

*Dedicated to the little ones.*

*By  
Carol Kuhlman*

*When they arrive and grace this earth they have unconditional trust and love.  
It is within us to show true character to return the same.*

*We spend hours planning and planning doing what we think would be the best. We are  
responsible for those we create. What is the best? Why is our breed so special to us.  
The eyes, yes, has to be those eyes as they stare us down for that last morsel of what ever.  
Those long ears, flopping in the air as they romp and play.*

*Must be the coat, NO not the coat.*

*OK, it must be that never ending tail ( natural or docked) who can get past that tail, flagging  
us to stop and look at what they have brought us...a ball, a shoe (slightly chewed), the toilet  
paper from the downstairs storage area, or of course there is the dirty laundry that you have  
not gotten to yet.*

*Those kisses...what do they say? Thanks, love, where my food!*

*We ask so much of our breed...*

*Agility...to keep the energy level under control and handler out of breath.*

*Conformation... see if we are to the standard.*

*Hunting...our purpose.*

*Obedience...what we can do without hearing voices.*

*Best of all...devoted companion.*

*We teach what we learn from them.*

*Loyalty, nondiscrimination, patience, tolerance.*

*What do they ask of us?*

*The same ( I hope) we give our human family.*

*A warm place to rest their head (your lap).*

*A pat on the head or butt to acknowledge they are OK,*

*A full dish of treats.*

*To have a clean bed to sleep on (yours preferred).*

*Toys to play with and destroy if they please.*

*Room to run, chase, or just lay out and get some sun.*

*Maybe go on a ride or two in the car...and yes get sick,*

*Just remember to bring the towels and spray.*

*They really only ask for one thing most of all*

*OUR love.*

*Our pride in what they accomplish makes  
no sense to them.*

*Yes, they love the attention, that at-ta-boy is always fun to get...more attention to me they  
think,*

*Some with regret may have started out with that at-ta-boy, so proud of you, find themselves  
wondering ?*

*Where are my toys?*

*Where are my treats?*

*Why am I here?*

*What have I done ?*

*Is someone going to come?*

*Where is the sun!*

*We all are responsible to answer those questions.*

*So just remember when we spend those hours of planning, what is best ,we take into account*

*Their love...*

*Their devotion...*

*Their trust...*

*and*

*Show true character by returning the same.*

*The reward for them and us is the same.*

*Our Breed*