

Honk If You Missed Me

Introduction:

This is based upon a true story. A dog once had this particular problem and was able to solve it this particular way.

This was originally written for issue 1 of my "In the City" series, but the quality is not good enough for inclusion, so I am posting it separately.

Enjoy the story.

-Thomas A. McKean
09/27/10

PAGE ONE - SPLASH PANEL

PANEL ONE

Establishing shot. Wide angle. A typical suburban house, exterior. A middle aged woman (Jolene) is just getting out of her car, carrying a few plastic bags. Also in her car is her dog (a terrier), wagging his tail.

[CAPTION]: A cool Summer day has Jolene out to run a quick errand to the grocery store, leaving her adorable dog to say...

[TITLE]: *Honk if you missed me!

[CAPTION]: (small)
*Based upon a true story.

[CAPTION]: There are a thousand stories in the City, and this is one of those stories.

PAGE TWO

PANEL ONE

Establishing shot, wide angle. In the kitchen of the house. A clock on the wall says 5:52. Jolene is doing paperwork at the kitchen table. Her dog, Max, is lying next to her.

JOLENE: Almost dinner time, Max. Want to come to the store with me to get some dinner?

JOLENE: Want to go for a ride?

PANEL TWO

On Max, jumping up and down for joy.

MAX: >WOOF!< >WOOF!<

PANEL THREE

In the parking lot of the grocery store. Jolene is climbing out of the car, Max is in the back. Windows are rolled part way down.

JOLENE: This won't take long, Max. I'll
 be right back.

MAX: (happy)
 >WOOF!<

PANEL FOUR

At the cashier. Two bags full of groceries (including steak) go through the check out. Jolene is counting money while waiting for the cashier to ring everything through.

JOLENE: (thought)
 I can't remember the last time I
 had a good steak...

PANEL FIVE

Back home in the driveway. Jolene is just out of the car and carrying a bag in each hand. Max is again in the back with the windows still part way down.

JOLENE: I'll come right back out to get
 you, Max.

PAGE THREE

Four rows, eight panels, no dialog anywhere on this page.

PANEL ONE

Jolene walks into the house.

PANEL TWO

Max watches out the window.

PANEL THREE

Jolene puts the groceries away.

PANEL FOUR

Max is sleeping in the front passenger seat.

PANEL FIVE

Jolene is cooking steak.

PANEL SIX

Max is watching the road through the back window. The sky is a bit darker.

PANEL SEVEN

Jolene is watching television and eating her steak.

PANEL EIGHT

Max is looking longingly at the door. It is darker still.

PAGE FOUR

PANEL ONE

Darkness. Max is again looking at the door. This time with an annoyed face.

MAX: >GRRRRRRRRRR!<

PANEL TWO

Max is butting the top of his head against the steering wheel, causing the horn to blow.

SFX: HHHOONNNNNKKK!! HOOONNNKK!!

PANEL THREE

In the house, Jolene hears the noise.

JOLENE: >?????<

PANEL FOUR

Jolene steps outside to investigate, and finds...

JOLENE: MAX!!!

PANEL FIVE

In the driveway. Jolene is holding the car door open and Max is stepping out, still with an angry look.

JOLENE: Oh, Max. I am SO sorry! Somehow I forgot you were out here!

PANEL SIX

In the kitchen of the house. Jolene is putting a plate with steak and bones down on the floor for Max.

JOLENE: Maybe this will make it up for
 you?

PANEL SEVEN

Max is busying himself with the steak and bones and his tail is wagging happily. Jolene is watching.

JOLENE: Are we friends again, Max?

PANEL EIGHT

Close on the faces of Max and Jolene as Max plants a big lick on the side of Jolene's face.

[CAPTION]: There are a thousand stories in
 the City, and this is one of those
 stories.

END