


Spencer Roy didn't mind being taller than anyone else his age. When people joked, "How's the weather up there, Spencer?" he just laughed. When they said, "You can come down from your ladder now," he only grinned. What Spencer didn't like was the way everyone laughed at Charlie.

Charlie was Spencer's dog. He was as small as Spencer was tall. Maybe it was the two of them together that made people laugh at Charlie. Or maybe it was Charlie's unusual bark. When Spencer took Charlie for a walk in the park, kids pointed at him. Grown-ups sniggered. When Charlie barked his teeny, squeaky bark, people laughed out loud. Everyone thought Charlie was a joke, but Spencer knew differently.





Is that a dog? Looks more like a bedraggled rat. Call that a bark!