

GOING TO THE VET

Animated short by

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INT. BEDROOM - DAY

The sun shines softly from outside the window as it peeks through a closed curtain. The room is quiet and under thick duvet sheets we see the form of a human body, at least that's what anyone would normally assume.

Suddenly, the body moves, and it slowly crawls towards the head of the bed. Surprising us, two dog ears pop out, followed by the head of a cute little pug, BRIDGET, she's 4 and she is just adorable, looking so girly with a pink collar on.

Not a care in the world, she stretches and yawns, taking her time as her mouth widens and her body elongates.

Suddenly, we see an arm pull the duvet down, just enough to expose half of a human face. ANNIE, 30, she's BRIDGET's owner.

ANNIE

Are we getting up now?

BRIDGET

Barks.

Annie sits up, exposing Bridget lying on the bed like a human, a little baby human, supine and chill, looking like a little bundle of happiness.

Annie smiles at her and rubs her belly. Bridget, looking composed as ever, stretches more with each belly rub. We can tell this is one of her favorite things because even when she's keeping it calm, her tail tells an entirely different experience.

ANNIE

Fine. Let's go.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Annie is prepping breakfast. She drops two slices of bread into the toaster while the coffee is silently brewing in the coffee maker.

Bridget on the other hand, sits quietly in the dining table, watching a group of birds chirp and fly around an ornamental tree in the backyard.

Suddenly we hear a crumpling sound, like a plastic bag is being handled. Slowly but consciously, we see Bridget's eye slowly glide to the where the sound is, to where Annie is. Finally we see Annie pour food into Bridget's container.

Finished prepping, Annie carefully places the round ceramic bowl in the kitchen corner where a pink rug sits. The print on the rug clearly states, Bridget's Corner.

Bridget stares at her food but she doesn't move. She waits for, DING. The toaster spits two lightly browned bread.

Right then is when Bridget jumps out from her chair and stands next to her food, but she doesn't dive in yet.

She looks up and stares at Annie whose currently spreading peanut butter on the toasted bread. After that, Annie pours her self a cup of coffee, add's some sugar in it, then she opens the fridge and grabs a bottle of milk. Finally, she pours the milk in the coffee and she heads to the dining chair where Bridget once was. Still Bridget doesn't eat yet.

ANNIE

Ready?

BRIDGET

Barks.

The two graciously enjoy their breakfast.

EXT. APARTMENT - DAY

Annie is wearing a yellow summer dress and Bridget's collar has changed to the same shade of yellow.

Annie locks the door behind them, and they head towards the car side by side.

INT. CAR - DAY

Annie smiles as bright as the sunny day and turns towards Bridget.

ANNIE

Here we go.

BRIDGET

Barks.

INT. CAR / EXT. NEIGHBORHOOD BUSINESS SQUARE - DAY

POV. From front of car. We clearly see Bridget enjoying the ride as the wind whips through her face while her head sticks out from the passenger window.

Too busy enjoying the ride, Bridget doesn't notice Annie turning and entering into the Neighborhood Business Square. The moment Bridget opens her eye's, the first thing she sees is Lucille's Veterinary Clinic. Immediately and suspiciously, she whips her head towards an innocent driving Annie.

BRIDGET  
(hysterical)  
Barks.

Turning her head between Annie and the clinic, she is uncontrollable.

ANNIE  
What is wrong with you?

Annie turns to Bridget only to find the dog barking at the clinic then at her.

ANNIE (CONT'D)  
It's ok. We're not going there.  
Shh.

BRIDGET  
(not stop)  
Barks.

ANNIE  
Stop it Bridget. Calm down. Were headed to the Pet Store not the Vet.

BRIDGET  
Grr.

ANNIE  
I swear. See.

Annie points at the Pet Store as they get closer to it. Bridget see's this and she calms a little but still sneers at Annie every now and then.

BRIDGET  
Barks.

ANNIE  
I know. Like I told you. We're not going there.

Bridget takes one last look at the Vet Clinic and sees the female Veterinarian standing by the check-in counter, speaking to a client. The sight makes her eyes squint and her teeth glint as she slightly growls.

ANNIE (CONT'D)  
Oh, stop it will you.

Bridget snaps her head back at Annie. To show her how much she appreciates not going to the Vet, she proceeds to lick Annie's elbow.

ANNIE (CONT'D)  
I know. I know. It's ok.

INT. PET STORE - DAY

In high spirits, Bridget encircles Annie's legs as they make their way to the dog food section. The sound of her feet pitter-pattering with every step is the sole proof that she has completely forgotten the Vet issue earlier.

They stop at the canned goods section and Bridget stands there waiting as Annie loads Bridget's favorite gourmet meals into the store basket.

Bridget's smile widens and she starts to salivate as she sees each beautifully designed can land in the shopping basket.

ANNIE  
Ok. That's about it. Let's go home.

BRIDGET  
Barks.

EXT. PET STORE / EXT. VET. CLINIC - DAY

They exit the pet store and even though it's close to the Vet Clinic, and that from our POV, we clearly see the Vet Clinic, Bridget simply ignores its existence and walks side by side with Annie, head held high looking like a proud and unshakable pug.

INT. KITCHEN - DAY

Back at home. Bridget is playing with a ball, running back and forth from the kitchen to the living room.

Annie is busy arranging the canned goods in a cupboard.

Breaking the silence of the moment, Annie's cell phone rings. Annie looks at the screen to check the caller before answering. She smiles at the name.

ANNIE

Hi Lucy. Thanks so much for calling me back.

LUCILLE (O.S.)

Sure, no problem. We both know how she get's when you guys come here.

ANNIE

Oh, believe me. We went to the pet store earlier and the moment she saw the clinic, she was just hysterical.

LUCILLE (O.S.)

Oh, I understand Annie. I've been there myself. So, you two ready for me?

Annie turns to the clock, 10 A.M.

ANNIE

You're done early today.

LUCILLE (O.S.)

We'll not really but I can stop by your place. The next client won't be here until two.

ANNIE

Yeah? That would be great. Oh, thank goodness you do house calls now.

LUCILLE (O.S.)

Yes. Everyone is pleased with that. Ok, so in fifteen then?

ANNIE

Yeah, that's fine. We'll see you soon.

Annie turns to a happy Bridget before continuing putting the cans in the cupboard.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Annie is sitting in front of the TV, holding a ball with one hand. Bridget is standing by the kitchen doorway waiting for the ball to be thrown at her direction when, they hear a knock in the front door.

Annie looks at the door then at Bridget. She raises both eyebrows up, like she's preparing for the worse.

ANNIE

Here we go.

Annie throws the ball as far as she can, and Bridget runs to find it. Annie stands up from her comfortable couch and briskly walks to the front door.

She opens it and we see the Veterinarian standing by the Vet Clinic counter earlier.

LUCILLE

Hi.

ANNIE

Hi. Oh, I can't thank you enough.

LUCILLE

Oh, don't worry about it. So,  
where's the lovely girl?

They both turn towards the sound of Bridget's paws as it gets closer to the kitchen doorway.

As soon as Bridget see Lucille standing in their living room. Her already popped eye pops out more. The ball in her mouth drops to the floor. Her mouth gapes open and her lower jaw drops as well, following the ball to the ground.

In slow motion and in the act of fainting, Bridget's entire body drops to the ground.

ANNIE (O.S.)

Oh c'mon.

END.