



Henrietta Kraus

BARNEY

the West Coast Cockatoo

translated by Lara Cantos

Henrietta Kraus:
Barney, the West Coast Cockatoo
(SIA Reading Adventure)

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Preface

Dear reader!

This is one of the most touching friendships I have ever come across. A friendship between a human named Tim and a parrot, or rather a cockatoo, named Barney.



They both live on Vancouver Island, Canada, in Tim's house, where Barney was given a wonderful home.

I have rarely come across a more loving friendship between human and animal than that of these two. Tim rescued Barney from an animal shelter and with his love made him one of the happiest birds in the whole world.

Yours,

Henrietta Kraus

Chapter 1

TIM and BARNEY

The morning rays of sunshine gently caress the stunning natural beauty on Vancouver Island out of its nightly slumber.

Inside a charming house in the middle of a picturesque landscape, in a small town known as Ucluelet, a parrot named Barney stirs and stretches.

Just woken up, Barney reaches out with his beak trying to scratch his right leg – a pricking itch had been bothering him. Next, on to his morning routine.

Barney is wide awake and eagerly awaits his Dad Tim. Barney's cubbyhole is located under the stairs, hence the nickname "Harry

Potter Room”, just like the famous sorcerer’s apprentice, who also had to sleep under a staircase.

His dad Tim has placed Barney’s night cage in this room. Tim’s bedroom, however, is on the upper floor.

Each morning, Tim greets Barney affectionately before going back up to the top floor, carrying his little friend on his arm.

On the way up, Barney usually stretches his magnificent wings out in excitement and fidgets with his little head, which Tim likes to call “Barney style”.

Barney can do the craziest movements and contortions you have ever seen. And because the parrot is excited to see his dad every day, he performs his tricks on the way up.

In the kitchen, Tim begins preparing Barney's breakfast.

Unlike Tim, who only allows himself a cup of coffee early in the morning, Barney's breakfast is a delicious, substantial meal. It consists of a porridge with frozen dried fruits and vegetables warmed up in the microwave.

The parrot has a small area in the kitchen, his island, where he is spoon-fed by Tim.

Once Barney has finished his tasty meal, his dad hands him a small piece of paper towel so that the parrot can clean his beak.

Then, another day in the life of our two companions can begin!

Chapter 2

A HAPPY DAY

The inquisitive parrot has many toys, which he received as gifts from Tim and from many fans around the world. In fact, Barney is quite famous!

His dad filmed him playing one day and put the video on the internet. Tim hadn't reckoned on the fact that many people saw and liked his clip. And so, he recorded many more videos of Barney and put them on the internet. Thousands and thousands of people all over the world are now fans of the bright parrot and are always happy when they can experience something new with him.

Each new day in Barney's life brings exciting adventures, and his countless friends across

the world eagerly follow his exploits. After all, Tim never grows tired of making new videos of Barney.

The same was true on this day: Barney was feeling very playful. His favourite toys are cars. So, Barney grabbed his exciting police toy car and played with it. It even has a blue light, and a siren built in. Tim recorded Barney and uploaded the clip to the internet.

The day just flew by. As he does every evening, Tim put Barney back in his night cage under the stairs. After wishing the parrot good night, Tim went to his bedroom on the upper floor and went to bed.

There is something Tim doesn't know about Barney. Each night, Barney goes on exciting adventures, fantastic journeys and visits fairy tale worlds.

This is Barney's big secret: He can magically bring thoughts to life. The lovable parrot enters fairytale-like, distant worlds where nothing is impossible. Thoughts and wishes immediately become reality.

What this means is that Barney can spend several days travelling in his dream world – while it only takes one night for Tim and everyone else.