Sunny by Joey Cole

Sunny was familiar with rejection from a young age.

Mere days after seeing sunlight for the first time, his raging father beat him nearly to death.

The sky, which just yesterday was vibrantly blue, w

Sometimes on weekends, the group would go out for walks around the neighborhood. # hatever pride Sonny had taken over the four&legged creature for having to be walked about on a leash was diminished by the firm grip the standing people kept on his hand as they strolled, though they would allow him one free hand to pick black berries when they passed a bush of the delicious treat.

e would stow a few away in his diaper and present them proudly to ) ikki the ne't day, an act of guilt for having another home.

The guilt turned to desperation the night the standing people did not come.

e waited for hours, gripping the bars of his enclosure and watching the doors, waiting for them to come back for him, wondering how they could forget him.

That night he rocked and cried alongside ) ikki, he\*d been rejected, just like her.

The final rejection was the worst of them all.