



A Story Studio Anthology  
by Young Authors  
(Ages 5-13)

# MONSTER STORIES

Featuring  
Jessica Hickman's  
Mixed Media Monsters.



Story Studio is a charity that inspires, educates and empowers youth to be great storytellers, transforming lives and strengthening communities. We create innovative, 'fun-first' workshops that develops narrative capacity in youth, and celebrate young writers by crafting beautiful publications from their words.

This anthology is composed of stories written by children and youth between the ages of 5 and 13 as a result of our October 2020 creative writing contest featuring a Mixed Media Monster created by local artist, Jessica Hickman. The task was to write a short creative background story for the featured monster. More of Jessica's Mixed.Media.Monsters and other art can be found at [jessicahickman.net](http://jessicahickman.net)

Published in Victoria, British Columbia

Story Studio Writing Society

2020

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***SEYMORE***

by  
Callaghan



Seymore was feeling blue. And when he felt blue, his hair turned blue. When he was mad, his hair turned red. Slowly, his hair changed from red to blue. He felt sad and angry today because he lived in an alley, in a house made of barrels.

Seymore sat on cold windy street corners selling flowers. He lived in a place where people could not see beautiful things, or beautiful colours, so he did not sell a lot of flowers. This town was called Danville. It was sad and grey like the Kansas prairies. It looked like the Wizard of Oz at the beginning when everything is grey, grey, grey.

No one knew Seymore was sad or angry because they could not see the colours change in his hair.

A young maiden walked by his stand. She chose a yellow daisy, and put it in her hair. She looked like a princess. Soon the people of Danville wanted to know where they could find such a flower to make them feel beautiful, but when they came to Seymore's flower stand, they couldn't see the same beautiful colours. Everything was grey in their eyes.

The sunlight in summer made Seymore feel happier. His hair turned yellow but only the young maiden could see the change in his hair. All year long, Seymore's hair changed colours with the seasons and also with his feelings. But every time the maiden came by his hair was yellow, because he was so happy.

One day she asked if Seymore would like to eat dinner at a restaurant together. Seymore knew he had no money to eat in a restaurant. But instead he made a picnic of apples from trees in the park and cheese that was on sale.

They sat at a playground eating the picnic and Seymore thought that Danville was less lonely and grey if today could feel so great.

***THE END.***

***REJECTED***

by  
Emily

Once there was a boy. His name was Lark. Lark wore a black shirt and brown pants. Lark lived in an orphanage. He had no friends because everyone thought he was ugly. Even the orphanage nanny thought he was ugly. So Lark got kicked out of the orphanage. Lark had to live on the streets.

In another part of town, a little wolf was in a pound. Nobody wanted to adopt her because she was a wolf, not a puppy. Then a girl came into the store. She wore a pink shirt and ripped jeans. She loved wolves. She saw the little wolf and said, “Aww, you're so cute. Do you want to live with me? My name is Sally.”

So the wolf was adopted by Sally. She was named Chelsea. Soon they became best friends. They had lots of adventures together.

One day when Sally was at school a kid bullied Sally. Then Sally came home. When Sally went inside the bully put a visitor welcome sign on the door. Then he unlocked the door. In the morning someone came in. She wore a black shirt and tights. Her name was Lily. Sally came back downstairs to check on Chelsea. Then she saw Lily.

Sally said, “What are you doing in my house?!”

Lily explained about the sign and how the door was unlocked. She also told Sally who had told her to come here. Sally was so mad. Then Chelsea heard something. It sounded like some kid was sick. Chelsea started barking. Sally and Lily went to see what Chelsea was barking about. It was just a kid, and that kid was Lark. He was sick.

"Oh my goodness," Sally said. Sally and Lily went outside to see the kid. Sally said, "Are you hurt, kid?" Lark said that he needed a home. Sally asked, "Do you want to live with me?"



Then Lily came out and said, “No, you should live with me. Sally you already have Chelsea.” So Lily and Sally started to fight about who would get to take the kid home. Lark was so sad because he thought everywhere he went he would make everyone mad or sad. So Lark ran away. He ran so fast he passed out and because of the cold he had, he started to breath really slowly.

Chelsea saw Lark pass out so she called Sally and Lily over. When Sally saw Lark was going to die soon because he was breathing slowly.

So Sally had to share her secret to keep Lark alive. Sally was a secret angel. She used her healing power to save Lark.

Then a farm truck came up and said, "Hello I'm Farmer Joe. I'm here for the kid. It says here his name is Lark."

Lark was so happy but then he asked, "Wait, how did you know I needed a home?"

Joe was about to explain when Lily said, "I called him. You see, when Sally was healing you I found someone who would be a

way better parent than us. But don't worry, we will visit you at the farm.”

Then Sally gave Lark a little hat and said, "Keep this hat, it will remind you of us. Lily was right; we will visit you. Chelsea will remind us." Lily was shocked. Sally said, "That's right, Lily, you can live with us." So Lily lived with Chelsea and Sally and Lark had a home at a farm and everyone lived whatever after.

***THE END.***



***GARY COOL***

by

Gianna, with help from Lucca

This monster's name is Gary Cool. He's five years old. He's wearing a tie because it's picture day at school. He's sad because someone threw a blueberry pie on his head and pushed him in a mud puddle.

Gary Cool has four year old twin sisters and two brothers, who are ages eight and nine. He plays with his sisters but not his brothers, because he doesn't like wrestling. His dad is a police officer and his mom works at Home Depot. They live in Winnipeg in a hotel. Gary Cool also has a dog named Woofy and a cat named Hazy.

He likes drawing cartoons and playing basketball. He's on a team called the Catties. He practices at home.

Gary has his own room that he keeps nice and tidy. Sometimes his brothers come in and mess it all up and sometimes Woofy pees on his carpet. Yuck. Gary likes to play inside. He likes socks in winter but not in summer. Banana bread is his favorite food. And for Halloween Gary wants to dress like Frankenstein!

***THE END.***

# ***THE SPOOKER***

by  
Ria

It was the darkest night of the year. *‘That’s good,’* Jessica thought, *‘Really feels like it’s Halloween,’* she shivered. *‘But what about Spooker?’* she thought, *‘What if he comes?’*

Her mother had told the story of Spooker long ago. Jessica was twelve years old. When she was ten, she’d seen him. It was easy to tell, because he was SO weird. He got stares from almost everybody in town. He was small, with pasty skin. He had blue hair with red highlights in it. His eyelids were orange and droopy. He had no lips at all! It looked like his mouth was cut into his face! He wore a patched orange shirt with a red tie.



But the two things that struck her most, was the little hat on top of his head. ‘*Why is it so small?*’ she wondered. The second thing that struck her was that he looked like he hadn’t slept in days!

Suddenly, as she was thinking about that strange Halloween, she saw him out of the corner of her eye. “Mom!” she whispered urgently, “He's here!”

“Who?” her mom, Christina asked.

“Him! I-I mean the Spooker,” Jessica replied. Her mother whirled around. “There he is!” Jessica said.

He walked calmly, not even noticing the stares he was getting. He walked over to Jessica and said, “My name is Spooker. I am very pleased to meet you Jessica Peterson.” He knew her name! He looked at her expectantly as if waiting for her to say something.

“I-It's a p-pleasure to m-meet you t-too,” she finally stammered.

“No need to be afraid,” he said. He turned to her mother and said, “May I speak to your daughter alone?”

Christina looked at Jessica and said, “If you're okay with it Jess.”

Jessica looked at Spooker and nodded. He turned and walked away. Jessica followed him. They went to a deserted alley. Once they were in there, he told her why he wanted to talk to her.

“I come from a far away planet called Asgard. Asgard has two suns. Once one sun sets, the other one rises. There is never time to go to sleep.”

“Why are you telling me all this?” asked Jessica.

He smiled and replied, “There is only one way to go to sleep on Asgard.”

“What’s that?” she asked. She had no idea where he was going with this.

“Our hats. They have a special mechanism that allows our eyes to go dark so that we can go to sleep. But mine broke. I came to earth hoping you humans can fix it.”

“Of course,” Jessica said. “Come with me and you can get it fixed.”

“Thank you,” he said gratefully. He followed Jessica to the computer shop.

Jessica said to the lady at the counter, “This kind alien needs his hat fixed. How long will it take?”

“Depends,” said the lady at the counter. “Show me the hat.”

Spooker gave it to her and she examined it. Finally she said, “I’ll go fix it.”

“Alright,” Jessica said. “Come on Spooker.”

After a little while, the lady came back and gave them the hat. Spooker put it on and they left. He got into his spaceship and said, “Goodbye Jessica!”

“Goodbye!” she called.

***THE END.***

Ria is ten years old. She lives in Langford, Victoria. She started writing stories when she was nine years old because of a story writing contest held at her school by Story Studio. She lives with her mom, her dad, and her brother.

# ***THE MOON AND BEYOND***

by  
Sarah



Ava Arrowwood, Lizzy Jones and Peter Brown walked down the hall of NASA. Suddenly an effulgent light surrounded them. When they could open their eyes again they were in a rocky dark cave.

“Where are we?” asked Peter.

I knew right away where we were, “Guys, we are back in Kalamaroko.”

We made our way to the main room and the leader of the Morokos greeted us and told us that on a planet way beyond the moon was a creature that had recently been threatening them. He wanted us to go and defeat it while they protected the moon.

The three kids climbed into a small space ship that was waiting for them. A small alien was on the ship. “This is Carterlico,” the leader said, “He will bring you to the planet.”

We flew through the solar system until a small planet came into view. We landed and jumped into a small hole. I peeked around a corner, “That’s no creature,” I said, “That’s a monster!”

It was bright orange and really hairy. It saw me.

“Run!” I yelled. We ran down a tunnel but the monster teleported in front of us. “This is going to be harder than I thought,” I said.

Suddenly, I skidded to a stop. A blue zapper was sitting in a corner. I walked over and grabbed it, or at least tried to. It was an illusion. A cage dropped over me.

“Lizzy! Peter! Help!” No answer.

The monster teleported in front of me. “YOU THOUGHT YOU COULD GET AWAY? YOU ARE COMING WITH ME!” He dragged the cage away with me inside it. He stopped at a giant door, opened it and threw me inside.

I looked around. The room was dusty and dark. A little light came from under the door.

“Ava?” Lizzy and Peter stepped out in the light.

“How did you get here?” Lizzy asked.

“I know how,” a voice said. A man in an astronaut suit stepped out. “The monster leaves fake zappers around the caves to catch people. Is that what happened to you?”

We nodded.

“Who are you?” Peter said.

“I’m Eric Kirk,” he answered.

Ava suddenly knew. “You’re the best student at NASA!” she exclaimed. “But what happened?”

“I was sent here by the Kalamoroko,” he said.

“Okay, enough, chit chat,” Lizzy said. “Let’s find a way out”.

“Well, there’s the door,” Peter said casually.

“Why, oh why have I never thought of that?” Eric said.

They slid under the colossal door and into the hall. We found our way to the spaceship and got in. On the way back to the moon, Lizzy said, “We forgot to defeat the monster.”

“Augh!” Everyone groaned.

When we met the leader back at the moon, we explained the bad news.

“It’s okay,” he said. “We will figure something out. But for now let’s get you home.” In a flash of light we were all back at NASA.

Amanda Linder was talking to the police. We walked up to them. “Where were you?” Amanda asked.

We glanced at each other and walked down the hall in silence.

***THE END.***



# ***SPIKE'S ADVENTURE***

by  
Simrat

It was a nice fall day, the tree leaves were vibrant autumn colours and the wind was blowing. But in the woods was a small little shack hidden in leaves, the person who lived there was.... Spike.

Now who is Spike you may ask? Well, Spike is a nine year old boy who has spiky sunflower hair, wears scarecrow clothes and a hat and his mouth looks like a squash cut in half. At school Spike has no friends and he gets made fun of, kids call him pumpkin head, ugly and a monster. Many people do not know where Spike is from including Spike himself.

One day in class their teacher Ms. Smith said, “Okay, there are two new kids today, so please be kind to them.”

Then a girl and a boy walk in. “Hello my name is Julia and This is James my brother, we are so excited to be here!” said the girl.

Then the teacher said, “Please take a seat.” Julia sat down next to Spike. Spike thought that Julia might be his friend but James sat next to Spike's biggest bully, Andrew, but Spike didn't think much of it.

After class it was lunch and Spike was sitting all by himself eating his lunch. But suddenly Julia sat next to Spike, “Hey I'm Julia your name is Spike right,” said Julia.

Spike said, “Yes but how do you know my name?”

“Oh well I saw it on the name tag, I sat next to you in class remember?” Spike nodded. Julia asked Spike if they wanted to be friends. Spike said, “Yes”.

Over the days Spike and Julia became better friends, Julia introduced James to Spike and all of them hung out a lot more, like the time when they went to the pumpkin patch, corn maze and haunted house. Having friends gave Spike a lot more confidence.

Then, one day Spike heard James say that Spike was “Ugly and gross.” Spike felt really hurt so he ignored James and told Julia what he had heard.

Julia said, "Don't worry Spike, James can be rude sometimes, if it makes you feel better wanna come to my house and bake fall treats."

Spike nodded. When they were at Julia's house they came across James, "Hey Spike I knew you heard and I'm so sorry will you be my friend again?"

Spike said "Yes." After 2-3 hours of baking they were finally done. They had made Halloween cupcakes with edible spiders on them and sugar cookies that were shaped and frosted like

pumpkins and ghosts. After that when Spike got home, he was exhausted so he went to his bed and fell fast asleep.

The next day Spike had so much confidence in himself he decided to make a YouTube channel. He got so famous that he hit one million views and subscribers.

One year later... “Hey guys, it’s Spike! Welcome back to my channel! Today I’m making fall treats with my best friends.”

***THE END.***



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*This anthology was made possible by individual donations  
and the following supporters:*

*The Viveka Foundation Fund (through the Victoria Foundation)*

*The CFX Santos Anonymous Society*