

(*Willie and Woozer stories are typed from a handwritten copy of the stories Dad told Phil and me when we were small. —Jan Hey Dean)

Willie and Woozer Stories

Willie and Gladys Jones lived in a small town and later on moved to a small farm on the edge of town. This place had a nice hill back of the barn, and at the bottom of the hill at the back edge of the farm, a creek made its way throughout the land. Willie was two years older than Gladys.

Adventure One

One day when Willie was four years old, he was looking out the window waiting for his father to come home. His father stopped the car but didn't come right in. Willie watched as father went to the luggage compartment and got out a package and something else wrapped in the car blanket. What could it be? Father brought it into the house and Willie and Gladys were very curious. "What do you have?" asked Willie.

Father said, "Your mother asked me to bring home something nice for you and Gladys. Can you guess what it is?" Willie guessed a doll for his sister and that was right. He guessed a dump truck and a rocking horse and several other things, but they were wrong, so he gave up. Willie shouted with glee when his father took the blanket off from a red tricycle with steps on behind so his sister could ride with him. They had many happy times together.

Adventure Two

One day Willie got to thinking that it would be nice to ride down to his father's office to meet him. He forgot that little boys should always ask their mothers first. He was really too young to go alone, but he started out on the tricycle. He got nearly downtown when he met the lady who lived next door to his house. She said, "Where are you going?" Willie told her that he was going to meet his father, but he wasn't sure where his office was. Of course, she knew his mother did not know of this. So she took him at once to his father's office which was not so far away.

His father was surprised to see him and as it was about time to go home, father put the tricycle in the car and they went home. Father and mother explained to Willie that he must never try that again and Willie promised he would always ask about such things. After that he never left the yard unless his father or mother gave him permission.

Adventure Three

One December morning Willie Jones looked out the window of his bedroom. The ground was covered with snow. He quickly dressed and went downstairs. Father told him that he guessed they would have to get a sled. That noon father brought home a sled, and after lunch mother dressed the children in snow suits. Father gave them a short ride before he went to the office. Afterwards Willie gave his sister a ride for a while, then they went in and mother made some warm cocoa for them.

Willie was a very tired and happy boy as he went to bed, and a very thankful boy too as he said his prayers. Soon he was to sleep dreaming of the good times to come.

Adventure Four

One evening father came home and told mother, "I bought that little farm we talked about so if you wish we will move out there soon." He told Willie that he could have a dog as soon as they were moved to the farm.

Willie and Gladys couldn't decide on a name for their dog when one day their Uncle Henry visited them and told them a story about a dog named Woozer. So they said, "That's it. We will call him Woozer."

The next morning mother asked everyone what they would like for breakfast. Uncle Henry said, "Ask Woozer. Speak up Woozer." Woozer barked warf, warf, warfles. Will said, "That's it, waffles and sausage." So everyone including Woozer had waffles and sausage and Woozer was so full he laid down in front of the fireplace and slept till Willie came home from school.

Adventure Five

After the next summer, Willie again started to school, which was just inside the town a little way from the farm.

He met many other little boys and girls and liked school very much. It wasn't so very long till cold weather with snow came. I've already told you how smart Woozer was. One day it snowed a lot in the afternoon and just as school was letting out, Willie looked up the road and what do you think he saw? Woozer was coming pulling the sled. Woozer always met him after school, but this was a surprise. His mother had sent the sled with Woozer. Willie was so tickled that he put Woozer on the sled and pulled him all the way home. After that Woozer met him with the sled whenever there was snow.

Adventure Six

When Willie got a little older, he and Gladys, and Woozer had lots of fun. Willie and Gladys would sled down the hill which started back of the barn. The sled would carry them clear to the creek. Woozer would run alongside part of the time barking and rolling in the snow. He also liked to ride down on the sled and help pull it back up the hill.

One day when he and Willie got to the top of the hill, Willie quickly jumped on the sled and slid down leaving Woozer at the top. Woozer, who was a very smart dog, waited for Willie to bring the sled back up to the top of the hill. Just as Willie got the sled turned around headed downhill, Woozer played a trick on Willie. He jumped on the sled and quickly slid down the hill leaving Willie at the top. After that Willie never tried to play jokes on Woozer.

Finale

In the winter besides sliding down the hill, Willie and Gladys and their friends skated on the creek. In the summer Willie liked to fish. He helped on the farm when he got older. He also raised rabbits and sheep.

Gladys learned early to help her mother with the housework. She and Willie together raised a nice garden and kept their mother well supplied with vegetables for their meals.

Willie, Gladys and Woozer had many good times, and Woozer was a great pet as long as he lived.