
私の犬 / *Watashi no inu*

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ユエンズミニク

これは 私と私の犬の間の
物語です。

This is a story between me
and my dog.



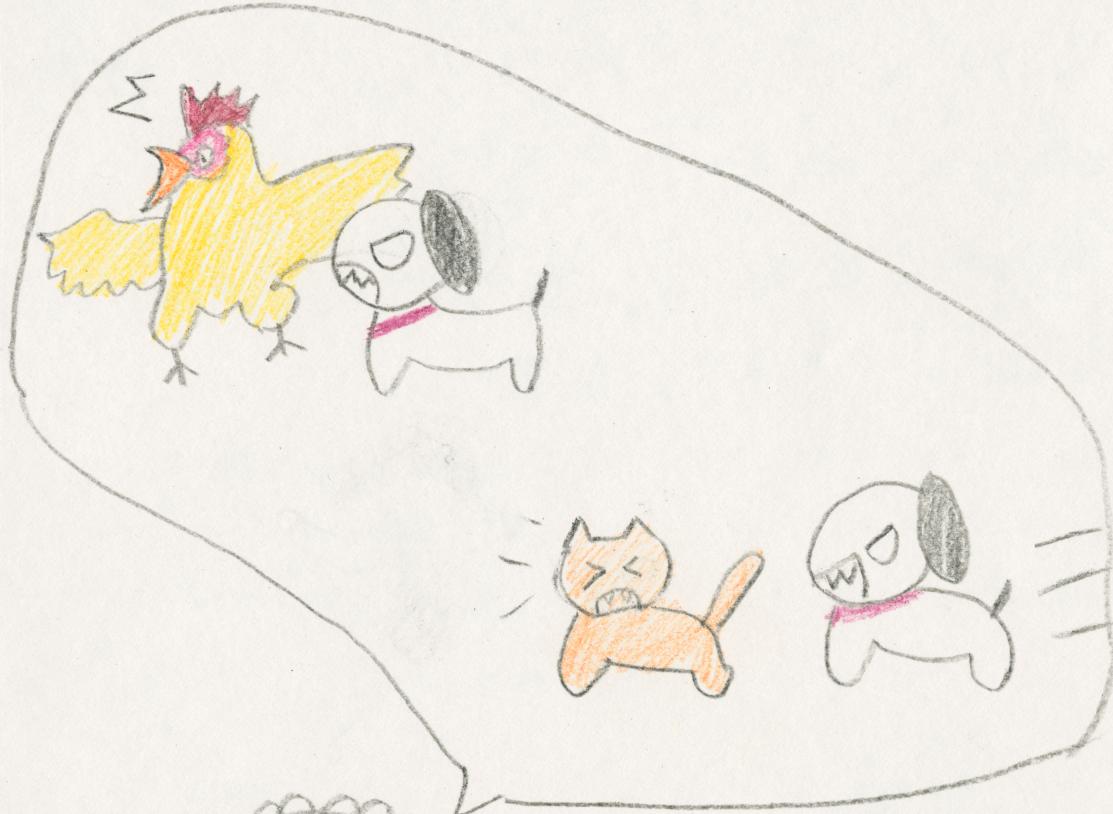
子供の時、住んでいた所は
泥棒どろぼうが多いので、父が犬を
買いました。

The were many thieves around the place I was living when I was a kid, so my father bought a dog.



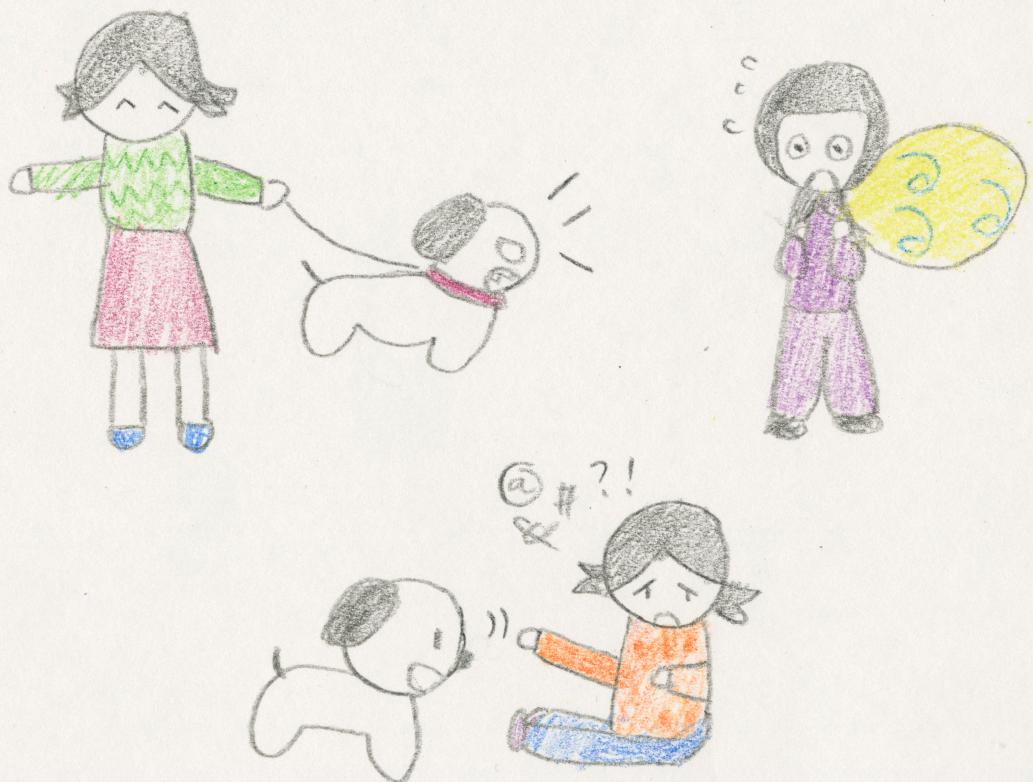
ルルというかわいい名前をつけました。しかし、ルルが起した問題が浪費より多かつたのです。隣の人か飼っていたにわとりを食べたり、他の人の大事なペットをかみだり~~して~~近所の人がよく文句を言いに来ました。

My parents gave the dog a cute name and called him Lulu. But Lulu seemed to have brought more trouble than a thief would. He did things like eating the chicken our neighbour raised and biting other people's precious pets, and people in the neighbourhood often came to complain.



しかし、私にとってルルは代わりのない大切な友達でした。
私のことを守ってくれるし、悩みも聞いてくれました。

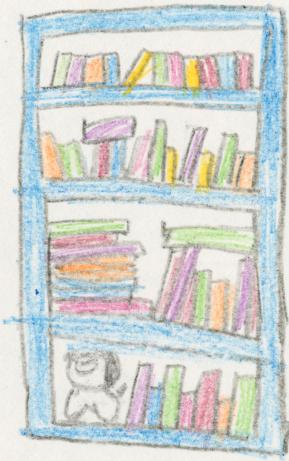
But to me, Lulu was an important friend that no one could replace.
He would not only protect me, but would also listen to my complaints.



泣き虫で本ばかり読んでいて、よくいじめられる私とちがって、ルルは強くて、誰にも自分をじゃまさせませんでした。

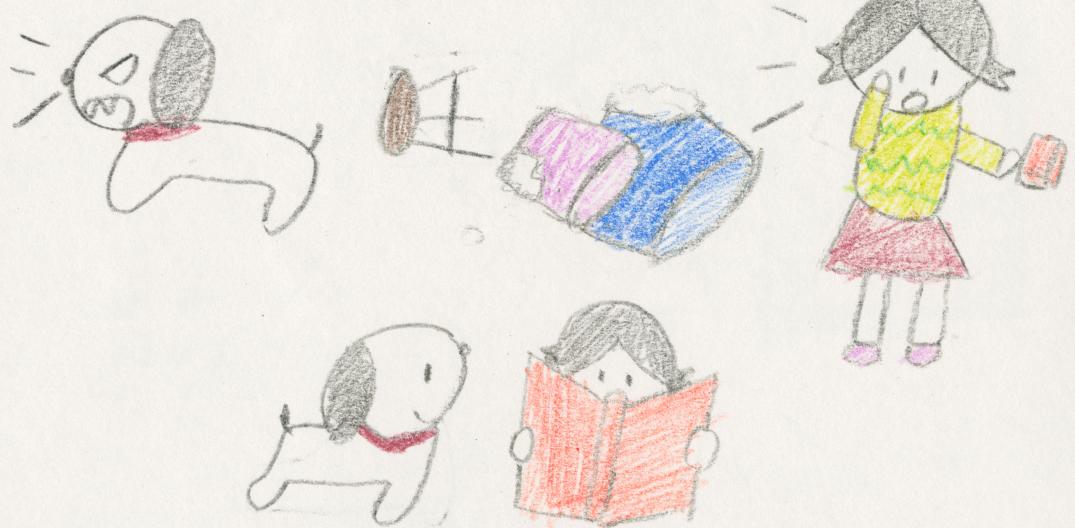
私もいつかルルみたいに強くなって誰かを守りたかったです。

Unlike me, who was a cry-baby and nerd and therefore was often bullied. LuLu was strong and would not let anyone get in his way. I wanted to be as strong as LuLu one day so that I could protect someone as well.



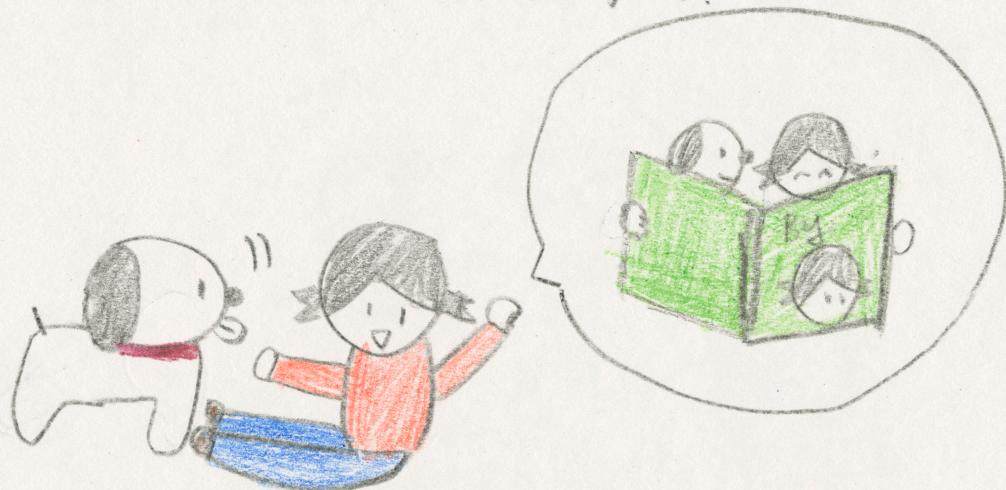
私が一番好きな時間はルルと一緒に本を時間でした。大人たちは信じてくれなかった人ひすが、ルルも本が分かると私は思っていました。ルルはいつもいたずらをして暴れていましたが、私が大きい声で本を読み始めるとしてぐ落ち書きます。

My favorite moment was when I got to read with Lulu. The adults wouldn't believe me, but I had a feeling that Lulu could understand books as well. Lulu was certainly playing tricks on us and being naughty all day, but as soon as I started reading stories in the book out loud, it would calm down.



たくさん本を読むと、自分も物語を書き
たくなりました。ルルにそう言つた時、「頑張
って」と言わんばかりにルルが私の手をた
めました。そこで私は「初めて発表した小説
は必ず最初にルルに読ませる」と心の中で
ちかいました。

As I read more books, I began to want to write
my own stories. When I said this to LuLu, he
clapped my hand as if to encourage me. So I
promised myself that if I ever published anything,
I would let LuLu read it first.

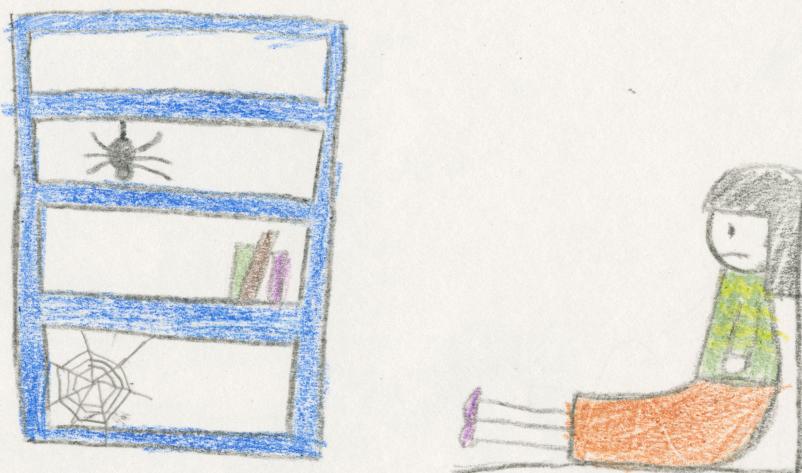


しかし、その日が来ませんでした。犬の
じゅみょうは人間と到底違うのでした。
私が×大学の文学部に受かったその年、ル
ルが亡くなりました。すでに大学の寮に
引越しした私が、ルルの最後を見とどけ
ながたです。

But that day did not come. After all, dogs
and human beings age differently. The year I
entered the literature department of X University,
Lulu passed away. Since I already moved into the
dorm at that time, I was not there for Lulu's
last moment.



その後、私は何も書けなくなりました。
本を読むのもやめました。紙を触る度に、
ルルと共にすごした時間、そして、もうルル
との約束をはたすことができないことを
思い出しながら泣き出しました。
After that, I became unable to write anything. I
even stopped reading. Everytime I touched someting made
of paper, I would remember the time I spent together
with Lulu, and the fact that I could no longer keep my
promise, and I would burst into tears.



毎日何もせずにただ座ってぼうとしている私を心配していたルームメートが、一緒に動物保護施設でボランティアをしないかと提案しました。本当は動物なんか見たくないありませんでしたが、断りにくかったです。

My roommate, who was worried about me sitting around doing nothing everyday, suggested that we go volunteer at the animal shelter. Although I did not really want to see any animals again, it was hard for me to say no.



施設に入ったら、うけつけの人が困っている
ように見えました。「どうしたんだろう」と
思ったら、その人のとなりに一匹の犬を見ま
した。犬が暴れていて、誰のことも
聞きませんでした。

As soon as we entered the shelter, we found that
the receptionist seemed to be encountering some
trouble. Just when I wondered what could be,
I saw a dog next to the receptionist. It was
acting violently, and would not take orders from
anyone.



受付の人が私たちに謝って、犬が昨日入ってきて、まだいろいろ慣れていないとかなんとか説明しましたが、私にとってもうどうでもよかったです。ルルが帰ってきた。私との約束を果たすために帰ってきた、とだけ知っていました。

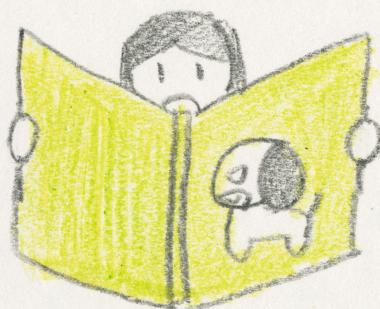
The receptionist apologized to me, and said things like the dog came in yesterday so it was not quite used to the new environment. but none of those mattered to me. All I knew was that Lu came back to keep his promise he made with me.



この犬がルルであることを証明するため
に、私は子供の遊び場に置いてある小さ
な本棚から一冊の絵本を取って、大きい声
で読み始めました。そしたら、ルルがす
ぐ落ち着いて、その場にいたみんながと
ても不思議だと思っていたようですが、私
にとって当たり前ののことでした。

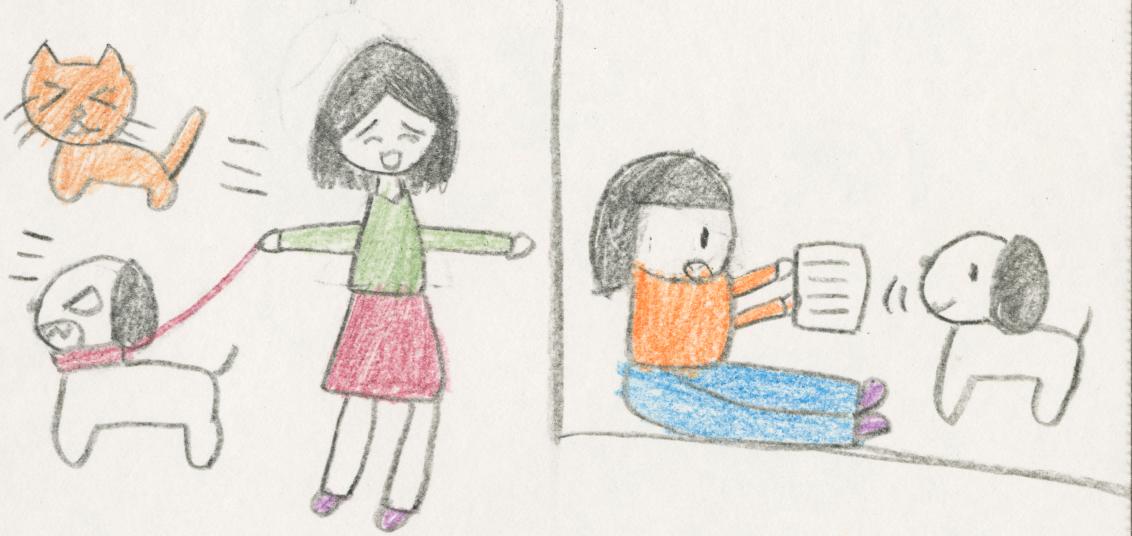
To prove that this dog was LuLu himself, I took
a picture book from the small bookcase placed at
children's playing corner, and started to read it
out loud. As I did so, LuLu calmed down in
no time. Everyone there was amazed, but it was
no surprise to me.

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それ以来、私は毎週のように施設に行つて、ルルと一緒に散歩し、本を読みました。すでに出版された本だけではなく、私が自分で書いた物語も時々読みました。本当に楽かったです。こんな楽しい時間いつまでも続くといいですか…

Ever since then, I had been going to the shelter every week, taking Luke out for a walk and reading with him. In addition to published books, I would sometimes read stories I wrote on my own as well. No matter how unsatisfied I myself was with those stories, Luke would always listen carefully without making a sound. It was really a lot of fun. I would like moments like this to last forever, but...



その週末、私とルームメートがいつものように施設に行きましたが、ドアがしまっていました。うけつけの人からドアの前に立っていて、経費不足のため、施設が閉まってしまったと、いつものやさしい口調で説明しました。

That weekend, my roommate and I went to the shelter as usual, but the door was locked. The receptionist was standing in front of the door, and in that soft tone she always had. She explained to us that the shelter was shut down because it was underfunded, and all the animals were moved to the next town.



私は悲しかったです。となりの町はそんなに遠くないのに、とにかく悲しかったです。どうしてしか言えませんでした。どうしてせっかく再会できたのに、どうしてまたわかれうのですか？ルームメートが私を止めみましたが、私がただひたすら泣いて、さけびました。

I was devastated. The next town was not that far away, but I could not help feeling sad. All I could say was "why". Why, we went into so much trouble meeting each other again. why did we have to part? My roommate tried to stop me, but I kept on crying and screaming.

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その時、足元に温かい感触がありました。
ふと見ると、ルルがそこにいました。状況
が分からなかつた私に、うけつけの人が
「この子が暑れすぎて、トラックに乗せるこ
とができませんでした」とほほえみながら
言いました。

Just then, I felt something warm at my foot,
and when I turned to look, I saw it was Lulu.
Since I did not know what was going on, the receptionist told me. "This little guy was causing
too much trouble when we tried to put him on the
truck, so we gave up."



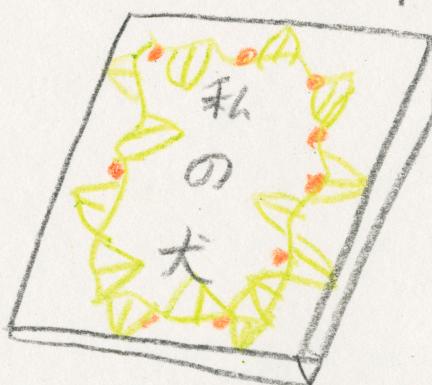
私の視線を感じたように、ルルが頭を上げて、「ワン」と吠えました。私は動物の言葉を分かるはずがないですか、その瞬間、私はルルが「せっかく再会できただのに、またはなれるもんか」と言っているのを聞こえました。私はルルをきつく抱いて、「うん、もうはなしませんよ、ルル」と何度も言いました。

As if he sensed that I was staring, Lulu raised his head and barked. "Woof". There is no way that I could understand animal language, but that moment, I could clearly hear Lulu saying, "we went into so much trouble trying to meet each other again, it's not like I will just leave you." I held Lulu tight, and said "Right. I won't let you go again, Lulu" over and over again...~



それから、両親にれんらくして、施設からルルを受け取りました。週末は施設でなく、家でルルと楽しい時間をすごすようになりました。その冬、私がうまれてから初めて小説を発表しました。ルルと私のはなしでした。それを約束通りルルと一緒に読んで、そして、これからも物語になれるような思い出を作ると決めました。

After that, I contacted my parents. From then on, I began to spend time with Lulu not at the shelter, but at home on weekends. That winter, I published my first novel in my life. It was based on Lulu and me. I kept my promise and read it with Lulu, and we decided that we were going to create more memories that could be turned into stories from now on.



かわり