



## Shihan Molly's Parable About Confidence

### The Dog and The Bone

There once lived a big dog in a small town. All the other dogs didn't like to play with him because he always made the other dogs feel bad, he constantly bragged about all his strength. He told the other dogs he was so much better at running and hunting and jumping and barking than they were.

But one day, the big dog got a juicy bone from a butcher's shop. All excited, he picked it up and looked for a secluded place to enjoy it by the river. But he wasn't worried about other dogs trying to take it away from him because he thought he was the strongest dog in the town!

He ran to the nearby river to enjoy the bone all by himself. As he was chewing the bone, he happened to look down into the water. The dog was quite surprised as he saw his own reflection in the river. But he thought it was another big dog!

The greedy dog wanted to keep the bone for himself. So, he opened his mouth to bark, trying to scare and intimidate the other dog, showing him how fierce and confident he was. But there wasn't another dog, it was just his own reflection he saw in the water. Just then, the bone fell down from his mouth and into the water. The dog lost his juicy bone because he used his confidence in the wrong way. The dog realized in that moment that confidence is not about bragging or showing off or trying to be better than anyone else. He never bragged again and got along with all the other dogs.