

Prologue

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Kon'nichiwa! My name is Sakiko, I live in Osaka, Japan, and am 11 years old. I have a white Persian cat named Yuki, and a brown Chihuahua named Chibi. By the way, kon'nichiwa means hello, Sakiko means blossom, yuki means snow, and chibi means something small. I have two younger siblings, a brother and a sister. My brother's name is Asahi (he's 1), which means sunlight, and my sister's is Akari (she's 6), meaning red plum. She was named that because her cheeks were a soft red when she was born, and they reminded us of plums. My mom's name is Mizuki, and my Dad's is Kaki. Mizuki means beautiful moon or water moon, Kaki means fire. My best friend is from Canada and her name is Arrabella. She speaks Japanese well for someone who just moved here a year ago. Oh, and by the way, we are having our very first sleepover with each other on the weekend! It's going to be at my house.

Anyway, here's more about me: I have long, neat, black hair and freckles. I wish I had glasses. I want them so bad I've tried to make my eyesight bad on purpose. My favorite hobbies are drawing, writing, and more.

Chapter One

Guess what's happening tomorrow! Arra's coming for a sleepover! I'm so excited I'm going to explode! So we have a plan all laid out for tonight.

Here's the timeline: 3:30 Arra comes! 4:00 We go to the movies. 5:45 We go to Sushi Sanshin. 6:15 We go home and watch YouTube. 7:30 We play truth or dare. 8:00

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we play "Skeletons in the closet". 8:10 Do each other's make-up blindfolded. 8:45 Take Chibi for a walk. 9:00 Play hide-and-seek. 9:30 Go to sleep. 7:30 Wake up. 8:00 Start making friendship bracelets. 8:30 Breakfast at Micasadeco&Cafe. 9:15 Go home and finish making friendship bracelets. 10:00 Arrabella goes home. Doesn't it all sound awesome? Well, except for the part where she goes home.

Anyways, it is Saturday, April 16, and I am waiting for Akari, Asahi, Mom, and Dad to come and pick me up from my horseback riding lesson today. I take classes at Osaka Tsurumi Ryokuchi Joba-en. My favorite horse there is a black and white Paint named Sachiko (meaning bliss). She is the best!

Oh, my family is here now! I go up to the car, excited to see baby Asahi's face when he sees me! I look in his window, only to find an empty car seat! I asked where he was, and they said he was with his friend from daycare, so I didn't worry too much. We started driving away and I asked, "So who's this friend of Asahi's?"

Mom said, "Sakiko, honey, you always worry so much when one of your siblings is gone! Just chill out!"

When we got home, I was in my room reading. My mom called me and said, "Sakiko! Come here!"

"Coming!" I ran downstairs urgently. "What is it, Mom? Is it Asahi?"

"No, honey, I just got off the phone with Mrs. Cayka, Arrabella's mom."

"What did she say?" I asked, worriedly. Mom told me the news. I was in my room crying for the next hour.

Chapter Two

"Sakiko! Dinner time!" called Dad.

"Coming, Dad," I said. I wiped my eyes in front of my mirror. I tried to make it look like I hadn't been crying for the past hour.

Apparently, I took too long because Akari called to me, "Sakiko! You're taking too long! Hurry up!" I ran down the stairs so I wouldn't be yelled at by a six-year-old again.

"You're finally here," Akari said, sounding very unimpressed.

"Asahi's still with his friend?" I asked, completely ignoring Akari. Mom nodded.

"Just making sure." Akari rolled her eyes. "Ooh, tonkatsu!" I said. I just love tonkatsu. So does Asahi.

Dad asked, "How was your riding class?" I described how Sachiko just randomly broke into a gallop, and how terrifying it was. About 10 minutes later, we were all finished and brought our dishes into the kitchen.

"I'm going to go give Arrabella a call, okay?" I said to my family.

"Okay, honey," said Mom.

I walked upstairs slowly because I just love the feeling of the cold hardwood on my bare feet. When I got to my room, I pulled out my iPad and called Arra on FaceTime. She answered as soon as I called as if she were waiting for me to call.

"Hi!" I said. She looked so terrible. She had her hair tied back in a messy ponytail, her bangs almost down to her eyes. She had a blanket up to her neck.

"Hi," she replied tiredly. "You holding up ok?"

I couldn't stop crying," I told her. She gave a tiny bit of a smile.

She said, "I can barely stay awake. It's so cold here."

"Oh, then maybe I'll call you tomorrow after school?"

"No, it's ok, I can stay for maybe ten more minutes?"

"Arra, you look so tired. Are you sure?"

"Sakiko. Don't worry about me. I'll be fine," said Arrabella.

"Ok, but only ten minutes," I said.

"Oh, my doctor is here. I should probably go. He's got to take me away for this test," Arra told me.

"Ok, bye! Good luck!"

"Bye, Sakiko! Thanks, I could use as much luck as I can get." I waved as she hung up.

"That was probably the most painful FaceTime with Arra. Ever," I whispered to myself. I was watching YouTube for about an hour until Arra even texted me back.

"Call me, please, I have terrible news," her text said. I immediately called her back. She was in tears.

"What? What's wrong?"

The Lost Empress

As Aria was running down the stairs she glanced up at the crystal ceiling above her that cast a blue hue. She ran into the forest right in front of the school, tripping over her feet as she ran. She skidded to a stop, finally out of the school's watch. Aria walked down to the lake not far from the school. The light blue water of the lake was magical. The school's blinding lights and loud noises made it very hard to focus. Aria walked down the sandy shore line thinking about New Brook Academy, the top school in Clover Bay. She imagined its calm, peaceful campus where the most powerful attended and wished she could be there.

“Aria!” Gemma said. “I’ve been looking for you.”

“Yes?”

“You must come and see the results.”

“What results?” Aria exclaimed.

“You never heard?”

“About what?”

“The results for who’s going to New Brook Academy.”

“REALLY?”

“Yes!”

Gemma and Aria walked through the hall. “Aria, the line to see who got in is so long let’s look after school, shall we?”

“Why not.” Aria left Gemma and walked down the steps out to the field where her P.E. class was. Most of the time Aria just sat at the edge of the field and watched the other kids play OverWatcher, Mega fly and Edge Ball. This class was supposedly for kids who had powers.

The Lost Empress

Everyone thinks I have powers but I've never seen any sign, she thought. When class was finally over, Gemma and Aria met at the name board. "Not this year," Aria said.

"Aria, if you really want to go then just add your name!" Gemma exclaimed.

"You're right. If I really want to go I'll just add my name on the board."

"I'll help." Gemma touched the last line and Aria's name appeared in full.

The next morning Aria gathered with all the other new students at the dock. "Alrighty! Let's get going to New Brook Academy," the professor said. All the kids got on the boat. As the boat sped away from the shore the magical light blue water faded into a dark navy blue. After an hour the distant outline of a massive castle appeared on the horizon.

"WOW this school is so big," Aria said in an excited voice as they entered the castle. The marble white walls stretched out for miles. The purple crystal roof and white rocks glimmered in the bright afternoon sun. Most of the kids went straight to the Principal's office. Aria walked down to what she thought was a garden. She kept walking until she got to the shore line of the lake. The lake was shimmering in the sun as it set over the water. Pink cherry blossoms line the pinky white sand.

"It's the most beautiful beach ever." Night soon fell over the school. Aria walked back. She hoped that she would not get in trouble for staying up this late.

Lessons started the next day. "Good morning class, today we will go to the library, you will find a book that interests you and once you find a book you and a partner will research that topic." As Aria walked down the hall she looked over to the walls that were covered in

The Lost Empress

gold-framed pictures of old students - most of whom Aria didn't know. The silver lockers outlined in gold paint were not something Aria had often seen.

Aria glanced up at the tall bookshelves made of gray marble. All the books looked like they were made up of gold, silver or yellow crystal. Aria walked down to the last row of books. There she found an old journal of a lost empress, Aura , the empress of love. "Class, have you found your books yet?" the professor asked. Most of the kids said yes. The professor paired everyone up. There was no one to be partners with Aria, so she would do this project alone.

That afternoon she walked back to the shore. She sat under a cherry blossom tree and opened the book she had got from the library.

"There's a family tree," Aria said in a quiet voice.

"Aura, empress of love and Hurell god of peace, had a kid Aria Ember. Her powers are unknown to this day."

"Wait, that's my name"

"I have to find her!"

OLIVIA

"Olivia, come down here," My mom said in her commanding voice.

"Just a minute! I'm not ready yet," I said to keep her waiting.

"OLIVIA! NOW!" She said, more agitated than before.

"Fine, I'm coming," I said with disappointment in my voice.

When I came down the stairs, my mom was straightening my brother out and talking to him. Then she looked at me with disappointment on her face.

"Where were you? We were about to leave without you?"

"Yes, I know. I'm sorry, I just don't want to sit in a two-hour-long graduation ceremony," I said.

"Well, this is your brother's graduation and believe me, it's not something you want to miss," she announces.

"Ok guys, enough with the chit-chat. We're going to be late and don't you guys want to get good seats?" my brother said anxiously.

I'm looking out the window of my car and thinking of how much fun it would be in San Francisco with my dad. I know he said he was just going there for work and that's half true, but I know that the other half is because he needed a break from my mom. They've been fighting for a couple of months now. It's hard to hear them argue all the time. My brother always tries to get me out of the house so we don't have to listen to them.

When we arrived at the graduation ceremony, I think we were pretty early because there was almost no one there. At least we were going to have great front-row

OLIVIA

seats. After about ten minutes, the place started to fill up with families. I looked around and I saw a person from school. His name was Brian. Brian was one of the popular kids who has never noticed me, even though I have been in the same class as him ever since we were in kindergarten. It doesn't even really matter though, because I'm used to not being noticed. Anyways, I only have one best friend and we have been friends for as long as I can remember. Her name is Amber.

When the announcer was calling out everyone's names, my brother's name was finally announced: "Lincoln Kart, please come up and accept your diploma." It was nice to hear my brother's name after all of those random names. I wonder who Brian was here for. Brian's last name is Louk so I kept on trying to hear a name that ended with Louk. About two minutes later I heard, "Julia Louk, please come up and accept your diploma". So Brian was here for his sister, Julia.

After about two hours, the graduation ceremony was FINALLY over! It was time to go home now, and that meant my brother was going to leave in two weeks. On the way out, I saw Brian again and the weirdest thing happened. He called my name and waved. Of course, I waved back because that was the right thing to do, but it was so weird to know that he actually noticed me.

When I went to bed I kept on thinking about what it would be like when my brother goes to college in two weeks. Would he come back for every holiday or would I see him on the weekends? I just didn't know.

"Good morning, Lincoln," I said with a happy expression.

OLIVIA

Lincoln said, "Olivia, I have to tell you something that you can't tell anyone else. You promise?"

"I promise. What is it?" I said, anxiously.

"Ok, are you ready to hear this because this will be REALLY surprising?"

"Just say it already!"

"I'm not going to go to college..."

I can't believe it. My brother has been dreaming of college since he was seven.

"But Lincoln, you've been talking on and on about college. It's practically all you talk about. Besides, how will you let Mom and Dad know that you're not going? You won't have anywhere to live, so you'll have to live here!" I exclaimed.

"I don't know yet," my brother said.

"Please think about going to college because that's where you meet new people and learn new things. Also, I'll worry about you too much if you don't," I said to my brother looking him straight in the eye.

"I think I might have to stay with Aunt Cloe. Aunty and Mom hate each other and never talk. So it will be perfect." He said, trying to sound happy.

"You do know that Mom and Dad are going to figure it out one day, right? Sure Mom doesn't ever talk to Aunt Cloe, but that doesn't mean she's never going to figure it out. It will feel so terrible when you've realized you've done the wrong thing, and do you really want to be feeling guilty all day and night long? Even if you do tell Mom and Dad later, they will still be mad at you for lying to them," I said, catching my breath.

OLIVIA

"You know what? Fine, I'll go tell Mom and Dad right now. I bet you they won't even care a little bit. They know that I'm not doing well in school. They know that my friends aren't going to school, and I think they've seen it coming," He said, trying to prove his point.

Lincoln went up to Mom and Dad and started to talk, but then I realized Mom and Dad weren't freaking out (like usual). I think what he said was true and they did see it coming. I guess he really isn't going to college after all.

The Glass Prisoner

By: Elliette Brookes

Our story begins with a small eleven year old kid. Her name was Emma Baqure. Every night before bed, her mother would tell her stories about her dad. Her dad was a policeman, and since he had been so good at solving mysteries, they promoted him to be a detective.

Emma was trying to squeeze uncomfortably into a small restaurant with her soccer team. Their team had just won a tournament and their coach had promised a nice lunch afterwards. They decided to go to Red Robin. Emma ordered a bowl of spaghetti, because it was her very favorite dish in the whole world. She also ordered a sprite. Most of her teammates ordered chicken nuggets and chocolate milk.

“What a waste of a good meal!” Emma was thinking several times during the meal. Emma got mad every time she thought that. Emma knew that chicken nuggets and chocolate milk were both delicious, but she had only had them once. Emma’s mother was always very anxious when people mentioned those two things and Emma had only just found out why. It turned out that chicken nuggets were her dad’s favorite food, and chocolate milk was his favorite drink. Even though Emma’s dad had passed away three years ago, Emma’s mom was very conscious about things he used to like.

“Did you really order all this food?” said a waiter who made Emma jump out of her skin. The waiter was holding three whole platters of food.

“Ha!,” Emma said, startled. “No, I guess my whole team had to go to the bathroom.”

Someone walking past said to Emma and the waiter, “Ha, they’re all taking selfies with the toilet paper.”

The waiter put all the food down on the table, and left. Emma tried to take a sip of her water but the ice cubes were stuck together and made it impossible to drink. She sighed and sat back against the chair.

“Pssst,” said a voice. Emma sat up. “Psst,” said the voice again.

“Who’s there?” Emma whispered, looking around

“Me, obviously,” said the same voice.

“Ivan,” said a different voice that sounded a lot like a female, “she doesn’t know who you are!”

“That is so not true Ivey ,everyone knows who I am,” said the first voice.

“Ivan, you’re an ICE CUBE, no one knows who you are.”

“Uuughh, you’re being so rude, I can’t work with you anymore.”

“Ivan, we have to help her.”

“Ughh, fine.”

“Oh my gosh, what the heck is happening!?” Emma thought.

“You there,” said the first voice.

“Don’t you dare drink out of that glass!”

“Who’s talking,” asked Emma in a whisper.

“I’m not sure how to tell you this.... But we’re ice cubes.”

“ICE CUBES?” said Emma “What the heck?!”

"I can't believe I'm talking to ice cubes!!!!!!!"

"I told you we shouldn't tell her!" said the second ice cube.

"Oh, whatever, no one cares lvey. ...Annnnyway, kid, ask to get this cup to go, then go back to your house, put us in with an ice pack, and thennn we'll explain stuff to you."

"Ivan, her teammates are coming back, we have to be quiet. Kid, just take this cup home with you no matter what!!!!!!!!And whatever you do, don't drink it!"

"Oh great, I'm taking orders from ice cubes."

"Sorry, we took so long, Emma," said Tylie, the team's goalie, who was often found doing cartwheels while she was supposed to be focused on the game. "I hope you didn't mind."

"Oh yeah, I'm fine sitting at an empty table for half an hour," thought Emma.

The rest of the team came back to the table and ate their food very slowly.

"Oh my gosh, finish your food!" Emma was thinking.

Finally all of the team set off. Emma got a ride home with her coach.

"Thanks for the ride coach!" Emma said as she walked along the walkway up to her house. Emma's mom worked weird shifts at the hospital so Emma often came home to an empty house.

Emma's older twin brothers, Stuart and Samuel, both had jobs and overexerted themselves in sports. Other than that Emma had a baby sister who was almost always home. Sunset, her little sister, was born just a few weeks before Emma's father had passed away. Lucky for their mom, Emma's twin brother, Ethan, was always home.

But today, Emma was the lucky one because Ethan had taken Sunset out on a walk with

their dog. First Emma went over to the fridge and got an ice pack. Then Emma went up to her and Ethan's room. She had also grabbed a bowl from the kitchen. Emma placed the ice pack in the bowl and placed the to-go cup she'd gotten from the restaurant on her stool and poured the contents into the bowl that she had placed on her stool.

"Hey, Ivey! We're in the kid's bedroom," said the ice cube on the right. Now that Emma could actually see the ice cubes, she could clearly see tiny arms and legs.

"Oh, yay, we're in someone's bedroom," said the female sarcastically. "Guess what Ivan, I don't care! So can we please get on with this?!"

"Ok, well, What's your name kid?" said the male ice cube.

"Oh, it's Emma."

"I'm Ivan and this is Ivey," said Ivan.

"So, it's a good thing we're done doing the formal introductions," said Ivey," because we're actually here to talk about something important."

"See that glass?" Ivan pointed at the glass that Emma had brought back from the restaurant. "It's enchanted...to transport anyone who drinks out of it to a magical world with no warning." He looked at Ivey, and she continued his sentence. She waited, then said:

"And it's enchanted by your father."

Mount Doom

Long, long ago there was a very serious forest fire which took place at Mount Doom. There was a small village at the base of Mount Doom named Rain Village. In Rain Village there were two little girls known as the town heroes and here's why.

On a cold, rainy morning these two heroes went for a hike to the top of Mount Doom. When they got past the quarter mark, they ran into a huge problem. They were lost in the forest of Mount Doom - a forest of 1000 acres. When they realized what had happened to them, they were in shock.

"Can you check the map?"

"Yeah sure... looks like we are west of Mount Doom."

"What?! We're supposed to be heading east, not west."

"WHAT?!"

"Don't tell me we're... lost."

"Umm, I think we are."

"Oh no!"

The two girls were trying to figure a way out of this disaster.

As they were walking around the mountain, one of the girls tripped on a steep edge and went tumbling down the hill and hit her head on a rock. It was bleeding like crazy and it wouldn't stop.

"Are you ok?" Avree said in a shaky voice.

"Ugh. Oww, my head. Help!"

"OMG your h..he..head! It's bleeding out!"

"WH... WHA..." With that, Olivia passed out.

"Hello, are you okay?!" Avree said in a scared voice.

While Avree was trying to figure out what had happened. Someone came up behind her and tapped her on the shoulder.

"Hi," someone said in a sweet voice.

"Oh, hi! Sorry, it's just my best friend passed out and she's not waking up. Can you please help me?"

"Oh yes, of course I can help you."

"Great! Thank you so, so much!"

"So, what do you need help with first?"

"Do you have any type of bandage?"

"Yeah, I do. I'll grab it."

"Okay."

"Here!"

"Thanks."

While Avree was wrapping the bandage around Olivia's head, she started waking up.

"Avree? Is that you?" said Oliva.

"Oliva! You're awake," Avree said.

"Yep. I'm awake and feeling better."

"Well, we should probably head back home, especially after that."

"What?! No! We're going to finish this hike and I don't care what's going to happen to us, but we will complete our goal and nothing is going to stop us!"

"Okay, fine."

The girls started going up and over to the right or as some people say, the north.

While they were walking, Oliva heard an explosion type of sound, but instead of saying something, Oliva just ignored it. But, when Avree looked up the mountain she saw lava tumbling down the hill.

“Umm Oliva is that lava?” Avree said, pointing up the hill.

“Yep, that’s lava!”

“Well, when you said nothing can stop us, I think you were wrong.”

“Yeah, I think so too.”

Oliva gasps, “What about the town? We have to say something and get everyone to evacuate!”

“Yeah, you’re right. We can’t let everyone we know die.”

“We have to do something!”

“Well, let’s not just stand here. Come on! We have to warn the town.”

As the girls entered back into the town, they went straight to the town’s government. When the two girls told the government, he was shocked.

They two girls went around telling everyone what was happening and as more people found out, it ended up on the news and more and more people started evacuating the town.

When the lava started hitting the town, the two girls and their families were the last people to leave.

And that’s why the two girls are heroes.

THE END

One Life Nine Kids
Jade Neigel
Gr. 5
Beattie Elementary

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Prologue

Hi, I'm Yuni and this is the story of my crazy life. It gets crazier and crazier and crazier! The reason my life is so crazy is because I have nine kids in my family! With my parents, our family has eleven people. You're probably thinking...some people have fourteen people in their family..... well I don't care, I have nine and that's a lot.

There's Kai(15) Jake and Yoon who are twins (10) Yuni(me) and my twin brother Choy. We don't usually fight, we just hang out. When I have a problem, he doesn't laugh at me like my other siblings, he just helps me. We are both 13, and then I have my sisters, Isabelle (11) Ophelia (8) Daniella (16) Mackenzie(6). They're all so annoying. Oh I'm forgetting my parent's names. Well, we call them mom and dad, but their real names are Luis and Marga.

Hey, so now you know a lot about my family, so let's move on to me. My name is Yuni Frazer Lee. I live in New York. Some of my favorite things are Sushi, all different kinds of sushi. My favorite color is lilac. I think it's really pretty, but all my brothers laugh at me because it's so girly, but I don't care. My favorite hobby is drawing and painting and artsy stuff like that. I can speak Japanese, but my parents don't, so when they walk by my door and I'm on a call with my friends, they can't understand what I'm saying. All they hear is gibberish, but Mila(BFF) knows what I'm talking about. So I'm glad I know Japanese. One time I was on a call with Mila and I wasn't speaking Japanese. We were talking about our deepest secrets, and my mom was walking by, and I was in so much trouble.

Chapter 1

One day, my sister Danielle and I wanted to go shopping, so my mom drove us up to the mall. It's the best place to go, but when we got there it was really busy. When we got inside my sister saw someone and said, "You're not going to believe who I just saw!" It was Taylor Swift! The thing is, I'm not a big fan of her music, but my sister went crazy and she said, "OMG, hi! I'm a really big fan of your music, it's so so good, can I please get your autograph?"

Taylor Swift replied with, "Oh sure, there you go."

"Thank you so, so much," my sister said.

After Danielle got her autograph she kept staring at Taylor. I was really bored, so I decided to go on my own and shop. After 2 hours, when I was coming out of the store, I saw my mom and Danielle, and I knew I was in big trouble. I walked over to them, and my mom looked furious. She yelled so loud the whole mall could hear her. I was scared because the rule in our family is that YOU ALL HAVE TO STAY TOGETHER. It stinks, but that's just how it is in my family. I walked up to them with a really scared face, and she yelled even more.

When I got home I was grounded for a week and two days, but that was ok I guess. I would have lots of time to work on my school project. It's called "Young Artist" and if you win then you can go to TRU, the University in our city. I really wanted to go, so I really hoped I would win. I was pretty happy that I was grounded, so I could just work on my project. I didn't have to do it, but it's drawing and I love to draw, so it can't be that bad. Right?

One Life Nine Kids
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I was drawing something really hard - a human heart. I needed to make it look really good, but when I was working on it, my sisters came in yelling. I could not focus and it was awful, so I asked them to please stop fighting and told them that I was trying to work. Mackenzie, my other sister that sleeps in my room, said, "I don't care, go somewhere else." I turned red and stormed out of there. They were being so annoying.

Something that my siblings didn't know was that I had a secret in the backyard. Actually, no one knows about it besides my parents. It's the shed. I go there when I'm sad or mad and right then it was a perfect time.

When I got in there it was like heaven! It was so quiet and nice. It was the perfect place to work. As I was drawing, I must have dozed off because I woke up a bit confused, but I was almost finished and that was good. Anyway, I had to go eat dinner.

After dinner, I found that my little sister had gone into the shed and destroyed my artwork. When I went to my mom she said, "It's fine. You can just do it next year."

"But I spent so long on this. Aren't you going to ground her?" I asked.

My mom said, "She's just little. She doesn't understand grounding yet. How about I'll let you not be grounded?" I agreed.

Now I was allowed to go to my friend's house for a sleepover. There we worked on our projects. I drew a new human heart that was even better than before. A few days later, on the announcements at school it said that my friend won Young Artists and I did too. When I won I told my mom, and she was so proud of me. My siblings congratulated me, "Good job! You've always wanted to win."

It was like a dream came true.

New Home

Long, long ago there lived a girl named Zita. She was 13 years old. She lived with her mother and father. Zita had an older sister and a younger brother.

One night, she was sleeping, and in her dream, she saw Vilo and Tessah. Vilo and Tessah were her best friends. When she moved to Vancouver, she was separated from them, so in the dream, she hugged them but they had faded. She woke up. It was only 1:43am!

Zita had been having nightmares since she had moved.

She hopped out of the window thinking she could find a way to get to them. She knew that Lyra, her other friend, was going to go to Florida so she could sneak in the car. It would get her about half way.

Zita opened the trunk, crawled in and shut the door with a *woosh*. She heard the radio crank up really loud and others hop in. That must have been Lyra and her dad. The drive was long so she dozed off.

When she woke up, Lyra's mom called and said, "We're going to get checked in and start unloading the trunk."

They walked inside when Lyra opened the trunk!

"Hi!" said Zita.

Lyra screamed. Zita covered her mouth knowing she may alert her parents.

"Okay, okay, you caught me, but please don't tell your parents!" Zita pleaded.

"WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?" Lyra whispered.

"I came to go to Vilo and Tessah!" Zita said.

"That's in Bermuda. That's still like 1000 miles away!" Lyra said.

Zita crawled out of the trunk, doubt weighing on her soul.

"Y-you can stay with me if you don't let my parents see you," Lyra stammered. Zita nodded, her soul feeling lighter.

Zita helped carry the luggage and brought it to the closet where she would hide.

The next day, Zita was going to leave, so she could get a head start.

She was tired the next day and bought a taxi ride. On the way, about 1 hour from Bermuda, Zita saw something on the side of the road.

"Stop the car!" Zita said. The taxi came to a ragged stop.

"I can't wait for you kid!" he said.

Zita hopped out of the taxi, deciding it was worth it. She nudged the object she saw from the taxi, hoping it was alive. A whine of pain came from the creature. Zita saw it was a dragon!

"H-hello" Zita stammered.

"Hello," the dragon said in a high pitched voice.

Zita screamed and the dragon scrambled away. She felt sorry for the dragon so she bolted after it. When Zita caught up, she realized it was limping and she could see every rib! Zita also noticed that it looked really exhausted.

Zita stopped and saw a pizza shop! She put my hands in her pockets and realized she had no money. Her stomach growled. Zita decided to sneak in and steal some pizza!

She walked in and ordered three pepperoni pizzas. She grabbed the pizza once it was done and ran. Zita saw that the dragon had an owner who lived on the streets!

“Here,” she said, handing them two of the pizza boxes. She looked back, nodded and smiled.

Zita spent the night with them. She realized that sometimes you are placed in just the right place to be a part of a story.

End Note: A story typed to tell a lesson.

The War Between Man and Sharks

Men and sharks were at war.

There was a shark named Rutt. His family died to hunters 1 year ago. This meant that Rutt was the last great white male alive.

One night Rutt went out to look for some food. "I'll find something," he said nervously.

"Hey!" someone whispered.

"Who is there?" asked Rutt.

"Quiet! My name is Mya."

Rutt swam over to Mya.

"There are hunters above us."

"HUNTERS?!" yelled Rutt.

The hunter heard the yell and said, "Down there!"

Rutt charged up to the surface and attacked the hunters. One hunter yelled, "Help!" but then disappeared.

Another boat nearby heard that hunter scream "help." On that boat stood Jack Sparrow. "Over there!" yelled Jack.

Rutt and Mya swam away with fear.

"Rutt, we can end the war by killing the hunters."

"Don't you think that's a little brutal?" asked Rutt.

"NO!"

"Why?"

"Because they kill us," said Mya.

"Oh yeah, you're right."

So, they went where the hunters lived and waited until they came.

Then the hunters came out and attacked. Rutt killed 50 hunters. Then Rutt and Maya killed Jack. And the sharks won the war.

The End

Emily and the Band

I am Emily. It is September 12, 2022. I'm sitting in my mom's car. She asks, "How was school?"

I say, "It was okay."

When I get home, I open the barn door. I pet Sam, and he neighs. I walk with him around the backyard. After half an hour, we go back to the barn. I wash my hands and feed him some carrots. I say, "Here are some carrots, Sam."

I go inside and complete my homework. I sit down for dinner with my family. Rosie says, "I joined a band at school."

My mom says, "When is your concert?"

Rosie says, "It is next week."

I get up, brush my teeth, change my pajamas, and get into bed.

When I wake up I get ready. My mom and dad drive Rosie and I to school.

"Goodbye", say mom and dad at the same time.

"Goodbye", Rosie and I say back.

I walk to meet Sofia. "Hi," I say to her as she practices for the soccer match after school.

She says, "Hi, want to play soccer?"

I say, "Yes, I want to play". We play for fifteen minutes.

The bell rings. I say "Bye, see you later".

She says, "Meet you at snack recess."

I say, "Okay."

Emily and the Band by Avaani Gill, Grade 5, Dufferin Elementary

We head to our classrooms. When I get inside the classroom, I see a poster. It says, "Students interested in joining the school band come to the gym at lunchtime." I play the guitar, piano, and I took singing lessons when I was ten years old.

Class time starts, the teacher teaches, and soon it is snacktime. I eat my strawberries and banana. The recess bell rings. I head out for recess. I see Sofia. She is playing with Lia and Brian. They were in my class in second grade.

"Hi," I say.

Sofia says, "Hi, do you want to play? You don't have to if you don't want to."

"Okay, I actually want to go for a walk."

She says, "Okay."

I walk away. I want to practice guitar. I brought it to school. I ask the supervisor, "Can I go get my guitar from my locker?"

She says, "Yes." I go get my guitar. I play my guitar.

Three girls walk over to me. One of the girls says, "I'm Lisa. You are good at playing the guitar."

Another girl says, "I am Jane. You could join the band."

The third girl says, "I am Ainsley. Do you want to join?"

I say, "I am Emily. I play the guitar, piano, and I can sing, but I am scared of singing in front of many people."

Lisa says, "Don't worry, once when I was in the band last year, I made a mistake. The people watching the concert didn't laugh."

I say, "I'll think about it."

Emily and the Band by Avaani Gill, Grade 5, Dufferin Elementary

Jane says, "Let's be friends."

I say, "Okay."

Jane says, "I'm signing up to play piano in the band."

Lisa says, "I'm signing up to sing."

Ainsley says, "I'm signing up to play the drums."

I say, "I guess I might sign up to play the guitar."

Jane says, "Don't worry about people watching you."

I say, "I'll try."

The snacktime recess bell rings. I say, "Time to go to class."

We all say bye to each other. The teacher gives a Math test. I am good at Math and Language Arts. Then, before we go to the gym, I put on my gym school uniform. The t-shirt is blue. It has "Blue River High School" written on it in green writing and green shorts. After I change, I walk out of the changing room. I grab a soccer ball and start following the teacher's instructions.

A girl named Penny says, "I like soccer. I am on the soccer team this year."

I say, "That's cool. My friend Sofia is also on the soccer team"

Penny says, "Sofia is my friend, too."

I say, "That's cool." Gym time is over.

Soon, school is over. I go to band practice after school. Jane Green, Lisa Maxwell, Ainsley Willow, and another girl named Julie Talbot are there.

When I get my guitar and start playing it, Julie says, "Emily, I think you are bad at playing the guitar. I am so much better than you. Give me your guitar!"

I say, "No, I think I'll play it."

Emily and the Band by Avaani Gill, Grade 5, Dufferin Elementary

Julie says, "Okay, I'll take it then".

Lisa says, "Let Emily play it." I'm about to run away, but Mr. Smith comes. Julie stops trying to take my guitar for now.

Mr. Smith says, "Pick up your instruments." I grab my guitar. Mr. Smith teaches us how to sing.

At the end of practice, I see posters that say, "Emily Wilson is a bad guitar player". I take all of them down. I try not to cry. I put them in my backpack to take home to show my family.

When my parents see the posters they say, "Who did this?"

I say, "I don't know. I guess it could be Julie Talbot."

My cousin Charlotte asks, "Who is Julie Talbot?"

My aunt says, "Ignore her."

I go to Sam. I feed him. It calms me down. I say to Sam, "I'm scared of joining and going on stage." I do my homework. I eat dinner and I go to sleep.

When I wake up, the next morning, I head to school and see a note on my locker. I read it out loud, "I am sorry, Emily. I don't have many friends. I'm bad at playing the guitar. From: Julie"

At recess, I say to Julie, "You are not bad at playing the guitar. You need some improvement. Let me teach you." We become friends.

When I go home, after school my Mom says, "How was school today?"

"It was good." I told her that Julie and I became friends. My family is glad.

We did very well on our first concert!

On My Way Home

One day May was sitting at the table. She sat up suddenly because she heard a noise. May looked around the kitchen. She laughed, because it was just her cat Saige meowing because she was hungry. May got up and headed to her room. As May walked out of the kitchen she grabbed a can of tuna. She got to her room. She grabbed Saige's bowl and put the tuna in it. She went to her desk to write her book and out of the corner of her eye she saw a big shadow. May looked up but nothing was there. Then her mom called her and said, "Honey, come downstairs or we will be late for camp."

May forgot about the stupid camp her mom signed her up for. She heard her mom coming up the stairs. She decided, on the spot, that she would not be going to camp because it made you bring all the stuff you need. But how would she get away?

She looked at the window and ran to the window. She quickly opened the window and climbed out. She grabbed the bag she packed for camp. The bag she grabbed had all the stuff she needed. She climbed onto the roof just as her mom walked into her room and walked to the window and closed it. Now May had to find a safe way off the roof. She walked around the roof and saw the big willow tree with her swing and she jumped off the roof and landed in the willow tree. Her cat Saige climbed out of the kitchen window and ran to the bottom of the willow tree. May jumped down and landed right beside her cat Saige and ran into the forest running right beside her. Her mom looked out the window and called May's name. But May could not hear her mom now. She was too deep in the forest.

After what felt like hours, May found a lake. She didn't realize that she had her camp bag. So she got her swimsuit out of her bag and went swimming. However, Saige did not like water so she took a nap. Excited for the solo adventure, and because it was starting to get dark, May got out of the water, changed into her pajamas, put up her tent, got out her sleeping bag, and went to sleep.

Chapter two

Lost and found again

May woke up, got some snacks out of her bag and sat down. She looked around and said, "I just want to go home and see my mom." She started to cry. She heard something coming from the wood. She quickly ran to her tent and closed the door. She looked out the small plastic window. To her surprise it was a black bear so she didn't go outside for half the day.

Around sunset she was hungry. She went outside and ate the ingredients for s'mores. Then she went to sleep. She woke up and it was so cold. She put on her jacket and went outside and made a fire. She sat there and was debating if she should go for a swim. She started to hear a lot of voices and she saw more than one shadow. She said, "Mom?"

Her mom said "May?" She saw her mom come out of the forest and ran to go hug her. Her mom's friends sat there. They said at least they got to help. May got home safely and her mom drove her to camp the next day. She actually had an amazing time at camp.

Dreadful Snakes

By Lyla Crawford

Grade 5

McGowan Park Elementary School

Anna's snake Mango was always bad or dreadfully behaved. Mango was yellow and orange. On Monday he slithered into the goldfish tank and had goldfish for dinner. On Tuesday he went up the silver showerhead and wouldn't come out. On Wednesday he went to sleep under the soft couch cushions. On Thursday he got out of his terrarium again and went to eat all of Anna's beautiful pet butterflies. On Friday Mango stayed in his terrarium. On Saturday Mango stayed in his terrarium. On Sunday Mango stayed in his terrarium. Finally, on Monday Mango ate a pot of mom's beautiful flowers. He ate tulips, dahlias, and hyacinth.

Then Anna lost her temper. "I want a different snake!" This new snake was all green. Anna named him Leaf. Anna played with Leaf until school started. When Anna got home from school her duvet was shredded. Then Anna noticed a trail of fluff leading to Leaf's terrarium and a snake sized hole in the terrarium. Anna pitched a fit because it was her favorite blanket.

So, they brought Leaf back to the pet shop. The staff man said, "what now?"

"This snake destroyed my bed," shouted Anna.

"I see" said the staff man, "I'll go get you a new snake."

This snake was teal and green. Anna named this snake Ivy. Ivy was so well behaved for eight months until she escaped down the toilet. Then, Anna had an awesome idea. "Mom" she said, "instead of another snake, maybe could you get me a hamster or something?"

Dreadful Snakes

By Lyla Crawford

Grade 5

McGowan Park Elementary School

“Great idea,” said her mom. So, they got Anna a cute little hamster named Clover. Anna and Clover lived happily ever after.

The End

The School mystery
By Haley Mason
Grade 5
Dufferin Elementary

As my mom pulled into the school, I saw my friend, Emily. I got out of the car and said goodbye to my mom. I waved as she drove away.

"Ava, there you are!" said Emily, sounding exhausted.

"There was a lot of traffic down by Central Park," I said.

Ring Ring Ring. The bell rang. School was starting. It was a Monday which meant English class. Ugh, I sighed.

"Today is English and you know I hate English".

"Ava, if you would study more it might become more fun for you," said Emily in a voice with some attitude.

We entered the classroom to see the blinds shut and the lights turned off.

"Class, please settle down and take your seats," said Mr. Morisson.

The P.A speaker turned on and said, "Students please enter lock down mode. This is not a drill."

Mr. Morisson shut the doors and locked them as the class headed to the back of the classroom. The room was dead silent until there was a bang on the door. All of a sudden, there was a scream that sounded like it came from the girl's washroom. It sounded like Lilly! Lilly was my neighbor and my best friend whom I've known since preschool! The P.A speaker turned on again and said it was safe to come out of lockdown, but only teachers could leave the classroom.

The police inspected the school and found a dead body! They said it was Lilly Turner, a 15 year old girl who was found dead in the girl's washroom on the floor. I

The School Mystery
Haley Mason
Grade 5
Dufferin Elementary

suddenly felt a tear coming down my face and Emily saw. She came over and tried to comfort me.

“ I wonder who did it,” said Paul, the smart kid who was in all of our classes. We continued to class cautiously and quietly. An hour of school had passed and we went home. My mom was worried sick after I told her what had happened. I could barely fall asleep that night, still thinking about who the murderer could be. The next day, Emily's mom worked early so my mom drove us both to school. When we arrived, the police were at our school again! We said bye to my mom and went to check it out. The police said the secretary got attacked while working late. What's happening to our school!?

“This is a mystery,” I said.

“ A School Mystery,” added Emily. The police had a picture of the vehicle and the person. He was dressed in black and had a white van.

When the bell rang, we all ran into the school because we were terrified. Today was Math but I didn't care what day it was. I desperately wanted to figure this mystery out. Instead of doing Math, I ended up writing and drawing ideas of how the murder happened. Mrs. Elizabeth, our mathematics teacher, came over to check on me and said, “Ava what are you doing, because it certainly isn't Math!”

“Ummm it's really nothing,” I slowly said, as I closed my book. The bell rang for lunch. Emily and I took a table for the two of us.

“I'm desperate to solve this mystery,” I said as I ate my lunch.

“Me too, but it feels impossible,” Emily said, groaning.

The School Mystery
Haley Mason
Grade 5
Dufferin Elementary

"Well maybe it's just the beginning," I said, sighing. After, we headed to art class, but a lockdown was called while we were on the way. Emily and I ran to the closest classroom which was music class.

The teacher said, "Hurry girls, quickly!" We got in and hid. *Why does this keep on happening*, I thought in my head. This lockdown lasted half an hour! I knew this wasn't right! I quietly but quickly rushed to the window. I opened one blind but just a bit. I saw the man in all black and his white van. The police showed up in a ghost car.

They instantly got out and said, "Hands up! You're under arrest for murder!". The man ran into the school and went to our classroom door. Everything was black. It sounded like the door opened. Footsteps could be heard. There was silence until the door slammed shut and the lockdown was over.

I ran outside and Emily followed. The police had caught the murderer and every kid came outside to see who it was. One of the policemen took the gun away and the other took off the man's mask. I ran up closer to see but didn't get too close.

"Boys and girls of Wing School Academy, the murderer was Mr. Jones," announced the cops. Everything was silent. Everyone gasped in surprise.

I took a step forward and confidently said, "Isn't Mr. Jones an old teacher who retired?"

"I thought he was nice," said Emily, pausing between each word.

"The Police Department looked through his resume and he was upset and made some bad choices growing up," said one of the cops.

The School Mystery
Haley Mason
Grade 5
Dufferin Elementary

"He killed a student," said one of the teachers.

"Well..." the cop paused for a minute and then slowly continued, "he killed the grammar teacher."

I was shocked and so was Emily.

"Mr. Jones will be arrested and a funeral will be held for the three deaths that happened," said one of the cops.

The parents came to pick their kids up. My mom picked Emily and I up. The cops were still there, and even the news reporter came. My mom ran up to me and got on her knees and hugged me super tight.

"Mom, there's going to be a funeral on Saturday for the people who passed away." I was suddenly crying into my mom's arms and Emily joined too. We got in the car and my mom drove us home. Emily and I had a sleepover and stayed up almost all night.

"But we never got to solve the mystery," I said feeling sad. The next day we attended the funeral and said our goodbyes.

"That was a School Mystery!" Emily and I said together.

Emma Lazar, Gr.5, McGowan Park Elementary School. Alone On Earth

Something weird happened on May 11th, 2025. When I woke up nobody was home, it was empty!! At first I thought my mom would scare me or say "Surprise Emma!" but nothing... I was very confused. I walked out of my house. I then went down the street, but nobody was outside. I knocked on a ton of peoples doors but not a single person answered their door. In Fact, the doors were unlocked. I went back home and I got my bike, then rode it to the gas station, very puzzled about this situation. It was weird, no one was anywhere to be found. No cars, no people and no noise. It was dead silent. Anywhere I went I got a chill down my spine. I missed my family but at least I wouldn't have to work a day in my life now, which is good because I'm lazy. There was no life other than me. I went home after I emptied the gas station. Tears filled my eyes as I cried in my room. Then I got tired and laid my head on my pillow.

Day:9

When I woke up I had the best idea ever! It was to drive a car at only thirteen years old. I ran outside and started to run around my neighborhood and found the perfect car. A white Tesla right in front of a random house! For some reason the house was locked with the key inside. I looked around my neighborhood and found a hammer on a dusty table. Holding the hammer, I walked back to that house. I heard "CRACK" as I smashed the window open. I crawled through the window and found the car key on the

Emma Lazar, Gr.5, McGowan Park Elementary School. Alone On Earth

table. Then I went in the car and pressed the pedal. I almost crashed into a tree. I put the location "Walmart" on the GPS. The Tesla drove me there. "Finally!" I yelled as I entered Walmart. I brought my phone with me, still no text since May 10th, 2025. When I looked through the texts on my phone a text caught my eye. It said "Emma help me please..." I didn't think I couldn't do anything about it now. I kept walking through a fully stocked Walmart. Right before I was about to put an item in my cart I had an idea!! I would drive my new car into Walmart! I walked out of Walmart into an empty parking lot. I went in my car but it said "battery low." I went back into Walmart and saw a bed on display. I went under the blanket and started to fall asleep on the cozy pillow.

Day 15:

It's been 15 long days. I am still living in Walmart and my phone is dead.

Day:???

Emma thought it was 2025 but it was actually 2055. It turns out, the night before everyone vanished, Emma had hit her head and was in a coma. She woke up thirty years later. Emma wanted to think that it was only 2025 but it wasn't. She hallucinated about most of the things. Her real age was 35. She was 35 years old this whole time. The car, the cozy bed and more were all fake. Just in her imagination. Some things were true. People had actually vanished and she was the only person alive. The person that cared for her during her coma was also gone. After waking up, starving, she ate some of the food from Walmart. She sadly died from severe food poisoning because the

Emma Lazar, Gr.5, Mcgowan Park Elementary School. Alone On Earth

Walmart food was expired.

"It will be alright," Mom said, as I buried my nose into her jacket.

"Don't go," I said crying.

"I have to," she said, "today will be better."

But I knew she thought the opposite. Everytime she said that, my happiness slowly flickered away like a candle in the wind. She pried my arms off her, and drove away.

As I walked up to school, tears burned my eyes. "I want today to end now," I thought. My hope was gone.

I got to the door and it opened. I put my bag away. I stood there, staring at Mino, my stuffed pig. My tears burned. I felt like curling up into a ball, with somebody telling me: "It will be okay." But it wasn't. Maybe Mino could tell me that. At the thought of it, my chin dropped with tears falling to the floor like a rain shower on a cloudy day. Maybe somebody who cared about me could tell me that. But nobody did.

My teacher had a rule about no stuffed animals in the class. As I strolled to the mat, the safety that Mino gave to me, that feeling that everything would be okay, was gone. I looked behind me and Mino smiled at me from the bag, as if he were saying; "I'm right here." The feeling warmed me. I smiled slightly. But as I turned around to face the class, I froze in fear. "No," I told myself, "You can't do it. Not now." I wanted to start crying, but as hard as I tried I wouldn't let myself. I was scared. It was only morning.

I waited until snack time, my favorite. Then recess. The bell triggered my senses and my tears came back. I braced myself, for the exclusion would probably happen. But

I did it anyway; I went to Jenny and her gang, asking to play. "Uh oh," I thought. Here it comes. My tears rushed to my face like a waterfall. I saw them whispering.

They were gone. Running away. I guess it was another day in the library for me. I talked to Mino, and even though he couldn't understand, it helped. It was hard to put how I was feeling into words. I felt sick. But I was healthy. I felt confused. What was this feeling? I felt angry. Lonely. Hurt. I hid away in the library.

The bell rang. I took Mino and headed back to class, smelling the scent he gave off. Every certain spot has a different scent. His leg smelled like Grampa's house. His ear smelled like Shuswap Lake and being with my cousins.

I got to class and the girls stared at me.

It was the end of the day so I sprinted down to the parking lot. Mom. I leaped into her arms, now feeling safe. No more school! Only for a few days. It was the weekend.

My weekend was pretty bland. And then it was school again. The year went on, some days I didn't cry. But most days felt upsetting. Then summer struck. I was so excited! I had a great summer going camping with my sister, Avery. We went to the Enchanted Forest for my birthday. But as summer came to an end, Grade three came closer to starting. I thought, will this year be as bad as last year? Just thinking of the upcoming year made tears rush to my eyes.

My mom came to my room, dropping off clothes, and saw my face. She comforted me and said some people are rude. And she said I was the kind person. I knew. She told me this every day. I wanted to quit school. My mother said I couldn't, because I'd be much more bored, but she understood why.

Grade three. My mom took a photo of me smiling, but I wasn't happy. As we drove to school my mom said bye, I waved. I was put in Mme Randint's class. Jenny was in my class, and Adrienne and Gracie had moved. The first few months went by okay, but I was still in the library at recess.

Until one day, I wanted to play with Jenny. "Can I play with you?" I asked.

And she said, "how about I just play with you on Fridays?"

"What? Why couldn't I just play with you anytime," I thought. My mom said, "if she can't make time to play with you, it's not worth it." So I didn't. I was lonely, but slowly started to feel better.

And before I knew it, grade four was here. But I was still scared because there were holes in my heart that weren't going to fill back in.

Grade four. I had the best teacher, Mme Cerbopple. She gave us candy all the time. I met new people. I was adapting, feeling happy. I was excluded some days but I hung around the other girls, who were nice-ish. We played 4-square, as much as we could. Then one day, I caught a glimpse of a girl playing 4-square. Her name was Catherine. Nervous, I went over and introduced myself. Catherine smiled, and her blue eyes matched the fall season. Her hair went down her back, like a golden waterfall. Nice and blonde as her curtain bangs hung to the side. I started asking to hang out with her, and every day I smiled more. A friend. We would hang out, stretch, my back cracked as we cracked up. And one day she said, "Kenna?" My knees bumped against each other because I was shivering. A thin layer of snow layed on the ground.

"Call me Cathy."

I smiled. Suddenly, the cold wasn't cold.

Kenna Zenner
South Sahali Elem
Grade 6

FRIENDS

The days went by, as Cathy and I had fun. Then, the summer struck. We saw each other during summer, with sleepovers. Suddenly fifth grade started. Fifth grade was like fourth. Still being excluded, but not much.

And today, in sixth grade, I'm making friends. And the word "friend" still rings in my ear.

Sophie Thomson

Gr. 5

St. Anns Academy

Dragons and Romance

The crisp Autumn air swept through the village as a girl, with beautiful brown hair and blue eyes, ran through the village.

“Betcha can't catch me!” she yelled playfully to the boy behind her.

“Oh, I bet I can!” he yelled back.

This boy had a secret, a dark, mysterious secret, that the girl had yet to find out. His dad, indeed, was the king, not just the king of the village, but the king of all the land.

The girl fell flat on the ground, laughing. “Why don't we do something other than just run around playing tag?” asked the girl.

“Oh Scarlett,” said the boy. “You know my dad would kill us if we ever played in the castle.”

Then Scarlett said, “Couldn't we just sneak in and grab some cookies?”

“Not a chance,” replied the boy, “but, umm... I was hoping to, or I mean, would you like to go to the royal ball with me, as a friend, of course?”

“Oh Leroy, you shy, handsome prince, I would LOVE to go with you!”

“I told you to call me Leo!” said Leo. “Although, when I asked my dad, he said no lowlifes allowed! And well, to him you're a lowlife. So I was thinking you could dress up as some royal princess or queen.”

“Maybe I could dress up as Marie Antoinette!”

And so it was a plan. Scarlett found a long, puffy, blue and gold dress, and designer lipstick and mascara. As she entered the palace, royal guards dressed in a black top with blue

Sophie Thomson

Gr. 5

St. Anns Academy

Dragons and Romance

pants welcomed her and offered her a glass of wine. Of course she couldn't take it because she was only twelve, but, to be polite she said yes but tossed the wine in the trash.

Scarlett searched around for Leo, only to find a horde of girls around him. Leo squirmed out of the crowd, managing to only trip twice, bump into five guards, and avoid ten girls.

"Jeez, it's crazy out there! Also," he continued, "I have something to show you."

Leo and Scarlett speedwalked (so they would still look fancy) down the stairs to Leo's room.

"I must show you something immediately," said Leo as he walked over to his bedroom mirror. "You see," he continued, "through this mirror is earth - except in 2123. My mom gave it to me before she left. She told me she was from the future and got stuck here, but found her way out. I've never visited her because before you can get to the future, you have to battle a crazy monster with red eyes and a black body."

"Wow, we should definitely try to battle that monster," said Scarlett.

"Boo!" A boy jumped out of Leo's bedside table and started laughing. "You should have SEEN the look on your faces; it was absolutely priceless!"

"That's not funny!" said Leo, looking like he wanted to strangle him so hard he would explode.

"He's right, Sampson," responded Scarlett. "We were talking in private and I don't appreciate you barging in and ruining our conversation!"

"Oh, chill," said Sampson. "I do one little thing and all of a sudden I seem like a crazy person. Besides, weren't you gonna... kiss?"

Sophie Thomson

Gr. 5

St. Anns Academy

Dragons and Romance

“NO!” Leo and Scarlett yelled at the exact same time. Scarlett was angered, Leo was flustered, but deep inside their hearts they both knew it was true.

Then, Sampson broke the silence and said, “I should get going, don’t want to ruin the moment.” Sampson left the room and winked at Leo. This made Leo so angry he almost told the guards to kill him - but didn’t, since of course he was too kind to do that.

“So,” said Scarlett, “We should battle that monster. My dad has swords all around the place, and I’m sure your dad has some armor we could borrow.”

“Well,” Leo sighed, “fine, but only if you promise to come with me to the future.”

“Of course!”

They made a plan to meet on Saturday and go through the mirror, kill the dragon and meet Leo’s mom.

Finally, the day had come. Leo knocked on Scarlett’s door and they got going. As they arrived at the palace, Leo told his dad he and Scarlett were going to play in his room. Leo and Scarlett walked down to his bedroom where there was armor lying on his bed.

“Wow,” said Scarlett, “Your dad really is crazy for giving two kids armor that they use in war!”

“Well, I am a prince, so what are we waiting for? Let’s get that armor on and go kick some dragon butt!” exclaimed Leo. They both got their armor on, grabbed their swords, and jumped into the mirror.

“Wow...” said Leo.

Sophie Thomson

Gr. 5

St. Anns Academy

Dragons and Romance

All of a sudden the dragon bolted at them, spraying powerful mist out from its mouth, narrowly missing Leo. Scarlett ran behind the dragon and stabbed him right on the side. The dragon bolted around and hit her with its tail. Scarlett let out an ear piercing scream. Leo carried Scarlett and put her down. Leo soon discovered he needed to stab the dragon in the heart. Leo tried and tried again but realized he had to stab the dragon when it was healing. After multiple attempts, Leo finally jumped up and slayed the dragon right in the heart.

As he did, a portal opened up, and Leo picked up Scarlett and headed through. They popped out right beside a woman with blond hair and brown eyes.

“Leo,” said the woman, “It’s me, your mom, Kelly.”

“Mom!” yelled Leo. “This girl is my friend, and she’s hurt. Can you help her?”

Kelly brought Scarlett over to a bed, pressed a couple of buttons and Scarlett woke up.

“Scarlett!” said Leo.

“I’m going to go and cook dinner,” said Kelly mysteriously.

Then, Scarlett leaned over and kissed Leo. Leo kissed back.

Love Lies 1

I'm in the middle of a perfect dream when someone starts calling my name. It's a male so I assume that it's my brother. Then I feel someone hitting my shoulder. It's my teacher! I had fallen asleep in class. *How did that even happen?* I think to myself. Then my teacher finally says something;

"Katie?" He repeats it five times, until I realise he is talking to me.

"Huh, what?" I say.

"Katie, you fell asleep in class, detention!" My teacher says.

"Ugh." I groan to myself.

I get up and walk into detention. I sit down and wait when he walks in, the popular guy. He's such a jerk. We used to be best friends in third grade but then he left me when he got popular. I realise I somehow forgot his name. He walks over to me and looks at me,

"Hey Katie, do you still remember your best friend?" He says jokingly.

I push him away and say no. "Come on, it's me, Josh." He says. I ignore him, stand up, and walk out. Now, he never leaves me alone. One time a girl got so jealous she attacked me, sometimes they're crazy.

I finish eleventh grade and have a horrible summer break. My mom is still friends with Josh's parents from third grade and never knew why he left me. She thought we just lost contact. She decides to invite them to our cabin for the whole break, including Josh. I'm practically forced to hang out with him by our parents. He kept calling me his best friend which made me want to slap him. Finally we all leave the cabin. We get home around eleven pm and I am exhausted. I fall asleep right away and have an outstanding sleep. I almost scream when I see

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Love Lies 2

Josh standing beside my bed. *What is he doing here?* I think to myself. I look past him and see my mom in tears. I push Josh out of the way and run to her.

“What's wrong?” I ask her, sounding concerned, almost frightened.

“I was forced to put you in an arranged marriage.” She stammers,

“With who?” I ask. I half expect it to be Jacob, my actual best friend.

“I'm sorry...but it's with Josh.” By the time mom finishes, Josh is gone. I call Jacob but he doesn't answer. I throw on my shoes and run to his house. I'm out of breath when I get to his house because we live six blocks away. He isn't home but his mom is so I ask “Have you seen Jacob?”

She looks like she has been crying. “Jacob, he ran away!” She stutters. *What? No! Why would he?* He had an amazing life, nothing bad. I call my mom and ask if she can pick me up, she thankfully agrees. I get home and lay in bed. I can't stop thinking about Jacob until I fall asleep. My mom wakes me up really early that morning for the first day of school. I throw on my jeans, which look like they have shrunk. I go to the bathroom to do my mascara and put lipgloss on. I curl my hair and watch how it bounces to my shoulders. I pack up my stuff and grab my watch off my desk. I almost walk out the door without my phone, but I run back in to grab it. I put my UGG boots on and run to school. I find my first class and see my brother, Carter. I'm about to say something but he walks past me.

I sit down and see Josh. “Josh!” I say excitedly.

“Hey Kate!” He says and winks, I blush and turn away. The teacher, Mr. Ellios, yells at Josh to sit down. Mr. Ellios starts putting us in groups and he pairs my brother with the school's

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Love Lies 3

teacher's pet, Alice. I start laughing then say, "I feel bad for you." Then Alice stands up and slaps me, "Ow!!" I yelp. We get into a fight and get sent to the office. We both get a three day suspension. The first night of my suspension I have horrible nightmares, Josh tied to a tree while Jacob is standing there with tape. I wake up drenched in sweat, hyperventilating. On the third night I have the same dream. I wake up and run downstairs and put my UGG boots on then I open the door. I see Josh.

He offers to take me to school. "Sure, thanks" I say. Then he asks,

"Will you be my girlfriend?" He hands me a teddy bear and flowers.

"Yes!" I say excitedly. We make plans to go on a date that evening at my favourite cafe. I can't stop thinking about him throughout the school day. Finally schools done and we find each other. "Hey babe." I say, giving him a hug.

He smiles, "Hey baby, we can meet at the cafe at seven? I was thinking we could hang out for an hour or two."

"Yes! That would be great!" I say. I get there at seven. He's not there but then my phone buzzes, a text from Josh. The text read:

Meet me in the forest, right now.

I don't hesitate to go. I get to the forest and it's the same place from my dream, and then I see them, the exact same thing from my dream. I scream but then something catches my eye. It's a costume that looks like Josh. Then it clicks, Jacob was impersonating Josh. "WHY?" I scream while crying.

"He loved you and you loved him, but I will always love you more." Jacob says calmly. Then everything goes dark.

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Fairy Grove

Fairy Grove

Hi, my name is Eclipse. I am a Sky Fairy in Fantasia. My powers are to fly higher than most fairies, glow in the dark, and dye clouds different colours. My mom is a Colour Fairy and my dad is an Invis Fairy. I am dreading school tomorrow. The reason I am dreading school tomorrow is because it's Monday tomorrow, and who likes Monday? I sure don't. It is 6:59. My mom wakes me up at 7:00. One more minute to sleep then I hear, "Honey get up."

"Boo," I think.

"Coming," I shout and I rush down the stairs, down the long hall to the kitchen and grab a bowl. I pour some fruity pops and then grab a spoon, sit down, and put some in my mouth.

"Happy Monday," Mom says cheerfully.

"Ugh." I groan.

"Cheer up Hun," Mom says.

"You know I hate Monday."

Ten minutes later, I go upstairs to my bedroom to get changed. I look in my drawers. Should I wear the purple or the pink dress? I decide on purple and blue leggings with pink polka dots. My Mom and I fly to school ten minutes later. We are at Cherry Academy, a very magnificent building with many towers that are all different

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St. Ann's Academy

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colours. I open the doors and enter the school. Lots of kids are talking as usual. I go to my locker, enter the password, and go to homeroom. After homeroom is first period.

"Magical animals," I read out loud. So I go to the classroom titled M.A. I enter and sit beside Myra, my best friend. The class is noisy as usual, and then Mrs. Anneachat comes in.

"Hello Class! Today we are learning about Torch Dragons!" she says.

"Ooooooooo!" I exclaim along with many others.

"Ooooooooo! So exciting. Blah blah blah," scoffs Katie.

I frown. Katie has been mean to me since Fairygarden. I had told on her because she told everyone something except me and I was devastated.

"But she will not ruin today," I think, and I keep on listening to Mrs. Anneachat. Fifty-five minutes later Mrs Anneachat says that we are dismissed for recess and she will bring a real Torch Dragon tomorrow. I can hardly wait! She dismisses us, and for once, I cannot wait for school tomorrow. I can hardly wait!

At recess, the swings are up for grabs, so Myra, me, and my other best friend, Alex, ran to the swings. As I was swinging, I see Katie go to her friends. Her fairy dust is very sparkly, which means you are happy and Katie is never happy at school.

"Unless she has a plan," I think glumly. "And it probably involves me."

Suddenly Mykla flies over. Mykla does not like Myra and she's Katie's friend.

"Myra, I need your help," she pants.

"What's wrong?" Myra said, looking worried.

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"We must have switched backpacks at magical animals, because mine says Myra not Mykla!" Mykla says.

Myra looks hesitant for a moment but then says, "Okay I'll come help."

"Come on this way." Mykla's fairy dust looks a bit too sparkly. After recess, I go to the fairy power control class. I sit down, but Myra was not there.

"Weird, she's always early. Maybe she's late, but she's always the first person here," I think. But Myra does not show up. Mykla does show up though with sparkly fairy dust and a smug face. After class, I go to see Mykla.

"Where's Myra?" I demanded.

"I don't know," she replies with a smug face. I walk down the hall in confusion.

"Where's Myra?" I think. I keep walking down the hall. Suddenly, I hear banging. I freeze, staring at the locker that appeared to be making the fuss. It is a locker all right. Wait, is it Mykla's locker? It is!

"Hmmm," I think. "Wait!"

I run to my locker and pull out notes. I accidentally saw Mykla's password awhile ago, so I wrote it down. The password is 5820. I enter it and inside is Myra!

"Myra!" I exclaim. I am confused out of my mind.

"Thank goodness you found me!" Myra says angrily.

We went to class and Mykla looked amazed as Myra walked in. After school, we go to the principal's office and explain the whole thing. Mykla, Katie, and her gang have

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to clean up all day, get detention for a month, and their parents will be notified. That day after school, I walk home with a smile on my face.

The Monster

Once upon a time there was a girl named Sabrina who lived with her mom and dad and was the only child. So most of the time her dad was fishing and her mom was in her room working so she had to stay in her room too. One day she decided to take a walk in the forest and heard a strange sound. She went through the forest and found a cave. Then she went into the cave and saw a gigantic monster with blades for teeth and arrows on its back. She screamed, "Ah a monster!" Screaming, she ran as fast as her little legs could to take her to her house. She locked the doors then went to her room and hid in the closet. Her mom and dad were at work so she was home alone. There was a big loud boom and the monster came in. She was terrified. The little girl heard the monster coming upstairs when she finally started to hear a click. The monster saw her in the closet. But she heard the living room door open. It was her mom. Her mom went upstairs and went to her room then she saw the monster holding Sabrina. She yelled, "A monster's in my house!" The living room door opened. Again It was her dad. He came upstairs and went to her room and saw the monster with Sabrina and her mother.

He said, "Get your filthy hands off my daughter and wife!"

The Monster said, "I will eat you!" But Sabrina's dad was holding his phone and he called Animal Control. They came right away and dropped a net on it. Then they shot it with a tranquilizer. When they got down Sabrina's mom Hugged Sabrina and her dad .

The End

“Are you tired of hearing thumps and wumps and thrumps every single day and then complaining about a headache.”

Scarrow gave a grin.

“Then come and move here to Peace Island!”

Scarrow jumped up and down in his seat excitedly. “Here at Peace Island you can get a massage from our very experienced masseuse and have a five star buffet with any type of food you can think of. I hope to see you there. Scarnews signing off.”

Scarrow was very excited because he didn't have to be annoyed by the crows (they called themselves ‘The Three Amigos’) every single day because he was going to move to Peace Island.

Scarrow ran like the speed of light up the stairs to start packing. He put on his brown hat that he usually wore askew and his brown t-shirt, that had a hint of orange. An hour later Scarrow was saying his final goodbyes to his neighbors and told them that they could visit any time they wanted to. Scarrow boarded the Scarplane (the plane for scarecrows). Scarrow sat in the back of the plane and the stewardess announced, “Your flight to Peace Island will take three hours and twenty minutes.”

When Scarrow arrived at Peace Island, he looked outside and he was in awe. There was a humongous waterfall and a colorful flower garden right outside the airport. The man in a black suit instructed Scarrow to follow him into the grand hotel and Scarrow was happy to follow.

He followed him to a room where he would be living until he bought his own house. After he got settled, he went for a very soothing massage and then he went to eat from the best and the only buffet in Peace Island. It was called 'The Peace Buffet'. Scarrow ate turkey, chicken soup and a raspberry smoothie, and for dessert he ate a blueberry pie with whipped cream. Scarrow was as full as a stuffed turkey at Thanksgiving Dinner.

Scarrow was on his bed writing a message to the crows that said, 'If you are wondering where I am, I have moved!' Scarrow tucked himself in bed and said goodnight to his woolen teddy bear. Scarrow felt a little homesick and he was missing his friends but he knew he would eventually adapt.

The next morning, Scarrow put on his brown coat and brown hat askew on his head. He walked outside and saw a sign. It said 'Go to the bus station to book a tour of Peace Island.' Scarrow thought it was a good way to explore the island. Then the Scarecrow walked to the bus station and booked tickets. The tour was to start in thirty minutes.

He saw a short scarecrow with a red suit, yellow hat and a badge that said "Professional Tour Guide." He asked the short scarecrow,

"Excuse me. I am here for the tour of Peace Island. Are you my tour guide?"

The scarecrow in the red suit announced, "My name is Scarguide and I will be your guide today. All of you will have to pair up with someone today."

Scarrow saw a snowwoman and decided to pair up with her.

Scarrow introduced himself, "My name is Scarrow, what's yours?"

"My name is Blizzy."

"Why did you come to Peace Island?" asked Scarrow.

"In Snow City, where I lived before, I had nothing to do and then I saw a commercial about Peace Island and decided to move here" said Blizzy. "What about you?" asked Blizzy.

So they talked and talked until the tour started. Scarrow felt very happy he had finally found a friend. He thought that he would have zero friends.

Scarguide announced, "We will head this way, east." So the group headed east.

On the tour Scarrow and his group saw a Jit-Wit (a slimy creature that can fly around) and they also learned how to tame it. They also saw some blue flowers called Bleu. In Scarrow's opinion they smelled like fresh s'mores on a campfire. Scarrow was talking to Blizzy for the entire tour. Afterwhile Scarrow was sad that the tour was over but then Blizzy invited him to dinner at Peace Buffet and Scarrow agreed. After a while they became best friends and regularly visited each other's houses.

Five years later, Scarrow had married Blizzy; bought a house and adopted a pet Jit-Wit named Snuffles. Scarrow, Blizzy, and Snuffles were one big happy family.

The family was on the bed watching a documentary about Jit-Wits. Suddenly they heard a Bang Bam Bo! The Crows were back. Scarrow looked at the television screen and it was Scarnews and he said, "Are you tired of hearing Bang Bam Bo? Then move to Freedom City!"

The End.