

## Once upon a time

Once upon a time there was a mild-mannered cyclist named Super Santa. One warm December afternoon, at a crowded Christmas event, he spotted Ms. Gingerbread. She was an energetic gal with big brown eyes, a ready smile and an incredible ability to get people to dance.

They said hello and soon found themselves moving down the hall, lost in conversation. At one point, they looked up and saw a mistletoe gently swaying above their heads. Their gaze went from the mistletoe to each other. They kissed. Instantly, a tiny bolt of lightning flashed. The air around them sparked. They looked at each other, wide-eyed and a little frightened.

The next day, Super Santa went for a long bike ride. As he rode up the hills, he heard a soft whisper: "Find the perfect fit." At first he ignored it. But then he heard it again. He wondered, does this have something to do with that lightning bolt last night?

On the other side of the city, Ms. Gingerbread was also on wheels, also racing up a (virtual) hill. She was teaching her weekly spin class when she heard a soft voice whisper through the sound system. Over and over it said "Find the perfect fit."

She asked her class what they thought that voice meant. "What voice?" they all said, panting.

After his bike ride, Super Santa rushed over to Ms. Gingerbread's house.

"Umm... did you hear a voice today?"

"Yes, how did you know? "I did, too."

"What did yours say?" "Find the perfect fit."

They stared at each other, trembling.

## The trusty sidekick

One day, the voice whispered, "Don't forget the condiments."

"What?" Super Santa shouted back. "Could you be more specific?!!!!"

Ms. Gingerbread suddenly leapt up and pulled Super Santa to his feet.

"I've got it! I think the voice is saying we need to get a dog and name him Pickles."

And so they did. Three years into their journey, Pickles the Labradoodle joined the quest.

Pickles was a funny one. He never seemed too concerned about where they were going. As long as the three of them were together, Pickles was happy. As they continued their quest, this hairy new member of the family taught them valuable new skillsets:

Wag often.

Life is better when the pack is together.

When a member of the pack comes home, go crazy with excitement.

Always be ready to make new friends.

Live every moment to its fullest.

## A life of adventure and change

They wracked their brains trying to figure out what finding the perfect fit meant.

"I think we're supposed to travel around the country in an RV in search of the Perfect Fit."

"The perfect fit? What does that even mean?" "I don't know."

"OK. Should we give this a try?"

"Yes!" they shouted, their enthusiasm mixed with just the right amount of nervousness.

They bought an RV, nicknamed it the Slim Roller and, before long, were ready to go. The first stop was Burning Man. They didn't find the Perfect Fit there, but they did realize that they were in love.

Days later, the voice came back. Now it whispered: "Live a life of adventure and change".

They looked at each other. "Did you hear that?"

"Yes. What's it mean?" "I think it means we're on the right track"

From there, they kept searching for the Perfect Fit. They went places that they'd never been and saw things that they may never see again.

Sometimes, they searched in nature. They explored Yellowstone, went skinny-dipping in the Grand Tetons and hiked the Grand Canyon.

Sometimes they searched with friends. They went to Coachella music festivals, Sonoma weekend getaways and Tahoe ski cabins.

They also searched in really weird places, like Willie Nelson concerts, Walmart parking lots and even an RV park in Lucky, NV.

They searched high and low for the Perfect Fit. While they didn't know exactly what they were looking for, they felt they were getting closer.

## The Perfect Fit

Looking at Ms. Gingerbread, Super Santa started to ask himself heartfelt questions: Hadn't he already found his Perfect Fit? Didn't each of their random adventures show all the different ways they fit perfectly together?

Super Santa used to think it was impossible for two people to fit so well together. But now he realized that no matter what they're doing- camping in the backcountry, dancing to EDM at music festivals, sleeping at Wal-Mart, or hanging with each other's families – he loved being with her.

She was his Perfect Fit. He loved Ms. Gingerbread so deeply that he would walk 500 miles and he would walk 500 more just to be the man who walked 1,000 miles to fall down at her door.

فقط يك راه بود كه بفهمد اگر او هم اون را به همان اندازه دوست دارد

Running to his workbench, he got to work on a new creation. When he finished, he could barely conceal his excitement. He wanted to give it her what he had built right away. But he had to wait for the right time.

To be continued....