





A black and white photograph of a traditional thatched-roof house, likely made of stone or brick, situated in a rural landscape. The house has a steeply pitched roof covered in thick thatch. To the left of the house, there is a tall, bare tree with many thin branches. In the background, a fence and a field are visible under a bright sky. The overall scene suggests a rural, possibly historical or traditional setting.

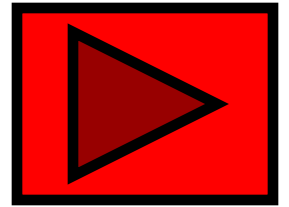
Where is this house?

How old is it?

Who lived there?

*The title of this story is "Man's Best Friend".
What do you think this story is about?*

Man's Best Friend



A long time ago, in a small house in Scotland, two friends lived together. Their names were John and Bobby.

John and Bobby were not rich, but they were happy. They had a warm fire when it was cold outside. They had good food to eat when they were hungry. They were never lonely because they had each other.

John and Bobby liked to take long walks together. After their walk, John usually cooked dinner. John and Bobby ate dinner and then sat in front of the fire. They had a simple but good life.

Then, in the spring of 1858, John got sick and died. He was buried in a cemetery in Edinburgh, Scotland. After John was buried,

Bobby stood at John's grave and cried. "Come on, Bobby," friends said. "It's time to go home." Bobby went home, but later he returned to the cemetery. He sat down near John's grave. He stayed there all night.

Bobby stayed at the cemetery the next day, and the next day, and the next. For the next 14 years, Bobby never left the cemetery. When the weather was cold or rainy, he slept in a small house at the cemetery. When the weather was warm, he slept on the ground near John's grave.

Finally, in 1872, Bobby died, too. Friends buried him in a little grave near John. Why was Bobby's grave little? Bobby, John's best friend, was a dog.

VOCABULARY

Complete the sentences with the words below.

grave lonely simple ground

1. John had no wife or children, but he had his dog, Bobby. John and Bobby were always together. So, John was not alone, and he was not sad. He was not lonely.
2. Every day John took a long walk with his dog. Then he went home to his small house and cooked dinner. After dinner he sat in front of the fire. John had a simple life.
3. John was buried in a cemetery in Edinburgh. After he was buried, Bobby stood at his grave and cried.
4. When the weather was cold or rainy, Bobby slept in a small house at the cemetery. But when the weather was warm, he slept outside, on the ground.

REMEMBERING DETAILS

One word in each sentence is not correct. Find the word and cross it out.
Write the correct word.

1. Two friends lived together in a ~~big~~ ^{small} house in Scotland.
2. Their names were John and ~~Sammy~~ ^{Bobby}.
3. In the spring of ~~1958~~ ¹⁸⁵⁸, John got sick and died.
4. He was buried in a cemetery in Edinburgh, ~~Ireland~~ ^{Scotland}.
5. Bobby lived in the cemetery for ~~four~~ ¹⁴ years.
6. When Bobby died, friends buried him in a ~~large~~ ^{little} grave.
7. Bobby, John's best friend, was a ~~man~~ ^{dog}.

Complete each sentence. Then read the story again and check your answers.

John and Bobby lived together in a small house. They were not

rich₁, but they were happy. They had a warm

fire₂ when it was cold outside. They had good food to eat

when they were hungry₃. They were never

lonely₄ because they had each other.

After John died, Bobby lived in the cemetery. When the weather was cold or

rainy₅, he slept in a small house at the cemetery. When the

weather₆ was warm, he slept on the ground near John's grave.

He lived in the cemetery for 14 years₇, until he died in 1872.

FINDING CLUES IN THE STORY

When did you know that Bobby was a dog—at the end of the story, or before the end? Which sentences in the story tell you that *maybe* Bobby was a dog? Underline them. Then read the sentences to the class.

WRITING

Bobby was a famous dog. People came to the cemetery to see him and bring him food. After he died, the people of Edinburgh put a statue of Bobby outside the cemetery.

Bobby died more than 100 years ago, but he is still famous. Every year thousands of tourists go to Edinburgh to see Bobby's grave and his statue.



The Statue of Bobby



The name of this place is Parliament Hill.

It is in Ottawa, Canada.

Many people go there because _____.

it is where the government of Canada makes many decisions.

I think it is very interesting, the buildings are important historically.

A long, brightly lit tunnel with a car in the distance and a speaker icon. The tunnel is illuminated by warm, yellowish lights on the walls, creating a sense of depth and perspective. A car is visible in the distance, and a speaker icon is overlaid on the image. The overall atmosphere is one of a long, enclosed space.

**THE END OF
THE ROAD**