

Dottie and the dentist

YOUR LOCAL DENTAL SOCIETY PRESENTS

DOTTIE AND THE DENTIST

“Hello there, little girl. The nurse tells me your name is Dottie.

- What are you gonna do to me?
- Why, I'm gonna take care of your teeth. Do you have any pets?
- I have a dog. What are you gonna do to me?
- A dog? Well, that's nice. What's his name?
- Clyde. What are you gonna do to me?
- Well, now, don't you be nervous. I'm just gonna check your teeth.
- Oh! What for? There's nothing wrong with my teeth.
- How do you know?
- I heard the mailman tell Daddy there is nothing wrong with my teeth.
- Oh? When was this?
- Right after I bit him on the leg.
- Oh. Well, well, you see, you might have a cavity or two that should be taken care of.
- I never had a cavity in my life. What's a cavity?
- Well, it's kind of a bad spot on your tooth that...
- I don't have any of those. I looked in the mirror this morning.
- Yes, but you might have a little one between your teeth where you can't see it.
- Well, if you can't see it, it's all right, isn't it?
- No, no, no, no. See, if you let them go, they get worse. First thing you know, you have a toothache.
- Oh!
- Hey, what's er, what, what's that for? What...
- I don't want to have a toothache.
- Well then, let's take a look and be sure there are no cavities.
- How are you gonna see (...) inside the tooth?
- Well, first thing we'll do is take an X-ray of your teeth.
- What's an X-ray?
- Oh, it's kinda like taking your picture.
- How do you want me to pose?
- No, no, it's not that kind of picture. But it will help us to find out if your teeth are in good shape.
- Sure, all the time.
- Huh, huh. How often?
- Oh, five or six times a day, at least.
- Mmh, mmh. How often?
- Four times a day?
- How often?
- Did I tell you about my dog Clyde?
- Shame on you, Dottie, you should brush your teeth right after every meal.
- What do you want me to do? Wear 'em out?
- Immediately after every meal. Now, I assume you have a proper toothbrush?
- Oh, yeah. I have a toothbrush I just love. I've had it for years and years practically.
- Years and years? But surely your mother buys you a new one when...

- Oh, once in a while but I hide the new ones in my drawer. I have a whole drawer full of toothbrushes. I like the old one best. It's all nice and soft and squishy!
- Good heavens! You can't clean your teeth with a soft, squishy toothbrush, Dottie. You start using a new one right away.
- But, what about my old one?
- Oh, throw it away.
- What, what's wrong, what's wrong now? What's wrong?
- I miss my old toothbrush.
- But you haven't even thrown it away yet.
- I know but I was thinking about it. It made me sad. Poor lil' old used toothbrush all alone in the world, no teeth to call its own, no...
- All right, all, all right, Dottie. Keep it then but use a new one to brush your teeth. Then you'll be able to get them all sparkling clean.
- Can I put the old one in the drawer with the new ones?
- Oh, of course, that's just what I do. And when the new one starts to get soft, put it in the drawer and get another new one out.
- Now, about your diet...
- You mean I gotta go on a diet too?
- Oh, no, no, no, no. I, I mean, about what you eat.
- Mommy says I'll eat anything that doesn't run away from me.
- Huh, huh, how about candy?
- Thank you, I'll have two pieces, please.
- No, no, no. I mean, how much candy do you eat?
- All I can get.
- Well, you shouldn't eat so much candy. It's very bad for your teeth. Next time you want a piece of candy, try an apple instead or, or maybe a carrot. Carrots are good for you. After all, rabbits love carrots and you never saw a rabbit with bad teeth, did you?
- Oh, boy!
- Well, here's a little funny there. Now, you remember what I told you. If you brush your teeth thoroughly with a good toothbrush right after every meal, and cut down on the sweets between meals, you'll have fewer cavities as you grow up.
- But there's only one thing bothering me.
- Aha? What's that?
- What will I do with that drawer full of old toothbrushes?"

THE END

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