

DOG YEARS

"Feeling Foolish"

Written by

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Logline: Dash tells the pups about the time when he thought he did something silly and everyone was laughing at him.

Moral: Just because someone's laughing at something you've done or said, doesn't mean they're laughing at you.

Tim & Danny polish draft, 29th April 2019

INT. DOGS' SLEEPING AREA - DAY

SAMI and MILO are having a playful debate.

MILO

Bones! They're the bestest. You can
chew them, you can chase them, you
can gnaw them, gggrrr.

SAMI

(super excited)

No. Round sticks! They're even
better. You can...

MILO

Wait? Round sticks? What are round
sticks, Sami?

DASH steps into view, checks what the pups are up to.

SAMI

Well, they're round and you throw
and chase them. Round sticks!

MILO

You mean balls!

Dash and Milo laugh, finding Sami's remark endearing, but
Sami backs away, thinking they're laughing AT him.

OLDER DASH

Oh, don't be upset. We're not
laughing at you.

TITLE SEQUENCE

Dash looks at the camera/the pups.

OLDER DASH

Milo. Sami. My young pups. When I
was young I lived with many
different families. Let me tell you
a story about when I lived with
Anna, her mum and her dad.

CUT TO images of ANNA, MUM and DAD, and Dash.

OLDER DASH (CONT'D)

I loved them as I love you. We did
everything together, and I learned
something new every day. It was an
exciting time when I grew out of my
puppy years into my... dog years.

Episode Title: Feeling Foolish by Tim Clague & Danny Stack

OLDER DASH (V.O.)
Let me tell you about the time when
Dad came home after an epic hike.

DISSOLVE TO

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Dash reacts from his basket as the back door opens and DAD stands there, muddled and enthusiastic after a hike. He looks like a pro-hiker, if a bit daft in his outfit/enthusiasm.

DAD
Ta-da. I have returned!

Dash observes ANNA and MUM as they react to Dad returning home: Anna finishes some colouring-in, Mum rolls up a yoga mat. They laugh as Dad enters, full of enthusiasm and banter.

MUM
Oh, look at the state of you!

Anna backs away, mock horrified.

ANNA
Agh, don't come near me!

DAD
What?

Dash watches on, reacting to the commotion, liking the vibe.

DASH (V.O.)
What's happening here? He looks
like he's been rolling in the mud.
How come he can do it but I get
told off?

Dad strikes a pose in a geeky/fun.

DAD
Check me out. King of the walks.

Dash recognises 'walk' amongst Dad's dialogue.

DASH
Walk, yes, I can get behind that!
Wait here, I'll get my leash.

Dash momentarily runs off.

INT. CORRIDOR - DAY

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Dash picks up his leash from near the front door.

*

DASH (V.O.)
Hoo yes, here we go. Walking the
walk, not talking the talk.

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

Dash returns to the living room, just as Anna, Mum and Dad
laugh at a particular photo on the phone.

DASH (V.O.)
I'm ready! Who's waiting for who
here?

Dash gets up on his hind legs with the leash in his mouth.
Anna, Mum and Dad look over at Dash and everything goes quiet
for a second.

*

Then they all laugh, thinking Dash's behaviour hilarious.

DASH (V.O.)
What? What's so funny?

MUM
Dash thinks we're going for a walk!

*

*

They laugh it up, but Dash doesn't understand the funny side.

*

DASH (V.O.)
What? Don't... Don't laugh at me...

Upset, Dash drops his leash and leaves the room.

*

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY

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Dash stops by the back door and looks back at the family, who
have resumed looking at Dad's photos.

*

DASH (V.O.)
Did I do something silly? I must
have. Otherwise, why are they
laughing?

*

*

*

Dash sulks into the back garden. He doesn't notice Anna look
up in his direction. She suspects something's up with Dash.

*

*

EXT. GARDEN - DAY

Dash approaches the shed by himself.

DASH (V.O.)
Fine. I'm not silly, they are.
Silly humans. I'll hide in the
shed. Laugh at them. Hahaha. Only
got two legs.

ANNA (O.S.)
Dash! Dash!

INT. SHED - DAY

Dash looks out between a crack in the door to see Anna emerge looking for him.

ANNA
Dash, where are you?

DASH (V.O.)
Not in here.

Dash backs away to hide in the shed. There's various items in the shed, but most prominent is a box that's marked: 70s.

DASH (V.O.)
You'll never find me.

Dash fumbles around the 70s box.

ANNA
Dash?

EXT. SHED - DAY

Anna checks behind the bins. Off-screen, there's a noise from the shed, like a box knocking over. Anna reacts. She smiles, and walks towards the shed.

ANNA
Dash...

She opens the shed door.

INT. SHED - DAY

POV Anna. We see: an old stuffed dog toy, a screwed-up cricketing jumper, Dash incongruously wearing a disco wig, a white feather boa scarf (or other 70s item). Whip pan/double take back to Dash.

ANNA

Dash! There you are. You're funny.

She laughs at him wearing in the wig - he does look funny.

DASH (V.O.)

You're laughing at me again. I thought you were my friend.

Anna stops laughing. She removes the wig and the feather boa, and looks at him adorably.

ANNA

Aw, Dash. Come on. Let's play fetch.

But Dash backs away.

DASH (V.O.)

No thanks. I only play with my friends.

Anna realises that Dash is upset so she tries to figure out a different tactic.

EXT. GARDEN - DAY

Anna sees a ball lying on the grass near her. She picks it up and gestures towards Dash.

ANNA

Here Dash, get the ball, get the ball...

She doesn't throw the ball - she's still getting no reaction from Dash. Anna has a think.

ANNA (CONT'D)

OK then...

Anna steps into the garden. She throws the ball to herself.

ANNA (O.S.) (CONT'D)

Guess I'll just have to throw the ball to myself...

DASH (V.O.)
That's not the way you do it.

ANNA (O.S.)
Whoops, missed it. Whoops, and
again. *

Dash looks on, but then gets more interested. *

DASH (V.O.)
Haha! *

EXT. GARDEN - DAY *

Anna throws the ball to herself but she's now wearing the wig
and the feather boa. *

DASH (V.O.)
Haha, again, again, more! *

Anna works herself into a 'dizzy' spell, and she 'collapses'
on the ground. *

EXT. SHED - DAY *

The ball bounces next to Dash who picks it up and brings it
over to Anna.

DASH (V.O.)
Haha, you were silly!

Anna sits up, and giggles. *

ANNA
Hahaha, that was fun, wasn't it
Dash? *

Dash barks, and licks Anna's face, best buddies again. *

INT. LIVING ROOM - DAY *

Dash and Anna come back in (Anna dressed as normal), all
smiles. Dad finishes off showing Mum photos of his epic hike. *

DAD
And then I returned home to you, my
loving family. Alive.

Mum pats him on the shoulder, humoring him.

MUM

Well done dear.

Dash sits next to Dad as he puts away his phone. Dad takes off his hiker's hat.

*

DAD

Another fantastic hike completed.

He puts his hat down, but it falls onto Dash instead, covering his head.

*

Everyone laughs. There's a moment. Dash looks out from under the hat - confused. Pause. Then Dash throws off the hat and barks along with everyone.

*

DASH (V.O.)

Ha ha ha, does it suit me?

*

Dash rolls around on the floor, loving it all.

DASH (V.O.)

What if I wear it like this?

Dash lets it fall to one side.

DASH (V.O.)

Or is it soooo last year's colours?

The family all laugh together.

DISSOLVE TO

INT. DOGS' SLEEPING AREA - DAY

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Older Dash with Sami and Milo.

*

OLDER DASH (V.O.)

Just because people are laughing,
it doesn't mean they're being
cruel. Think about what you've done
or said, and maybe you'd find it
funny, too.

*

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*

*

Sami has a think about this.

SAMI (V.O.)

So it was funny when I said a ball
was a round stick?

OLDER DASH (V.O.)

Very funny. And very cute, too.
Come on then, into your basket.

*

MILO (V.O.)
Our basket?

OLDER DASH (V.O.)
Yes, it's round and made of sticks.

SAMI / MILO
Haha, a basket's not a round stick,
dad!

They laugh it up, and so does older Dash.

THE END

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