A TALE OF TWO DOGS
Dipak Praharaj
Illustrations
Arya Praharaj
This title was developed in an author-illustrator workshop organised at Agartala, Tripura in March 2008.

First Edition 2009
First Reprint 2011 (Saka 1932)
© Dipak Praharaj
₹ 25.00

Published by the Director, National Book Trust, India
Nehru Bhawan, 5 Institutional Area, Phase-II
Vasant Kunj, New Delhi-110 070
Two boys live in a small town.
One boy is rich. He lives in a big house with three floors.
The other boy is poor. He lives in a small hut-like jhuggi.
Both the boys have dogs as pets. The rich boy has a fancy dog.
The poor boy also has a dog. He had picked him up from the street.
Both boys love their dogs. Both take them out for walks.
The rich boy’s dog knows how to ‘fetch’ and many other tricks. He also knows how to balance a ball on his nose.
The poor boy’s dog does not know any tricks! He tries to copy . . . but fails.
The poor boy feels sad. The dog also feels bad. He feels as if he is no good.
One night some thieves come. . . . They eye the big fancy house of the rich boy. They think that the house has lots of money, lots of jewels for them to rob.

One dark night they set off to rob the rich boy’s house.
The poor boy’s dog hears the thieves coming. He follows them. He sees them entering the rich dog’s house. He barks loudly but no one in that house wakes up. After a while, the robbers come out carrying a big sack heavy with stolen items.
The robbers try to run. The poor dog barks loudly and runs to catch them.

He bites a robber on his leg. The robber tries to stab him with a knife but the dog proves smarter!
All the people living nearby hear the dog’s barking and come running. They manage to catch the thieves.

The poor dog beams and looks up at his master.

The poor boy feels proud of his dog. The robbers are caught. The stolen money and jewels are returned to the rich boy’s family.
The rich boy feels sorry that he had been mean. He wants to make up. He offers money. But the poor boy refuses.
The rich boy thinks and thinks hard. How to make up? He gets an idea.
He organises a big party. The poor boy’s dog is given a medal for bravery during the party. The medal dangles around his neck. Everyone feels happy.