared at his silly pup for a moment before bursting into a loud, cheerful laugh that filled the room.



Jamie scooped the mischievous puppy into his arms, giving him a big, warm cuddle to show that all was forgiven. Max wagged his tail furiously and gave Jamie a grateful, sloppy kiss on the cheek.



Hand in hand and paw in paw, Jamie and Max returned to the kitchen to bake a brand-new batch of cookies together. Soon, the air was filled with the delicious aroma of baking treats, ready to be shared between two best friends.