

The Hundred and One Dalmatians

The wicked CRUELLA DE VIL loves Dalmatian dogs – because she thinks their skins make lovely coats. She has kidnapped the Dearlys' beautiful puppies, along with other Dalmatians. Here, she makes plans for disposing of all the puppies.

CRUELLA DE VIL: Saul! Jasper! Turn off that television. And turn on the lights. And turn the sound right down. I have something to talk to you about my lads. Tonight, the dogs must be killed tonight.

Yes I know we were going to wait until they were bigger Jasper, but some of them are, the older puppies, and the smaller ones can be made into gloves. Anyway, that's not the point. The point is, they must be killed before anyone finds them. There's been too much in the newspapers at the moment. They'll even be on the television news tomorrow morning. All England's looking for the Dearlys' lost puppies.

Kill the Dearlys' puppies and let the rest grow until they're big enough? What a stupid suggestion Saul. How on earth can we tell which are the Dearlys'? Have they got different spots or something? Can you really tell the difference?

Someone's bound to hear them barking and tell the police. I've told my husband. He's going to ship the skins abroad. I'll be keeping a few for my own coat. I've decided to make the coat reversible. Baby Seal on the inside, and Dalmatian on the outside.

These puppies must be got rid of quickly.

How? I don't care how. Stand on them, smother them, drop them off the roof. Have you got any gas, or chloroform? There are lots of lovely ways to do the job. If I had time, I'd do it myself.

Yes, I know I'd do it beautifully Jasper. You could watch. It would be such a pleasure for you. You could learn from an expert. I am sorely tempted. No, I have to get back to London.

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After you have killed them, they must be skinned immediately. And we will be counting the bodies. If you have let even one of the 99 puppies escape I'll throw you out of Hell Hall.

Goodnight, and Goodbye you horrible little beasts. You'll be so much improved as skins. And I can't wait until you're made into my own special coat. I'm really looking forward to that!

by Dodie Smith, adapted by LAMDA