

> ring ring ring. <

No! No, not this again. The alarm goes off and I pretend not to hear it, curling into a small ball in my bed. I hate it, when my sister decides to wake up at break of dawn.

Just pretend you're still sleeping and she will turn the alarm off again. The alarm goes off. Thank God! And then the most horrible part of the whole day happens!

My sister rolls out of her bed and stumbles across the room to the door and reaches out for the little switch next to the door. She flicks on the little switch that I can't see, but I know it is there.

I feel it! And then the lights crash in and everything goes bright.

It is too bright for my little eyes and I shut them quickly before the brightness can even threaten to completely blind me. The glowing lights still penetrate through my lids and I start seeing big and bright spots. I give up! On the count of three I open my eyes and the light is so overwhelming that I can't help but make an odd snorting sound.

I hear the laughter from my sister as she takes a step closer to me.

> Come on, Ginger! It is already seven o'clock! <, She says and her voice starts to annoy me even more than usual. Seriously? *Already* seven o'clock?! Is she kidding?

How dare she make it sound like seven o'clock is late? If it wouldn't be for her I would still be sleeping! I would be snuggling in my bed, well, preferably her bed which is still negotiable, sleeping until the late morning.

Even though this is how the most of my days start off I still hate waking up.

I hate this routine until my sister starts to roll up the shutters that make some weirdly satisfying sound and as it magically rolls up into the air, it reveals the big double glass doors that lead to the small balcony. And then all of my frustration and sleepiness is blown away and instead I am filled with anticipation and joy. I stretch and stretch before I jump up and walk to the window.

What was that? I swear I saw something! I start to bark with excitement.

Did you not see that, Sis?!

> Hey, Ginger! Stop barking! Other people are still sleeping and what are you even barking at?

There is literally nothing out there! <, she yells at me.

So I am not allowed to be loud but she is or what? Maybe you are just blind and that is why you didn't see anything! And what happened to „seven o'clock is late“ ? How come those other humans are still allowed to sleep, but we already have to wake up?

Like always she doesn't respond and continues her day as usual.

I watch her walk out of the room and making her way to the bathroom.

Well this would be my cue then I guess. Now or never before she realizes I am not there anymore!

I brush past her and run over to my brother's room in a hurry.

And then I suddenly realize that I am doomed! The door is shut. Not now, I need my sleep!

So I start scratching the door desperately and in need of some miracle.

> Gingerrr! <, I hear her growling dangerously. Ha!

The door budes with a „click“ and I push it open with my nose.

As I stumble blindly into the room I realize that the top bed of the bunkbed is occupied.

Ahh man! I wanted to sleep on the top of the bed! Well if I may correct myself, I wanted to sleep wherever my human is sleeping. I guess he wouldn't really care if I just...

I run and with a thumping noise I jump onto the top part of the bed and collapse somewhere on his feet. I curl up and press my nose against him, purposely drooling, just because it is fun to gross them out. He turns around in his sleep and kicks me with his human feet.

That is so not nice and mean!

I figure drooling on him and having my tongue collided with his feet is also not the ideal picture of nice, but it is what it is. And then I snooze off to my version of Lala Land.

I was running with my fellow friends along a path in a forest.

Actually I wasn't just running mindlessly, even though that would have been nice too.

My friends Merle, Molly and I were chasing bones and raw meat slices that were hovering above the air through the woods, and we were focused and excited.

They weren't just normal bones and raw meat slices! I am talking about *the* bones and *the* raw meat slices! The largest of them all, filling the air with their tasty sent of freshly chopped meat!

And just before we were about to catch those yummy treats I heard loud stomping.

Puff! All gone! Merle, Molly, the meat and the bones!

I have no idea where it all went and I don't understand what I am more devastated about; Merle and Molly, my friends, disappearing on me or the delicious treats that are gone. Now I am in the bed of my human again. The only thing that has changed? My human, the boy, isn't there anymore. At least it is still dark in here. And there it is again! The loud stomping. Oh and wait a second! I hear angry voices shouting across the whole house > How come you didn't set the table yet!?!< And they tell me that I would be waking up everybody including the neighbors! > No, you dummy! Today is your turn to prepare breakfast. What do you mean? I did it yesterday, now hurry please! I am hungry and it is already really late! < I guess the neighbors must already be awake anyway, if it is really that late. > Honey, where is the dog? Is she still sleeping? <, I hear a dreamy voice. That must be Momma! I have four whole human family members. My Momma and my dad and then their two children. I guess that would make them my siblings? Stepsister and brother, I correct myself. But I really don't care too much, because I know mom loves *me* the most. I usually sleep in my sister's room because her room is the most comfortable, aside from my parents room which my dad won't let me enter. My lovely mom still sneaks me in when she gets the chance to without my dad noticing. She kind of has a weak spot for me. Anyways, when my sister wakes up early, like every day, I go to my brother's room. I have my own bed in my sister's room, but I don't need one in my brother's room. If it gets too tight in his bed I will just make some more room. Which means kicking him out to the other bed from the bunkbed. > Ginger, darling! Come here! < That was my momma! I stumble down the stairs in a hurry and then I see her. She goes into her knees and shouts in this awfully high pitched voice. > There is my baby! Baby, come here! Aww, baby! <, Are you kidding me? I am not a baby! I am three years old! I walk to her wagging my tail. Can I please have my food now? She pets me and rubs my ears. Uhhh yeah! Please so continue! That feels so good! She slowly stops after a while and I look up. Do I get my food now? I thought now is breakfast time! > Mom, Breakfast is ready! <, I hear my brother shouting. Yay! Did I hear breakfast? I am starving. I jump up and run to the table. My family has already gathered and I decide to give my greetings. One by one I walk around the table licking each person and rubbing my soft fur against their rough skin. > Ewww, Ginger! Stop it! <, my sister shrieks and pushes me away. Good morning to you too, sunshine! And then momma sits down. Can I have my food please? > Let us start. <, my dad says and then I realize that I am not being included. Breakfast for four, huh? Why bother even calling me, when I don't even get to eat? So I lay down and start sleeping again. One of my favorite occupations ever. The next thing I hear is my dad. > Ginger! Let's go for a walk! < My whole body stiffens and then loosens up again, starting to shake. Did I just hear the word „walk“ ? I love that word! My favorite word of all times! I jump up and I swear, I am even faster than the wind, as I make my way to the door. My family is standing there getting ready and my dad puts my collar and leash on. It's not like I am even going to run away. Uhh! My parents with all of their precautions. Have a little faith in your sweetheart! > No, no! Mom! We have talked about this so often! The dog gets her food after the walk! <, I hear my brother. Damn it! I was really looking forward to that food! And this is how I start my day every single day. How do you start yours? In a perfect world everybody would receive as much love as I do. And this is what I wish for all of my canine friends out there in the world.