

"A Triumph of Surgery"

By Dr. James Herriot



ABOUT THE AUTHOR



James Alfred Wight, (3 October 1916 – 23 February 1995), known by the pen name **James Herriot**, was a British veterinary surgeon and writer. Born in Sunderland, England, Wight lived in Glasgow during his childhood and teenage years. After graduating from Glasgow Veterinary College in 1939, Wight moved back to England and was a veterinarian in the Yorkshire Dales for almost fifty years.



MAIN POINTS OF THE STORY

The doctor's concern for the dog



- Doctor Herriot was really worried to see the dog, Tricki.
- Tricki was very fat, his eyes were red and rheumy.
- Mrs. Pumphrey, the mistress of Tricki had been over-feeding him with malt, cod liver oil and bowl of Horlicks.



The doctor advises Mrs. Pumphrey

- Doctor Herriot found that the only fault of Tricki was his greed for food.
- He advised Mrs. Pumphrey to cut down his food intake and give him daily exercise.



Tricki falls ill



- Within a few days, the doctor received a call from Mrs. Pumphrey.
- Tricki was not eating anything and kept vomiting.
- He lay down panting and couldn't go for a walk.
- Doctor Herriot suggested that Tricki must be hospitalised.



Tricki at hospital

- Tricki was taken to the hospital.
- At the surgery, the household dogs, surged around Doctor Herriot and Tricki looked silently at them lying motionless on the carpet.
- For two days, Doctor Herriot kept an eye on Tricki and gave him no food but plenty of water.
- Next day, the doctor was pleased to see Tricki jostling his way to his food bowl.
- No medical treatment was given to Tricki.



Rapid progress



- Tricki's progress was rapid and he started running with the dogs.
- Doctor Herriot informed Mrs. Pumphrey that Tricki was out of danger and was recovering rapidly.
- The excited Mrs. Pumphrey brought in fresh eggs, wine and brandy to build Trick's strength.
- Soon she was informed that Tricki had recovered and could go home.





Grateful Mrs. Pumphrey

- Within two weeks Tricki had been transformed into a flexible and hard muscled animal.
- When Tricki saw his mistress, he leaped to her lap.
- Mrs. Pumphrey thanked Doctor Herriot with her lips trembling and tears shining in her eyes.
- She called Tricki's recovery 'A Triumph of Surgery'.



TRICKI'S TRANSFORMATION



THEME OF THE STORY

The story "A Triumph of Surgery" is about a dog named Tricki. The theme of the story is about the blind love that Mrs. Pumphrey has for her pet dog, Tricki. She had no idea that her pampering and extreme love would cause him trouble. Excessive love made Tricki sick and became a reason for his illness. It can be concluded that over indulgence in any form can lead to extreme consequences.



CHARACTER SKETCH OF MRS. PUMPHREY



- is a rich and resourceful lady
- passionately attached to her little pet dog, Tricki
- pampers Tricki like a spoilt child
- thinks Tricki to be suffering from malnutrition so over feeds him
- gets worried about Tricki's failing health
- is impractical but very compassionate and caring
- is grateful and thanks Doctor Herriot for saving Tricki's life



CHARACTER SKETCH OF TRICKI



- is a small dog
- is greedy for food
- over eating on sweets, cakes and chocolates make him obese, rheumy and listless
- becomes a victim of over indulgence and over feeding
- transforms into a flexible and hard muscled dog
- displays his love for his mistress by jumping onto her lap when she comes to collect him



CHARACTER SKETCH OF DR. JAMES HERRIOT



- is a competent veterinary surgeon
- is very sensible, practical and pragmatic
- is genuinely concerned about Tricki
- is tactful as well as full of common sense
- cured Tricki without any medical treatment
- is compassionate about helping animals



VALUES



- excessive pampering and indulgence causes harm
- one should not be extravagant with resources and money
- some problems can be solved with pragmatism





Ability

*is what you are capable of
doing*

Motivation

determines what you do

Attitude

*determines how well you do
it*

REFERENCES

Pictures have been taken from
<https://www.thedodo.com/dog-drops-50-pounds-now-models-872294112.html>

For more real life stories, check out the above mentioned link.

