

# Be Careful What You Wish For

*by* Jerry Ratch

I got my new dog today,  
a toy terrier, as advertised,  
from an online retailer,  
and printed him or her,  
I'm not sure which,  
because of an inherent glitch  
built into the system,  
on my new 3-D printer,

but as you might have guessed,  
there are more than a few  
problems. For starters,  
it was totally unclear from the  
get-go pack included  
that this one in particular  
was going to be a bitch.

Apparently I hit the wrong switch.  
Also, I thought I was buying  
one of those new-fangled  
“barkless” dogs, when in fact  
all that switch does is  
make her bark less.

The all-night yapping  
is a big problem  
in my apartment building.  
My neighbors do not appreciate  
loud-mouthed bitches, at all,

and now me and my new bitch  
are facing possible eviction.

Worse, she is apparently capable of  
mouthing off a foul-mouthed string  
of curses, in any language you choose.  
I purposely set her on Chinese lately  
to throw some amount of confusion  
and doubt into the mix,  
especially when the police arrive.

Thank God there's no dog poop to  
deal with, however. So there is some  
good news in all of this.  
No plastic bags tied around your belt  
while trying to figure out who,  
exactly, was the master,  
and why you love this animal  
so.

