

Dog

When God had made the earth and sky,
The flowers and the trees.
He then made all the animals,
The fish, the birds and bees.

And when at last He'd finished,
Not one was quite the same.
He said, "I'll walk this world of mine,
And give each one a name."

And so He traveled far and wide
And everywhere He went,
A little creature followed Him
Until its strength was spent.

When all were named upon the earth
And in the sky and sea,
The little creature said, "Dear Lord,
There's not one left for me."

Kindly the Father said to him
"I've left you to the end,
I've turned my own name back to front
And called you dog, my friend."

A Dog's Bill Of Rights

1. I have the right to give and receive unconditional love.
2. I have the right to a life that is beyond mere survival.
3. I have the right to be trained so that I do not become the prisoner of my misbehavior.
4. I have the right to adequate food and medical care.
5. I have the right to fresh air and green grass.
6. I have the right to socialize with people and dogs outside my own family.
7. I have the right to special time with my people.
8. I have the right to be bred responsibly, if at all.
9. I have the right to be foolish, silly and to make my person laugh.
10. I have the right to earn my person's trust and to be trusted in return.
11. I have the right to be forgiven.
12. I have the right to be remembered well.

"A Dog's Best Friend"

O Lord, don't let me once forget,
How I love my trusty pet -
Help me learn to disregard
canine craters in my yard.
Show me how to be a buddy
even when my sofa's muddy.
Don't allow my pooch to munch
postal carriers for lunch.
Shield my neighbor's cat from view,
guide my steps around the doo.
Train me not to curse and scowl
when it's puppy night to howl.
Grant I shan't awake in fear
with a cold nose in my ear.
Give me patience without end -
Help me be "A DOG'S BEST FRIEND."

Waiting

I got to the gate of Heaven yesterday
after we said good-bye.
I began to miss you terribly,
because I heard you cry.

Suddenly there was an Angel and she asked me
to enter Heaven's gate.
I asked her if I could stay outside
for some who'd be late.

I wouldn't make much noise you see,
I wouldn't make bark or howl.
I'll only wait here patiently
and play with my tennis ball.

The Angel said I could stay right here
and wait for you to come
Because Heaven just wouldn't be Heaven.
So I'll wait right here, you take your time,
but keep me in your heart.
Because Heaven just wouldn't be Heaven
without you to warm my heart.

So Spoke The Lord

God summoned a beast from the field and said,
"Behold, man is created in my image. Therefore adore him.

You shall protect in the wilderness,
Shepherd his flocks, watch over his children,
accompany him wherever he may go ~ even into civilization.
You shall be his companion, his ally, his slave.

To do these things, God said,

I endow you with instincts uncommon to other beasts:

Faithfulness, Devotion and Understanding
surpassing those of man himself.

Lest it impair your courage, you shall never foresee your death.
Lest it impair your loyalty, you shall be blind to the faults of man.
Lest it impair your understanding, you are denied the power of
words.

Speak to your master only with your mind and through your
honest eyes.

Walk by his side; sleep in his doorway; forage for him; ward off
his enemies; carry his burden; share his afflictions, love and
comfort him.

And in return for this, man will fulfill your needs and wants~
which shall be only food, shelter and affection.

So be silent and be a friend to man.

Guide him through the perils along the way to his land
I have promised him.

This shall be your destiny and your immortality.

So spoke the Lord. And the dog heard, and was content.

Called to give my all (A Police Dog)

I am a deputy in a canine crew
I've been trained to see it through.
When danger's near, my ears perk up,
They taught me that as a little pup.
I'm often there to protect your rights;
My presence sometimes hinders fights.
I never attack with thoughts to kill,
When subduing one, my job I fill.
I never worry a single thought,
as to how I'll fare a certain spot.
The love I have for a handler's care,
Is all I need each day to fare.
And if someday, my luck turns bad,
I'll relish all the joys I had.
To be with men who stand for good,
In a special kind of brotherhood.
The story's end, by know you know,
Of how I tried for a better show.
I did my best, though I did fall,
When I was called to give my all.

Guardian of the Night

Trust in me my friend for I am your comrade.
I will protect you with my last breath
When all others have left you
and the loneliness of the night
Closes in, I will be at your side.
Together we will conquer all obstacles,
and search out those who might wish harm to others.
All I ask of you is compassion,
the caring touch of your hands.
It is for you that I will unselfishly give my life
And spend my nights unrested.
Although our days together may be marked
By the passing of the seasons
Know that each day at your side is my reward.
My days are measured by
the coming and going of your footsteps.
I anticipate them at every opening of the door.
You are the voice of caring when I am ill.
The voice of authority when I've done wrong.
Do not chastise me unduly for I am your right arm,

The sword at your side.
I attempt to do only what you bid of me.
I seek only to please you and remain in your favor.
Together you and I shall experience a bond
Only others like us will understand
When outsiders see us together their envy
Will be measured by their disdain.
I will quietly listen to you and pass no judgment,
Nor will your spoken words be repeated
I will remain ever silent, ever vigilant, ever loyal.
And when our time together is done
And you move on in the world
Remember me with kind thoughts and tales,
For a time we were unbeatable,
Nothing passed among us undetected.
If we should meet again on another street
I will gladly take up your fight,
I am a Police Working Dog and together
We are guardians of the night.

A Cat's Prayer

Now I lay me down to sleep,
The king-size bed is soft and deep...
I sleep right in the center groove
My human can hardly move!

I've trapped her legs, she's tucked in tight
And here is where I pass the night
No one disturbs me or dares intrude
Till morning comes and "I want food!"

I sneak up slowly to begin
My nibbles on my human's chin.
She wakes up quickly, I have sharp teeth -
And my claws I will unsheathe

For the morning's here and it's time to play
I always seem to get my way.
So thank you Lord for giving me
This human person that I see.

The one who hugs me and holds me tight
And sacrifices her bed at night.

The Cat's Commandments

Now hear this!

You may live in this dwelling with me,
But keep in mind your sole purpose for existing is to
care for me. I pray God keeps you able to do so.

Feed me well and promptly, so that I may then find
a quiet place to lie down and stare at you. If that
place happens to be on top of the television set, do not
keep trying to dislodge me even though my tail is
hanging in the middle of the picture.

I expect full run of the premises, including the
kitchen table. I sniff your food only to see if I would
prefer it to mine. Brush me twice a week. Pet me
as often as you wish, but I can do without the idiotic
statements you utter as you do so.

When I bump my head against your leg or check, it
means I accept you as part of my environment.

Keep in mind that if I thought the lady next door
would feed me better. I'd be out of here in a minute.

If you're looking for loyalty, get a dog.

What Is A Cat?

Gentle eyes that see so much,

Paws that have the quiet touch.

Purrs to signal "all is well"

And show more love than words can tell.

Graceful movements touched with pride,

A calming presence by our side.

A friendship that will last and grow -

Small wonder why we love them so

Just A Horse

From time to time, people tell me,
"Tighten up, it's just a horse", or, "That's a lot of money for just a horse".
They don't understand the distance traveled, the time spent,
or the costs involved for "just a horse".

Some of my proudest moments have come about with "just a horse".
Many hours have passed and my only company was "just a horse",
but I did not once feel slighted. Some of my saddest moments have been
brought about by "just a horse". And in those days of darkness, the gentle
touch of "just a horse" gave me comfort and reason to overcome the day.

If you, too, think it's "just a horse", then you will probably understand
phrases like "just a friend", "just a sunrise", or "just a promise". "Just A
Horse" brings into my life the very essence of friendship, trust and pure
unbridled joy. "Just A Horse" brings out the compassion and patience that
makes me a better person. Because of "just a horse", I will rise early, take
long walks and look longingly into the future.

So, for me, and folks like me, it's not, "just a horse", but an embodiment of all
the hopes and dreams of the future, the fond memories of the past, and the
pure joy of the moment.

"Just A Horse" brings out what's good in me and diverts my thoughts
away from myself and the worries of the day. I hope that someday they can
understand that it's not "just a horse" but the thing that gives me humanity
and keeps me from being "just a man".

So, the next time you hear the phrase "just a horse", just smile, because they
"just" don't understand the lessons in life - through God's gift- Just A
Horse.

The Heart Of A Horse

When your day seems out of balance
and so many things go wrong,
Go out into your pasture
and wrap your arms around your horse.

His gentle breath enfolds you,
and he watches with those eyes
He may not have a PhD,
but he is, oh so wise!

His head rests on your shoulder.
You embrace him oh so tight.
He puts your world in balance,
and makes it seem all right.

Your tears they soon stop flowing.
The tension is now eased.
The garbage has been lifted,
and you're quiet and at peace.

So when you need the balance
from circumstances in your day,
The best therapy that you can seek
is out there eating hay.

Don't Cry For The Horses

Don't cry for the horses that life has set free.

A million white horses forever to be.

Don't cry for the horses now in God's hand.

As they dance and they prance in a heavenly band.

They were ours as a gift, but never to keep.

As they close their eyes forever to sleep.

Their spirits unbound.

On silver wings they fly.

A million white horses against the blue sky.

Look up into heaven, you'll see them above.

The horses we lost, the horses we loved.

Manes and tails flowing, they gallop through time.

They were never yours, they were never mine.

Don't cry for the horses.

They'll be back someday.

When our time is gone, they will show us the way.

Do you hear that soft nicker?

Close to your ear?

Don't cry for the horses.

Love the ones that are here.

The Horse's Prayer

To thee, my master, I offer my prayer.

Feed me, water and care for me, and when the day's work is done,
provide me with shelter, a clean, dry bed, and stall wide enough for me to lie down in comfort.

Always be kind to me.

Your voice often means as much to me as the reins.

Pet me sometimes, that I may serve you the more gladly and learn to love you.

Do not jerk the reins, and do not whip me when going uphill. Never strike, beat, or kicks me
when I do not understand you. Watch me, and if I fail to do your bidding, see if something is
not wrong with my harness or feet.

Do not check me so that I cannot have free use of my head.

If you insist that I wear blinkers, so that I cannot see behind me as it was intended I should,
I pray you be careful that the blinders stand well out of my eyes. Do not overload me, or
hitch me where water will drip on me.

Keep me well shod. Examine my teeth when I do not eat. I may have an ulcerated tooth,
and that, you know, is very painful. Do not tie my head in an unnatural position, or take
away my best defense against flies and mosquitoes by cutting off my tail.

I cannot tell you when I am thirsty, so give me clean, cool water often.

Save me, by all means in your power from that fatal disease - the glanders. I cannot tell you
in words when I am sick, so watch me that by signs you may know my condition. Give me
all possible shelter from the hot sun, and put a blanket on me, not when I am working, but
when I am standing in the cold. Never put a frosty bit in my mouth, first warm it by holding
it a moment in your hands.

I try to carry you and your burden without a murmur, and wait patiently for you long
hours of the day or night.

Without the power to choose my shoes or path, I sometimes fall on hard pavement, which I
have often prayed might not be of wood but of such a nature as to give me safe and sure
footing.

Remember that I must be ready at any moment to lose my life in your service.

And finally, OH MY MASTER, when my useful strength is gone, do not turn me out to
starve or freeze, or sell me to some cruel owner, to be slowly tortured and starved to death,
but do thou,

My Master, take my life in the kindest way, and your God will reward you here and
hereafter.

You will not consider me irreverent if I ask this in the name of Him who was born in a
stable.

AMEN