

The Adventures of Jayne

~ the cat who was a dog ~

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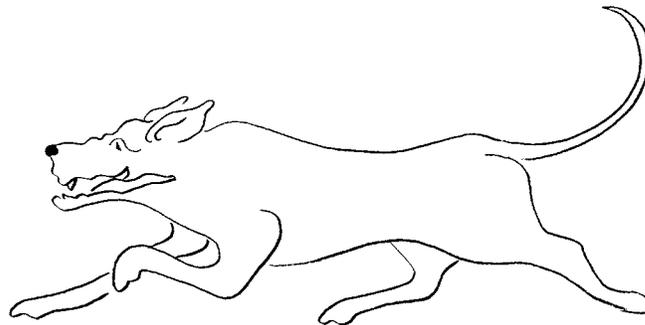
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The Taming of Big-Bad

In Jayne's neighborhood was a bully dog. His name was Big-Bad. He barked at cars, he barked at trucks, he barked at humans, he barked at dogs, but most of all he chased cats. He loved chasing cats: big cats, small cats, old cats, young cats, ginger cats, black cats, grey cats, white cats, every-which-color cats. He didn't mind what kind of cat it was—he chased them all, and loved it.

Until he met Jayne.

It happened as Jayne was taking her human for a walk. Jayne was in the lead (as usual), then came her dog family on their leashes (Jayne refused to wear a leash, ever), then came the human. They wandered down a street they'd never been on before. Suddenly, Big-Bad shot out of the side gate of his owner's house and charged straight at her.



"Gurrr! Bow-wow!" he shouted fiercely. "Bow-wow! Gurrr! Gurrr!" he said, and other things like that.

Jayne stopped and looked at him. She didn't flee. She didn't mew. She didn't stop waving her straight-up-in-the-air tail.

Her human shouted "Help!" Her dog family strained their leashes trying to get behind the human. Oh, they were such cowards!

Big-Bad lunged for Jayne—but did she flinch? Oh, no! Jayne flew straight into the air. Up she went like a rocket, hair bristling, eyes popping, teeth gnashing and claws clawing as a horrible hissing, foaming, grunting, bow-meowing yodeled from her lungs. Down she came on Big-Bad’s head in a bundle of fury. She moved so fast she made greased lightning look like a stroll in the park. Zip-zak snicker-snack went her claws. Fur went flying everywhere—and not a single hair was hers. Off she hopped from Big-Bad’s head, landed on the pavement, sat down daintily and began to lick her paws and clean her face.

That was the last time Big-Bad chased a cat. He was as good as gold when it came to cats. He whined and bowed low when he saw cats.

Of course, this was nothing compared to the tiger that got loose on Broadway—but before we get to that we have to tell the story of how Jayne came to speak Humanese.

It happened like this:

