**A Second Chance**

**A freezing howl echoed through the evening, the households were full of bright colors, and the families celebrated and danced within the comfort and convenience of their humble home. The roads were empty of life, only parked cars and snow covered the pavement, and Christmas never looked more merry than it did today. As someone steps down the sidewalk on his way home by himself, Mr. Lee was his name, a hard-working guy who tries to get by every day through his life. After yet another grueling day at work, he heads home with blood-red eyes and knees trembling on every step. While he watched other people be happy and with their friends and family, he recalled his own family from childhood. Mr. Lee was an orphan residing with sisters and other orphaned children. As an adult, he began working in a factory with little to no compensation, earning only scraps and little food. He didn't even graduate from high school because the orphanage had no money, and they were expected to work at an early age. Life has only been tougher after he left the orphanage to live his own life, living in an old neglected flat, with loud and irritating residents. He carried in his hand a paper bag with nothing more than a rope inside, living in this world made him understand that his life seemed to have no purpose or direction. Mr. Lee was able to give everything up for his own peace. As he reached his apartment lot, he saw a box by the side of the road as he headed towards it, as he walked toward it he heard faint whimpers. With each move, the whimpers became cries for aid, and when he opened the box, he saw this little pup curled up like a ball. Knowing that the pup was already abandoned, he took the liberty of taking it back home with him. Perhaps giving the puppy some courage back and releasing it back would give him little redemption for what he was trying to do. As he nestled the puppy on his bed he gave it food and water just in case. He saw the little guy gobbled up the food he gave and drank all the water, he saw it looked back at him and smiled, but this time only his end is on his mind. Tying the rope he made a noose to hang on the ceiling fan, he then placed a stool underneath, he climbed on top of the stool and placed his head inside the hole of the noose. Then he closed his eyes, remembering his life that was very unjust to him, his ideals and dreams that were moving so very far away from his grasp, and then he mustered up every last bit of courage he had. But before he could do anything he heard the very same cries that never left his head. He opened his eyes and saw the little pup staring right at him, sobbing and howling. And then everything that was on his mind was changed, he then taught about the pup that he saved, they were both alone in this world and they were both dealt with a worse life than others. But then they found each other, he knew that he was not the only one suffering alone. Mr.Lee then began crying and sobbing about how foolish of him to think for only his own, he began to descend the stool and hugged the little pup so very gently. As he swore to never leave it alone for as long as they would be together. Since then he changed, became a new person, always working hard and striving for things that would better him. Years passed and Mr.Lee was a totally different person, with the money he saved up he began to open his own adoption home for dogs. To repay the kindness and strength that the little pup gave him, and to give chance to the other ones that were abandoned and forgotten. And he was very happy of life and very proud of what he does. Many years passed and Mr.Lee was an old man, it was winter, Christmas day was upon the town, as he walked through the sidewalk with a smile on his face, he began to enter a graveyard. Walking towards a grave, Mr.Lee paid respect to the pup that gave him his second chance. He began to tell stories to the grave about how his day went and about how he is today. Hours came and Mr.Lee got up to leave, before walking away he gave the grave a smile and told him that he will see him again someday. As he walked away from the grave an inscription can be found written on the tombstone, “Thank you for the second chance, Hope”. He then walked away smiling heading head first to everything that’s ahead.**