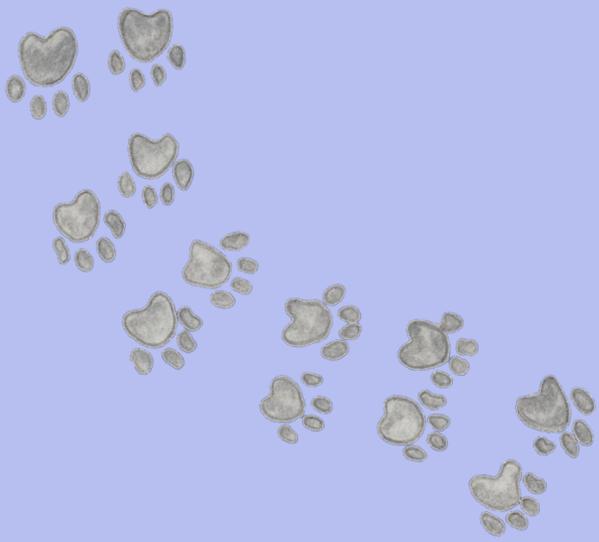




# Emma Wishes for a Puppy



By Emily June





This Book belongs to:

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To my beloved daughter

Your love and determination  
inspired my imagination.  
My first book is for you, Darling,  
keep it close to your heart...



EMILY JUNE  
NOVELS 

# *Emma Wishes for a Puppy*

Written and illustrated  
by Emily June



Translated by  
Mark Vajd



# CHAPTERS

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## A DOGGY SWEETER THAN BLUE ICE-CREAM

Emma is a mischievous little girl with large curious eyes and wavy brown hair. If you ask her how old she is, she will quickly and very brashly tell you that she is “four, almost five!” In doing so, she will shake her loosely-tied curls so wildly that the last few naughty strands of hair will freely fall from her ponytail and onto her shoulders.

Her eyes are blue like forget-me-nots and like the lavender ice-cream she truly adores. Yes, her favourite ice-cream flavour really is blue!





She likes blue clothing best – trousers, just so we're clear! – along with a T-shirt with sewn-on sequins which change colour. Only on birthdays does her mum manage to convince her to put on a skirt or, at a stretch, a dress.

That is because Emma, above all else, enjoys climbing trees, rocks, jungle gyms, and just about anything really. And that can be quite awkward in a skirt!

She is also partial to blue lollipops and sweets because one surely cannot do without sugary things. And blue balloons, blue stickers, blue bouncy balls... yes, you've guessed it; blue is without a doubt her favourite colour!

She adores nature, especially the woods. If her parents would allow it, she would certainly move right into her treehouse or even a hunting hide.

With a pair of genuine, top-of-the-line children's binoculars that Santa brought her, she can often be found watching the neighbouring meadow and the nearby forest. She would never be seen without her (blue!) explorer's backpack in which she carries all the most essential scouting equipment – just in case she stumbles upon some exciting adventure.

She likes every single animal, even the snakes and spiders she has seen in her little encyclopaedia. Her room is like a zoo, full of colourful plush animals from all over the world. One day, she might become a veterinarian for koalas or a jungle explorer!



But more than anything, she loves dogs. Having a real, living and breathing doggy is truly her biggest wish, greater even than having blue ice cream for lunch!

It did not help one bit when she got a large plush St Bernard for her birthday last year. He didn't even know how to bark!



Though he was rather friendly when you looked at him and soft when you cuddled him, that was not enough to blow Emma away. From that moment on, she only became more persistent in trying to convince mum and dad to buy her a dog, but they remained unwavering in the face of her determination.

“Doggies are a lot of work, Emma, and you’re still too young to take care of one on your own,” they turned her down every time.

“But I’m almost five now!!” Emma was cross right away, but it didn’t help her in the slightest. Oh no, Emma does not give up that easily! She would prove to them that she is quite old enough!



## THE DOGGY BATH

Emma studied her dog-care manual very carefully; picture after picture, she taught herself how to look after doggies until she became a right little expert!

Every morning, she started putting down a water bowl for her plush St Bernard, which would splash all over the floor, half-flooding the entire kitchen every time.

She left food for him in a second bowl, in which you could sometimes find bread crusts and lunch leftovers, porridge with milk at other times, or even tangerines that Emma thought were too sour for her to eat.



Thank goodness that her parents quickly noticed her making these messes, and she eventually had to stop before the house was taken over by hungry ants.



One day, when mum was in her morning rush, she couldn't find her hairbrush anywhere. She finally discovered it in Emma's room where she was using it to brush the St Bernard's plush tummy.

Dad also found his new leather belt there, serving as a collar around the dog's neck.





On another occasion, while her parents were busy cooking lunch, Emma noiselessly slipped into the bathroom. A few moments later, they found her bathing her St Bernard in the tub, or, to be more accurate, drowning him in soapsuds. She really overdid it with the bubbles!

Then came the day when she secured the fluffball to a skateboard and even took him for a walk around the garden. Using a clothesline, she pulled him behind her until the poor thing tipped over into the mud.

Her parents grew more and more worried about the way she kept on with that plush dog. But they also had to admit that they felt a little proud of the way she tried so very hard to show them what a big and responsible girl she had become.





## BIG GIRLS CONTRACT

Whenever Emma set her mind on something, she would not let up for anything, and a doggy was something she simply had to have, she told herself. She begged mum and dad and looked at them with pleading eyes for so long, that they, at last, gave in to their fate and agreed to buy a dog. To be completely honest, they were quite the dog lovers themselves!

“But only under one condition,” said dad sternly, “you’ll have to help take care of the dog!”

“I promise, I promise!” Emma shrieked with happiness.

“Well, Emma, just to make sure that these don’t end up being empty promises, we’ll write down your words on a piece of paper, like a real contract!” smiled mum.



Emma looked at her with suspicion – what on earth is a contract? – but she would do just about anything for a real-life doggy!



“So, Emma,” mum got started, “do you solemnly swear that you’ll help take care of the doggy, when he needs to be walked many times a day, even in rain and snow?”

“Yes, mummy, I promise!” Emma immediately jumped in.

“Will you put down food for him and change the water in his bowl so that it’s always fresh?” mum continued.

“The dog will also need regular bathing, brushing, teeth cleaning... almost like having a baby!” it occurred to dad.

“Yes, I’m old enough to do it all by myself!” Emma exclaimed enthusiastically.

“And you’ll also have to pick up poop after the dog so that it doesn’t lie around everywhere,” dad said seriously, hoping this might finally dissuade her.

“Yuck, I don’t want to do that!” Emma pulled a face.

“Oh, certainly! Someone has to,” dad insisted jokingly.

“Well, alright, if I really have to” – Emma would not back down that easily. She’ll just have to find a way to avoid that chore later! Do dogs wear nappies? After all, mum is an expert at changing them, at least that’s what dad used to say, and he’s usually right about things like that.



“There! It’s all written down!” announced mum.  
“Great!” Emma was excited. “Can we go get the doggy now?”

“Whoa, whoa, whoa, Emma! It doesn’t happen that quickly,” her parents smiled at her eagerness. “Let’s hope you’ll be this quick to get out of bed every morning and go walk the doggy with us,” they added.

Because Emma was not particularly thrilled about waking up early, she chose not to hear that. She was quite the little expert at choosing when to turn a deaf ear.

“Then when?” she insisted impatiently.

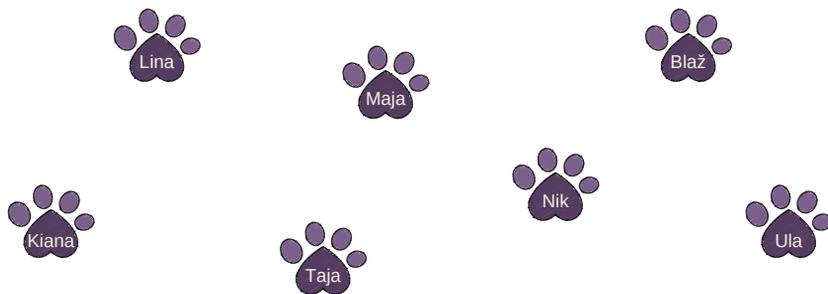
“First, we have to find a litter, and then we have to choose a puppy that will become ours,” mum explained to her.

“Oh, that sounds like ages,” Emma sighed disappointedly.



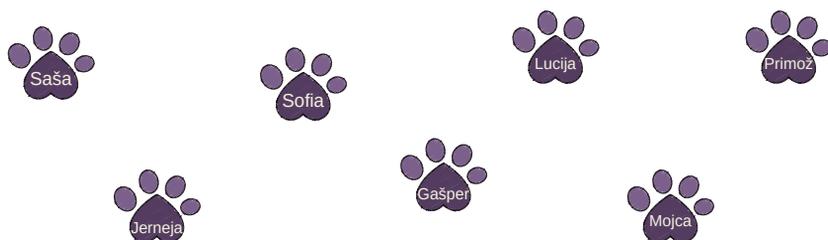
But since her fifth birthday was around the corner, she decided that this would be the year she would wish for a doggy as her gift even harder and blow out each and every candle in one fell swoop!

Yes, it was an excellent plan, she said to herself and went off to play veterinarian on her plush animals.



Thanks to all my young readers who believed in Juno and Ema long before I did myself. Your sincere enthusiasm for stories "printed" the book in front of you, because I had to prove to you that dreams do come true if we really believe in them and together we finally dare to become what we heartily desire.

Thanks also to Tanja and Lidija for your part of the magic in creating the book!





For the entire translated book,  
please, contact me at...



*Emily June*

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