

## A Soldier's Friend

### 1. Puppy

by Megan Rix



This passage is from the very beginning of the book, soon after this we find out that Britain is at war with Germany.

Extract from Chapter 1

The little shaggy-coated cairn terrier puppy trotted down the cobblestoned street in the late afternoon sunshine. Every now and again he looked up at his owner through the grey fur that half flopped over one of his eyes and his little tail wagged happily. But the man didn't reach down and pat him like the little dog wanted him to. He didn't even look at the pup.

'This'll do as well as any,' the man muttered gruffly as they came to a stop outside a large grey building that loomed above them with a sign in front of it saying **BATTERSEA MUNITIONS FACTORY**.

The small puppy looked up expectantly with his head cocked to one side. His tail still wagged as his lead was tied to a post. Perhaps this was a new game? He tried to lick his owner's hand, but was brushed away. 'None of that now,' the man muttered briskly. The puppy sat down. He watched as the man stood up and turned away. Then the little dog jumped up and tried to follow his owner as he headed off down the street, but a second later the little pup was jerked back by his lead. He pulled again, as hard as he could, twisting this way and that, but he couldn't get loose. He barked and then he barked again, now desperate, but his owner didn't come back.



*Alert Cairn Terrier sitting and looking up*

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