

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



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 across Canada, between the ages of 5 and 13 as a result of our January 2022 creative writing contest. The task this month was to write their own creative flash fiction story, of 500 words, involving a snow day adventure of their choosing!

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ZOEY & UNICAT ADVENTURES: UNICAT'S FIRST SNOW DAY

by Eiliya **Crunch, crunch,** crackled the snow under Zoey's feet. Zoey is an eight year old girl who has long, curly, dark brown hair, light brown skin the colour of her favourite milky tea, and dark brown eyes.

Zoey plopped down onto the snow. Through her living room window, she saw Unicat lazing by the fire. '*I wonder if there's a way to convince Unicat to come outside,*' Zoey thought, as she moved her arms up and down to make a snow angel in the front yard while her dad cleared the driveway. Suddenly, she stood up. She had an idea! She looked down and saw she had wrecked her snow angel. "Oops," said Zoey.

"I can bring you outside later after you try to convince Unicat," came a voice behind her.

"Hi Dad," Zoey turned around. "Wait, how did you know my plan?"

"I heard you mumbling something about trying to get Unicat to come outside," he replied. Unicat is a magical creature, a grey cat with the horn of a unicorn. Zoey found him in the bushes one day. He was looking for a friend and Zoey's parents let him move into the house.

"I'm going inside to talk to Unicat," Zoey dashed inside.

"Back already?" asked Zoey's mom from the kitchen, where she was making a delicious curry.

"I need to talk to Unicat," replied Zoey. She checked the fireplace. "Where is he?"

"He zipped upstairs to his bedroom," said her mom. "He looked worried."

As she climbed up the stairs, Zoey wondered, '*Will this actually work? Will Unicat come outside? If he does, will he like it?*' She knocked on Unicat's door.

"Come in," called Unicat.

Zoey stepped inside.

Unicat said, "Oh, hi Zoey! Why did you come inside so early? You normally play outside for longer when there is snow." He shivered.

"So you know how you stay inside on snowy or cold days?" she said excitedly. Unicat nodded.

"Well, I want you to come outside!" she blurted.

Unicat's jaw dropped. "There is NO WAY I'm coming outside."



"But Unicat, it will be fun! Pleeease?" Zoey pleaded.

"NO WAY!"

"But, the snow is fluffy and you can play with it. We can build sculptures, forts and so much more!"

"Fine. I'll come outside," he grumbled, "But only if I can come inside if I don't like it." Zoey could tell he was a little excited underneath the grumbling because his horn had started to glow a little. "Okay!" Zoey agreed happily. "Let's go!"

When they got downstairs, Zoey called to her mom, "Mooom! I'm going outside with Unicat!"

"Good idea," replied her mom.

Zoey pulled on her snow boots and snow coat. She gave Unicat a hat and her old snow boots.

Unicat thought the boots looked a little ordinary, He used his magic horn powers to make them shimmer like a rainbow. He also magicked himself a golden puffy coat before following Zoey outside.

As soon as they got outside he stood on his hind legs so he wouldn't get wet. Zoey led Unicat around the yard.

"Everything looks so different with snow!" Unicat marveled as he stepped into a pile of snow. Some fell into his boot. "Okay, I don't like it! I'm going inside," he exclaimed as he hopped on his dry boot.

"Unicat! Wait!" Zoey called. "Magic yourself dry!"

"Oh, right!" agreed Unicat, as his horn sparkled. "Much better." He sparkled again.

Zoey saw that he had magicked himself thick cozy socks.

"Just in case," he winked. He walked around the yard again, "Not bad."

"Like I said, we can go sledding, have snowball fights, build a fort, a snow person – What do you want to do?" Zoey asked.

Unicat thought. "Let's have a snowball fight and build a fort!"

They had an epic snowball fight but no one won because the snowballs broke before they hit.



Next, they built a snow fort. The roof kept breaking so they decided walls were good enough. Eventually, Zoey's parents called them in for dinner.

"Why do we have to go inside?" Unicat complained. "I wish we could stay outside forever!"

"I'm glad you liked it," Zoey said. "We have another snow day tomorrow!"

THE END.

SNOW WARS

by Hansen It was the last day of the year two-thousand two-hundred twenty-one, and to make things better, it was also a snow day! My friend Isaac and I were building a snowman when we were hit in the face with slush. It was extremely cold. It felt colder than the surface of Pluto. It was a hit and run done by our frenemies, Emily and Amber. Actually, Emily and I have some history, just like Isaac and Amber.

I felt livid! I wanted to take revenge on them, so I told Isaac my plan: we will pretend that we don't see them during their next ambush, and then after they attack, we will follow them back to their house. Next, we will build a fort in front, and when they come out to try and attack us again, they will get hit by a barrage of snowballs.

We got started. Our giant, chunky robots built tons of snow bricks for us to stack on top of each other. We made hundreds of snowballs and arranged them into towering piles. For the final touch, we added five other mini-gunner robots to fire snowballs at the doors and windows. The door creaked open and I promptly shouted, "HOW WOULD YOU LIKE A TASTE OF YOUR OWN MEDICINE?! THIS IS REVENGE! ATTACK!" The robots immediately locked onto Amber and Emily and started to fire at them.

About fifteen minutes later, they were thoroughly covered in snow and slush. I can confidently tell you that they weren't happy at all. Our frenemies dashed back inside their house. Moments later, their garage opened and they appeared armed to the teeth. By that, I mean that they were fully dressed in armour, wielded hockey sticks and other stuff like that. Then, they grabbed a flamethrower and since kids shouldn't be allowed to have them, I pulled out my binoculars and saw it was labelled as "Kid Friendly". Since when did Toys"R"Us sell those? I made a mental note to get one. Anyway, they started to melt our wall with the flamethrower. Isaac and I quickly adjusted our launchers and opened fire, forcing our sworn frenemies to fall back. It was starting to look like a mini war.

They came back with their own snowball launcher robots and attacked us with a barrage of snowballs, slush balls and ice balls. We ducked down, sending a flurry of snowballs back at them but they hid in their garage. Isaac and I both grabbed two handheld snowball launchers. We slowly and quietly crept into their garage.

As we peered around the edge of the car, snowballs were fired at us. I scrambled onto the car, trying to be quiet. They didn't see me and were too late to stop me as I pelted them with snow, ice and slush. They bolted back into their house and didn't come out again. We may have won this time, but I knew that they would get revenge one day.

THE END.

SNOWDA AND THE SNOW DAY

by Jenny Blossom, a teenage girl, sat in front of the window staring at the snow outside. She touched the charm her late father had given her. The charm was a small light pink pearl in a small golden hot air balloon. It was a reminder of her favourite activity that she and her late father used to do together. Blossom really wished for a new friend.

Suddenly, she saw something white in the distance! She told her mom she was going outside and dug through her winter outfits, finding a sky blue winter coat with matching pants. She ran outside in her winter outfit and saw an adorable baby panda with a chunk of snow on its head. She carefully walked up. "Hello little guy, what's your name?" Blossom asked.

"I'm Snowda. Who are you?" Snowda shyly responded.

"I'm Blossom. What are you doing here, Snowda?"

"I am lost! And I want to go home!!!"

"Okay, I can go with you."

"I need to go there," Snowda pointed to the mountain in the distance.

"Sure, let's go!" she said. Blossom desperately NEEDED an adventure!

Blossom and Snowda bonded really quickly! They walked for three kilometres while talking together. Blossom was tired, so after twenty minutes, they continued their journey and soon reached a wooden bridge. Blossom was just going to step on the bridge when a bunny suddenly jumped right in front of her. Blossom was so startled, she jumped back in fright.

"What are you doing on my property?" the bunny demanded.

"I mean no harm, sir," Blossom stuttered. "I just wanted to go somewhere. I didn't realize this was your property."

"If you want to cross my bridge, you will have to solve this riddle," the bunny replied, spitefully.

"Anything to cross your bridge," Blossom replied, without hesitating. Blossom knew it couldn't be hard because her father used to test her brain with riddles. "What is in a bed, but never sleeps? It has the same answer as this question: What can run, but never walk? You have thirty seconds to answer!"

"A river," Blossom replied, easily.

The bunny changed his facial expression. He was utterly surprised Blossom knew it so well. She crossed the bridge with Snowda without a hitch!

They reached the bottom of a steep mountain. '*What are we going to do?*' Blossom thought.

Blossom and Snowda just sat hopelessly with nothing to do.

Blossom was going to drink some water when she noticed a dying flower in a terrible condition. She carefully poured a little water around the flower and it magically turned into a flower lift. It then lifted them up to a cave with different coloured lights.

"Goodbye, Snowda. I promise to visit you often!" Blossom said, with teary eyes.

"I will miss you, Blossom!" Snowda sniffled.

Snowda added a snowflake charm beside the balloon charm. "There! Now, you can remember our friendship every time you look at it!" Snowda said, hugging Blossom.

Blossom slid down the mountain and skipped back home.

THE END.

THE S.M.A.R.T. SOCIETY: SNOWFALL MOUNTAIN

by Mmesoma "Come on team!" I said. "We can't be late for the field trip!"

"We're coming," the rest of the group replied.

I was so excited. Today the S.M.A.R.T Society was going to SNOWFALL MOUNTAIN!

"Come on," Mr. Burner said.

Rita dashed in front of us. We followed behind and hopped on the bus.



Bernard, the bus driver greeted us and we found seats. Rita sat next to Abby, I sat next to Maya, and Tanya next to Smartie, her very own drone.

VROOM! WHOOSH! The bus was on its way.

We zoomed past Cat Alley and Speedy Highway. Rita was typing on her computer. **WHOOSH!**

After a few more streets, we reached Snowfall Mountain! The class looked up and saw snow in the sky.


I gasped, it was so splendid outside!

The bus parked and we all got off. Martha, the tour guide, came to walk the class around the park. We saw some geese in the sky.

Tanya pulled out her datapad, scanned the geese and started finding facts about the geese. "Look! The geese are actually migrating!" Tanya exclaimed.

"That's cool!" Rita said.



"Girls, come on," Martha says. "Look out the window."

We saw raccoons and squirrels. We left the park's recreation centre and went outside. One squirrel jumped on Maya. She sweetly brushed it off. Rita was acting too protective and Tanya photographed all the cute squirrels.

"Tanya! Tanya! Stop!" Abby and Maya screamed.

"Aren't you done with these crazy geese facts?" Rita muttered.

"Come on ladies and gentlemen, on to our next stop, Snowfall Mountain!" Martha exclaimed.

Everyone oohed and aahed at the presence of the mountain. Robert Li was licking the tasty snowflakes in delight. "Yum!" Robert shouted in Abby's ear.

"Gross!" she whispered.

Martha walked very fast. Robert and Hugh were talking so loud, Maya could barely hear Martha.



Maya ran and finally caught up with Martha. She asked, "Where to next?"

Martha said, "You wait and see."

Tanya was walking with the rest of the group. She stopped and opened her suitcase and took out Smartie, her favorite robot!

"Hello Master," Smartie said.

Martha led everyone to the Choco shop. The worker, Ruby, gave the whole class free hot chocolate cups. "Yum I love hot chocolate!" Abby, Tanya, Maya, Rita and I finished our hot chocolate cups.

"Okay everyone, let's keep going," Martha said, as she walked ahead with the class following.

We saw a gondola and everyone screamed in excitement!! Martha paid for the tickets and we all got on the gondola! "Wee! To the mountain top," Maya said.

Tanya was looking at the view when suddenly she turned left and right and Smartie was GONE! Tanya did what she usually does, freaked out! Maya and Rita tried to calm her down.

Meanwhile Smartie had fallen down a slope and landed on the ground. A mountain of snow fell on top of him! **WHOMP!** His wings couldn't fly! His mouth was frozen! He was DOOMED!



"Tanya! Tanya! Tanya!" Rita screamed, "Look over there, it's Smartie! I see Smartie!" she said. "He is under a snow pile! We should save him!" Rita protested.

"Let's save him," Tanya said.

"Martha!" Maya, Abby, Tanya, Rita and I exclaimed. "Smartie... My robot... Is gone! He fell off and is stuck under a pile of snow," Tanya explained while panting. Martha pulled the handle and stopped the gondola. She brought out a cool parachute and parachuted off with the SMART Society.

"AHHHH!" Maya was so scared and the whole class watched us.

THUMP. We finally touched the ground. Abby scanned the area with Tanya's datapad. **WHIRR. WHIRR. BEEP!** The datapad found a match, but it showed that Smartie was under a nearby snowman. Tanya started to panic a little.



Martha saw the two boys who had built the snowman having a snowball fight and instantly knew who they were. "That is Sammy Robins and Tim Hagsfield. I saw them this morning at the choco shop!" Martha whispered. She pulled out her microspeaker and told the boys to stop.

After they heard about Smartie, Jim helped break the snowman and gave Tanya her robot. Tanya was glad to get Smartie back even though he was so cold. Smartie has a low battery and could not power up. So Tanya charged Smartie up with her Solar power red charger. Then Martha and the SMART society flew back up to the gondola.

Robert hugged Martha. "You're back! Thank goodness," he squealed.



Martha started the gondola and we continued all the way to the top of the mountain and then back to the bottom again. It was amazing.

When everyone got off the gondola there was so much snow! The whole class made snow angels! Robert and Hugh had a huge snowball fight.

HONK!!! The school bus came to pick up the class. Bernard and the class waved goodbye to Martha.

When the class was back, they told Ms. Burner all about their extraordinary trip to Snowfall Mountain.

THE END.



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