

Panda Smiles

Level 4



PANDA Smiles

**A true story by
Stephen Cohen**

Set in the 1940s



His daughter, Gaila Cohen Morrison, tells his story.



© 2025 A.H.A.V.A.

ahava.org@gmail.com

A.H.A.V.A. grants permission to photocopy these pages for individual/classroom/school use, but not for commercial purposes.

by Gaila Cohen Morrison

Art by Batya Mirsky • AI-assisted illustrations

My father, Stephen, lived in the **hills** of Wales.

This was not a whale 🐳 **like** a fish.
It was a place in England 🇬🇧, called Wales.



His house
was very
far from
the city.

hills - גבעות **like** - כמו **far** - רחוק

My father had a dog named Panda.
Panda was more than a **pet**.
He was a good **friend**.

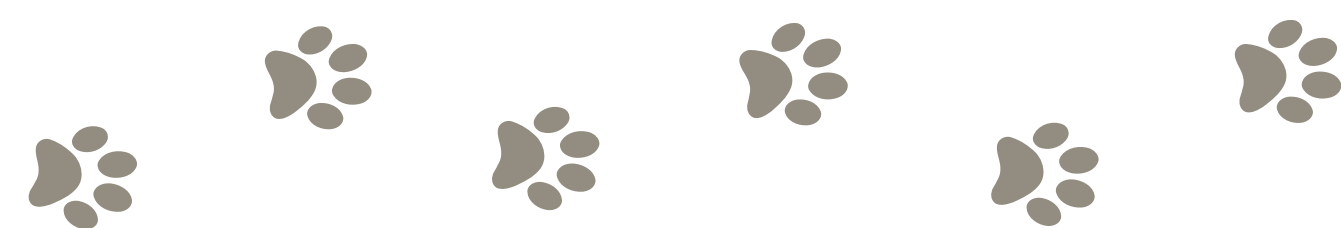


They played **together** all the time.
They played together on the **grassy hills**
and under the big trees.

pet - חייב **friend** - חכם **together** - ביחד
grassy - מלא דשא **hills** - גבעות

Stephen did not have a lot of **other** friends in the **neighborhood**.

Panda didn't have any other dogs in the neighborhood.



Panda **noticed** something funny.



Whenever people in the family were happy, they **smiled**.

other - אחר **neighborhood** - שכונה
whenever - בכל עת **people** - אנשים

noticed - בריא
smiled - חייכו



So Panda **tried** to smile too.

But a dog's **smile** looks **different**.

Instead of lips **curling up**, Panda showed his teeth.

To people, it looked like he was angry!

tried - ניסה **smile** - חיוך **different** - שונה
instead - במקום **curling up** - שפתיים עולות בחיוך

Years later Stephen's family moved to the city.

One sunny day, the **neighborhood** boys were playing **soccer**. They laughed and shouted as they **kicked** the ball.



Then - **BAM!**
The ball hit Panda **by mistake**.

neighborhood - שכונה **soccer** - כדורגל
laughed - צחק **shouted** - צעק
by mistake - בטעות **kicked** - בעט

Panda wasn't hurt.
He ran up to the boy who **kicked** the ball.



His tail **wagged**. His teeth **showed**.
The boy **thought** Panda was about to bite!

kicked - בעט. **wagged** - כשכש (בזנב)
showed - נראו **thought** - חשב

“Don’t worry,” Stephen, my dad, said quickly. “He’s **smiling**! That’s just how he **shows** he’s happy.”



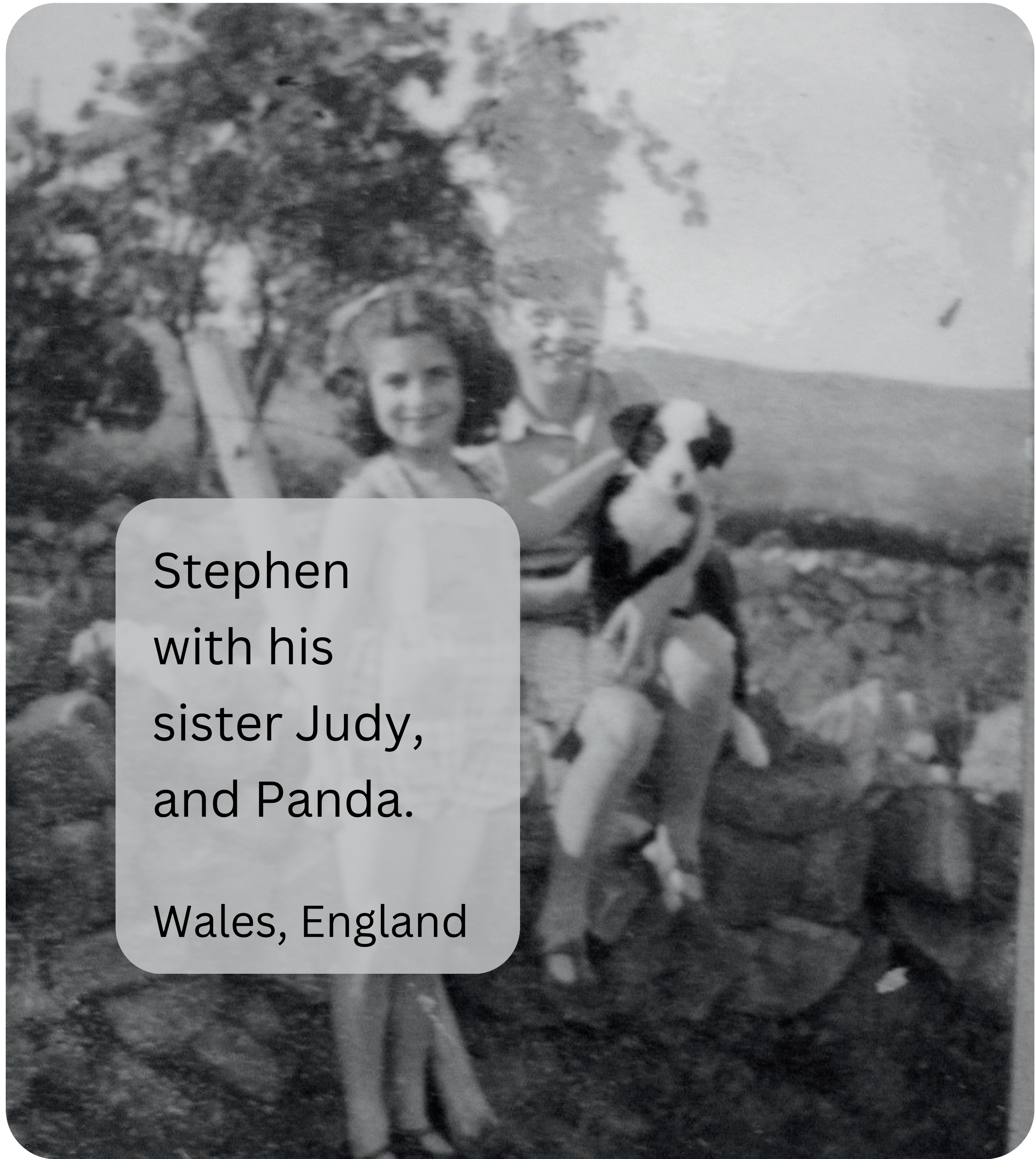
The boy didn’t look so **sure**.

smiling - מחייך **shows** - מראה **sure** - בטוח

“See? Panda is fine,” he said.
At last, the boy **smiled** back.
And Panda **wagged** his tail even faster.



smiled - חייך **wagged** - כשכש (בזנב)



Stephen
with his
sister Judy,
and Panda.

Wales, England

Index

by mistake	בטעות	other	אחר
curling up	שפתיים עולות בחיוך	people	אנשים
different	שונה	pet	חיית מחמד
far	רחוק	showed	הראה/נראה
friend	חבר	shouted	צעק
grassy	מלא דשא	smile	חיוך
hills	גבעות	soccer	כדורגל
instead	במקום	sure	בטוח
kicked	בעט	thought	חשב
laughed	צחק	together	ביחד
like	כמו	tried	ניסה
neighborhood	שכונה	wagged	כשכש (בזנב)
noticed	שם לב	whenever	בכל עת

