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 February 2022 creative writing contest. The task this month was to write their own creative flash fiction story, of 500 words, involving a Valentine's Day celebration or activity.

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FLUFFS VALENTINE'S DAY

by Angela W. Fluffs was a cute and friendly rabbit. She loved to dress like a princess. There was a flower collar on Fluffs' neck that she always wore. She loved her funny owner. The owner was a very funny woman that had three cute and fuzzy bunnies. But Fluffs was the only one that had a flower collar on the neck.

There were different things in the pets world, like Valentine's Day. In the human world Valentine's Day is only one day, but in the pets' world it is a week long! Hi, I am Fluffs and I am writing in my owner's diary because she is on holiday in Mexico.

I just found out that it was Valentine's Day and I had to make a gift.

Oh yay, I forgot that I got a letter that was for me in front of my cage. It was from one of my best friends, Love. Love just moved into my house last year. I moved in six years ago when I was just born. When I opened the letter a rose popped out and said, "Be My Valentine." I put my hand in and there were some heart treats. I put the rose that Love gave me into my cage.

Day Two of Valentine's Week:

I thought and thought about what I should give Love. Yes of course I would give him a gift and it would be a friendly letter back! I would write, "Dear Love, I am honoured that you are my friend."

Day Three of Valentine's Week:

My friend Banana came to my cage for a party. She brought her favourite carrot turnovers. Carrots were Banana's favourite. Banana was a brown and white rabbit with a red nose. Banana and I went into one of my owners' big jars. I told Banana to go in first and I put a strawberry in for her to eat.

Day Four of Valentine's Week:

No fun today.

Day Five Valentine's Week:

Still no fun today.

I am starting to make a present for Love. It is so fun making it. I made a wonderful drawing for Love.

Day Seven Valentine's Week:

It's finally the end of Valentine's week! I gave my drawing to Love and I think he liked it. Early at 6:30 in the morning I put a letter in front of Love's cage.

THE END.

AN OVER-CHOCOLATEY VALENTINE'S DAY

by Angela X. "Everyone, please be at work at six o'clock sharp tomorrow. You all know Valentine's Day is big business. Now, I call this work meeting to a close. Do not be late! Or else."

It was Valentine's Day! Every day on February the fourteenth, business thrives. I work in a chocolate factory and many people line up on Valentine's Day to get chocolate hearts, flowers, sculptures, you name it. I was so happy because my paycheck would almost triple by the end. What could go wrong? It was barely morning when my alarm rang, and I jumped up from my bed all excited. I quickly threw off my pajamas and put on my work suit. The glorious sunshine poured in through the windows.

'It's going to be a good day,' I thought as I sprinted out the door, with my hand clutching my work bag tightly at the thought of the usual six hundred dollar Valentine's Day paycheck.

The building of the chocolate factory I worked at soon came to sight and I swooshed past chattering customers, trying to get to my assigned pot of chocolate. Sweet aromas rose from the pots, swirling all around me, filling my nostrils with the creamy scent. Smooth, rich, melted chocolate bubbled inside of the three hundred pots in the room. I began stirring mine with a long wooden stick and enjoyed the soothing swishing of the chocolate.

Suddenly, a loud voice boomed on the announcement speaker, "ATTENTION, STAFF! SOMETHING IS WRONG IN THE

CONTROL ROOM AND THE POTS ARE OVERFLOWING! CLOSE THE LIDS IMMEDIATELY! THE TUBES AT THE BOTTOM OF THE POTS ARE MALFUNCTIONING!"

Panicked voices flew all around the room.

"Oh no!"

"What's happening?"

"What are we supposed to do?"

"WE ARE GOING TO DIE!"

All of us frantically tried to close the lids, but it was too late. Chocolate was oozing over the pots, dripping on the ground, and slowly the whole factory began to flood with the sticky substance. I struggled to walk in the thick, mud-like chocolate as it slowly rose up to my chin. No one could open the door to let the chocolate out since it was too thick and sticky, almost like quicksand. I quickly kicked myself up to the surface and gasped at the sight.

Chocolate was everywhere, and there was no way I could swim in the goo and somehow reach the door, but it was worth a try. I took a deep, chocolate-infused breath of air and dove in.

I swallowed a mouthful of chocolate as I tried to dive down. I heard a loud sound coming from the wrapping room. I kicked back to the surface, gasping for air. A large vacuum thing was sucking up some of the chocolate, but it didn't seem to be working since the chocolate still kept rising until it was almost to the roof! I dove down once more to find an opening. I could see nothing in the brownness of chocolate. All I could make out in the dark was two pots, a glove, and a few stirring sticks. My hands settled upon a cold sphere. Without thinking, I pulled on it and I was blown by a rush of chocolate. A second later, I was out of the factory, along with some of my chocolatecovered co-workers.

The factory was under construction for over four months due to the chocolate overflow incident. Thankfully, my paycheck that day was still tripled, thanks to the people using buckets to buy the chocolate that filled up the factory. I don't think I'll ever be that excited about Valentine's Day again... It was a nightmare!

THE END.

VALENTINE'S SURPRISE

by Angelina I'm a fourth-grade student living at Madame Rosalina Academy's dormitory. Today is Valentine's Day. Like before, I have written a valentine's card for every student and teacher in my grade. I will deliver them before the first class starts to spark their day.

It's a bit unusual this year. I have not received any reciprocated valentine's cards as the day goes by. Just as I return to my dormitory and open the bedroom door, a surprise package comes tumbling down from the ceiling. FINALLY, someone remembered!

I hold my breath and unwrap it with a flashing lightning speed. Inside the square box lies a bundle of dry hay and a note:

Bring this hay and find a barn made of stone, where a dining table is under the dome. A place of heart for people who love tarts.

 $\sim 19\text{-}15\text{-}16\text{-}8\text{-}9\text{-}1\ 19\text{-}15\text{-}14\text{-}7$

I am confused. 'What is this all about?'

Stumped, I decided to grab my bike and ride to Tarty Farm. That's the only place I can think of where people who love tarts would go. Tia, the lady who owns this lovely farm, makes the most delicious tarts in the Eastern Meadows.

"Knock, knock," I tap lightly on the aged oak wood door.

Tia opens the door with a warm smile on her face. "Would you like to try my new cherry heart tarts? I just finished baking them." "I need your help with solving a riddle," I request, without answering her question.

"Come on in and sit down. You need a toasted tart first to fuel your hungry mind," Tia insists.

I sit down at the kitchen table and as I look out the window, there is a barn made of stone!

"Excuse me, has that barn always been there?" I question hastily.

"Of course. You may go take a look inside after you've finished this cherry heart tart. And you may want to bring your box with you," Tia replies with a wink.

Just as I'm gobbling down the food, an idea lights up in my mind. '*What if those numbers represent letters of the alphabet?*' I grab a piece of paper and write down the numbers and their matching letters.

19-15-16-8-9-1 19-15-14-7 S-O-P-H-I-A S-O-N-G It's my best friend, Sophia, who has sent me this mystery box! I dash to the barn made of stone and there is a long dining table full of appetizing dishes under the dome roof. All of my classmates and teachers are already here! This is our school's Valentine's barn party. In a corner, a herd of cute llamas are feasting on scrumptious rolls of hay. I approach one with this bunch of hay from my box as my heart is pounding with excitement. What a special Valentine's Day!

THE END.

THE DRAGON NAMED JOE

by Cary Once upon a time, there was a dragon named Joe. He loved to play basketball with his friends and tag. He liked this prince named Rick, but Rick would never let Joe enter the kingdom. So Joe had to make a two thousand IQ plan to enter the kingdom and ask Rick to be his valentine.

First, he tried to dress up as a random person and enter the kingdom. Joe easily got into the kingdom, but the king was always busy, so he waited for a very long time.

About thirty minutes later, somebody crashed into Joe and his disguise was ruined. He was immediately kicked out from the kingdom.

Joe sat with his friends with pity, thinking that he had no chance. His friends tried to tell him that it's fine and he will find another way, but Joe's brain was too small and he couldn't think of any ideas. But Einstein, who was a very smart dragon by the way, said that he could say that he was a good dragon and was trying to give the prince's mother a few million dollars, which she would definitely approve of. So, his friends gave him a few million dollars and Joe went inside the kingdom. Joe may not be smart, but he is very persuasive, so he easily walked past the guards and into the queen's throne room. A lot of guards thought he was suspicious and wouldn't let him go in, so he used one of his powers that made whoever he saw sleep for a long time.

Soon, he arrived at the queen's throne. She was scared for a second, but when she saw the money, she was instantly stunned.

"How did a monster get that much money?" The queen took the money and Joe left, but then he suddenly realized he got scammed! (Or maybe he is just dumb).

So, he went to the kingdom for the third time. On the streets, he saw Rick. Rick quickly ran to the dragon and gave him a box of chocolate.

Rick told Joe that today was Valentine's Day and he wanted to do something thoughtful. And so, they lived happily ever after.

THE END.

FRIENDS FOREVER

by Chloea Every year the pets get together for Valentine's Day to exchange their paw cards. Then they have a party and celebrate. A kitten, puppy, mouse, goldfish, bear cub, cheetah cub, wolf cub, and a baby unicorn meet together in their secret garden.

The cat is named Isabella, the dog is named Amber, and the goldfish is named Goldy. The mouse is named Charlie, the bear cub is named Coco, and the cheetah cub is named Spots. The wolf cub is named Azra, and the baby unicorn is named Lotus. They do have a hard time memorizing each other's names! So you see, they have no owners and that is why they became friends. Since they are all a different species they can't meet each other all at the same time everyday, so they only meet each other once a year. Now it is Valentine's Day and the animals will meet today.

Most of the animals are getting ready now, especially Lotus and Isabella. Lotus and Isabella are in charge of the food and drinks. Goldy actually does not need to go anywhere because she lives in a pond in the secret garden. They are going to set the party up and get ready to party. Amber, Spots, and Coco were having a dance down. Charlie, Lotus, and Isabella were drinking some freshly brewed tea by Lotus's magic. Azra noticed that something was in the bushes and all of a sudden an enormous lion jumped out and all the animals started screaming.

The lion took all their decorations and food and ran away. Lotus tried to use her magic but she was not experienced enough. Then Azra, Amber, and Coco started to chase the lion, but they were not as fast as him. Only Spots was faster than the lion, so he let Charlie hop on him so when he caught up Charlie could hop on the lion.

After a while, Spots caught up to the lion and just at the right time Charlie jumped up on the lion and he took the decorations back. Now they had to run even faster because the lion got very angry and he started to chase Spots.

After a while Spots lost the lion and they went back to partying, but kept an eye on the bushes just in case he tried to come back. Then they noticed that he would not come back, so they partied and exchanged cards happily ever after.

THE END.

ZOEY & UNICAT ADVENTURES: VALENTINE FRIENDS

by Eiliya **Ding!** Went Zoey's alarm clock, waking her up for school.

Zoey has long curly dark brown hair, skin the colour of her favourite milky tea, and dark brown eyes. Zoey likes music and science.

Zoey slowly gets out of bed and goes to wake up Unicat in his own room, right next to Zoey's. Unicat is talking in his sleep. "Unicat, snap out of it!" Zoey exclaims as she drags Unicat out of bed. Unicat is a magical creature, he moved into Zoey's yard one day looking for a friend. Unicat has a sparkly golden horn and is a gray cat with a white belly. Unicat likes to play with cat toys and stand on his hind legs like a human. He also talks like a human. Him and Zoey are best friends.

Zoey is still dragging Unicat by his arm, then remembers she has exciting news. "Unicat, Valentine's Day is on Monday! Today is Friday!" Unicat is excited for Valentine's Day, but he is also a little unsure who his friends are. He wants to make Valentine's Day special for them. Zoey already knows who she wants to make her extra special valentine's for.

Zoey begins to talk about Valentine's Day. The class will have a celebration on Monday. She mentions that the house doesn't look so good, that it needs some decorations. Then she mentions the special valentines that she is making for her friends, and the regular ones for her classmates. That's when Unicat feels that he needs to interrupt. "I don't know who to make special valentines for! I don't have any good friends, other than you, Zoey."

"You'll find who your true friends are if you plan it right," says Zoey.

Unicat feels his heart rising at the thought of making friends, as he goes to bed that night.

On Saturday, Zoey brings Unicat to a family friend's house so he can try making friends.

Unicat tries giving him a bouncy ball and he likes it. They play together all day. Unicat is so happy, thinking he has made a friend. But when they get home that night Zoey teaches Unicat that giving things to other people isn't how you show friendship, or make friends. It's about helping others when they need it and making connections with others. Unicat suddenly feels a pang of doubt that he will ever make a real friend.

On Sunday, Zoey brings Unicat to her friend Hannah's house. Zoey wants to show Unicat what a real friend is like. Unicat has one more trick up his sleeve. He helps Hannah tidy up her room. Hannah likes it and says, "Thank you Unicat!" But she doesn't do anything special for Unicat in return. Zoey knows that cleaning Hannah's room for her won't work for Unicat. Zoey and Hannah quietly leave the room as she explains to Hannah that Unicat is trying to make real friends.

At dinner that night back at home, Unicat is very worried because the next day is Valentine's Day and he still doesn't know how to make special valentine's - or who to make them special for. Later that night, they went to Zoey's friend Evie's house. Evie is upset because she has lost her favourite pencil. Unicat jumps up to help her find it right away.

After searching for twenty minutes Unicat finds the pencil! Evie thanks him and gives him a cupcake that she had made earlier. Unicat is proud. He has discovered one true friend.

Then Sofia comes running down the sidewalk towards Evie's house.

They all meet her outside and she tells them that she doesn't have any friends anymore because her other friend is mad at her.

"I can be your friend!" Unicat says.

`Now I know who will open a special surprise from me tomorrow!' Unicat thinks to himself as he and Zoey walk home.

On Monday, Unicat is excited to head to school with his valentine's.

The classroom is all decorated when they walk inside. There are valentine's activities everywhere, and the whole classroom smells like sweet cinnamon with a little bit of spice!

Unicat had brought a special valentine for Evie and Sofia along with regular valentine's for the rest of the class. The rule is they have to wait until they get home to open their valentines. So after school Zoey and Unicat have Evie and Sofia come over to open all their valentines. When Evie and Sofia open their valentines from Unicat they are very surprised. They are covered in pink and purple sparkly butterflies and heart cut outs. They all got special valentine's from each other.

Unicat is so happy and hopes to make even more friends next year!

THE END.

TINY AND POINTY

by Ella Once upon a time, there was a little mouse named Tiny. It was Valentine's Day, and he was planning to give a card to Pointy the cheese. He smiled to himself as he put it into an envelope and thought, *'This is going to be great!'*

On the map, he searched up where Pointy lived and went climbing up the mountain that she lived on. It was a long journey, and it was snowing, but he still wanted to give the card to her. Soon enough, he had reached the peak. He looked down, and he saw a light shining from a cave across from him. He ran over, but then stopped because he was facing a cat! Tiny was terrified. He had never seen a cat before, and he thought, '*Oh no! I'm going to die!*' But Tiny was so small, the cat didn't even see him! He was so happy, he let out a high-pitched squeak. The cat almost saw him, but he slipped into a cupboard just in time.

Then, he saw Pointy the cheese in the corner, but there was also another mouse beside him in the cupboard. Tiny was so surprised! He asked him what he was doing, and he said that his name was Squeak, and that he was giving Pointy a card. Tiny said, "Hey! I'm doing the same thing!" And they got into a fight. After a while, they both agreed that whoever got to Pointy first, without getting caught, could give the card to her.

Squeak went first. He went near Pointy in the corner, but he got caught by the cat, and the cat ate him in a mouthful.

"Finally! Something to eat!" said the cat.

Tiny was startled. Just then, the cat went outside to make a snowman.

When he went out, Tiny decided to give the card to Pointy. He went where Squeak had gone, but he was able to give the card to Pointy. Tiny was glad he could give Pointy the card without getting eaten!

As Pointy read the card, she was so grateful that she helped him escape. She showed him the way out after the cat had come in. The cat was looking for Pointy to show her the snowman that he made, but by the time he got there, Pointy and Tiny had already escaped from the cave. The cat chased them, but he forgot to wear his jacket, and he froze into an ice cube! Then, Pointy and Tiny climbed down the mountain, and went to Tiny's home. Tiny asked Pointy if she wanted to live with him, since she didn't have a home, and Pointy said sure.

In the summer all the snow melted, and the cat felt so foolish for letting Pointy and Tiny escape. He climbed down the mountain and looked for them, but couldn't find them anywhere. Eventually, he gave up and went back to his home in the mountains.

THE END.

VALENTINE'S INVESTIGATION

by Hansen It was another boring day. I woke up at four in the morning and started getting ready for school. It was Valentine's Day, so I dressed up in my best clothes and brushed my teeth twice, before and after breakfast. I brought my toothbrush and toothpaste to school to keep my teeth squeaky clean.

When I got to my locker, I noticed that it was bulging out a little. Curious, I yanked open the locker door. Bags of chocolates and sweets poured out of it like a flood. I quickly gathered everything and shoved them back into my locker. As I headed to class, one question continued to bother me, *'Who sent all of that candy?'*

When lunch arrived, I asked all of my classmates if they knew who gave me the candy. No one knew. Suddenly, I realized that there must be a note attached to some of the candy! I sprinted back to my locker, grabbed a note attached to one of the candies, and scanned it. However... It was signed, *'Anonymous.'* I stomped my feet in frustration. I headed back to class, feeling defeated. I sat in silence the rest of the day. The bell rang, signalling the end of school. When I checked my backpack, I saw a note.

"Meet us in the gym at 2:50, sharp," the note said. '*There's more than one person?*' I shot a glance at the clock. I realized that it was already 2:49!

I was going to the gym in a flash, running as quickly as I could without getting in trouble. I peeked inside the gym, but didn't see anyone. I had just stepped inside when someone shoved me forward. I tripped and fell, nearly face planting. I quickly got up, but when I turned around, I realized the door had been closed! I slowly crept towards the other door leading to the hallway but that was suddenly slammed closed too. Finally, I headed towards the gym kitchen. I stepped into the darkness, reaching for the light switch. **Flick!** With the lights on, I could now see that the kitchen was filled with my friends and all kinds of food and drinks.

"Happy Valentine's Day, Hansen," they all cheered.

I was silent and in shock for a moment before I grinned. "Thank you so much everyone," I exclaimed.

"Let's get this party started guys!" One of my friends cheered.

"Wait," I shouted. "We can't forget the candy you all gave me! Give me a minute!"

I ran to my locker as fast as I could, scooped the candy into my arms and ran back to the gym.

Everyone started fussing over the candy until a teacher came and told us to quiet down if we wanted to stay. Like the good children we are, we listened... until he left. Then we all started shouting and cheering again. The teacher came back in and gave us all detention for 'C*ausing a ruckus*.'

THE END.

VALENTINE'S DAY DISASTER

by Jaqueline Miyeon was bouncing up and down with excitement. '*Who will be this year's Valentine's Day Party Planner?*' she wondered.

"And this year's Valentine's Day Party Planner will be... Charlotte Havaski!"

Miyeon froze. If there was one thing she knew about Charli, it was that she was the worst party planner ever. *'Maybe this won't be so good after all,'* Miyeon thought. And from her expression, even from a distance, she could tell Charli thought the same. Something to Miyeon's right made her jump, but she relaxed as she recognized her best friend, Amy.

"What is she thinking?" Amy was mumbling. "Everyone in the whole school knows how terrible Charli is at planning things!"

"Actually, I was kind of hoping it was Caren," Miyeon admitted. Caren was the biggest bully in the whole school, and apart from planning the party, they also had to clean everything up. "Well, I just hope that she doesn't mess everything up again!" Amy said.

After the principal made the announcements at the assembly, Miyeon decided to talk to Charli to help her plan the party. It wasn't very hard for Miyeon to find her; Charli almost always wore either black, gray, white, or bright neon clothes. She was at the school's fountain outside, with one of her friends, Alyssa.

"Hi, Charli!" Miyeon said. "I heard that you are this year's Valentine's Day party planner. May I help?"

Charli nodded.

"Okay, then! Why don't we meet after school at my house?" Miyeon asked, and Charli nodded again.

After school, as soon as the bell rang, Miyeon raced through the hallway, past the lockers, and down the stairs. She was finally going to get out of the school, when a tall, mean-looking girl blocked her path. *Caren*.

"Looks like your little friend got to be the party planner this year," Caren sneered.

"Well, maybe you should stop sticking your nose in other people's business," Miyeon shot back.

Eyes blazing with fury, Caren raised her fist and glared at her, while Miyeon fought back a shudder of terror as she realized what Caren was about to do. Just as suddenly as she came, Caren disappeared. Miyeon turned around and saw a teacher approaching. *'Coward,'* Miyeon thought.

When Miyeon got home, Charli wasn't there yet, so she decided to work out some plans by herself for a while. However, when Charli arrived, they couldn't decide on a plan that she liked.

On the day before the Valentine's Day party, they still had no plan, so Charli quickly made an extremely simple one and sent it to the school. However, at the party the next day, things started to go wrong. Teachers and staff tripped and fell. People crashed into tables. Kids got tangled up. Miyeon realized that the schedule was too tight and people were rushing too much.

At the end of the day, when Miyeon finally got home, she couldn't help but feel relieved that the party was finally over.

THE END.

HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY

by Joyce On Valentine's day, Salt and Gary were getting prepared to buy some Valentine's Day cards in the supermarket. They met up at Gary's house.

"Are you ready yet? It feels like we're moving houses!" complained Salt.

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"Okay, I'm done," replied Gary.
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"Let's go! I bet all the Valentine's cards are going to sell out real quick," rushed Salt. Once they arrived at the supermarket, the friends rushed to the seasonal section. Everyone was crowded there, and not a single ant could squeeze in.

"Do people even breathe these days?" asked Salt.

"Maybe not," replied Gary.

Salt and Gary waited for a nice, long, thirty minutes before the swarm of raccoons were cleared out. They went to the shelf, and... "Oh no! They're all sold out!" panicked Gary.

"Of course, but we can make our own!" suggested Salt.

"Good idea, let's get some supplies," agreed Gary.

They went to the crafts section and found some coloured construction paper and heart shaped decorations.

Then, they headed back home and started making the valentines.

HOW TO MAKE A VALENTINES Step by step tutorial

1. First, gather up a bunch of small red or pink paper, and fold it in half

2. Then, cut half a heart on the side of the folded paper

3. After cutting the heart shape, open it, and that will make a heart!

4. Now, cut a smaller heart in the big heart like the way you did in step 2

5. Finally, glue the heart to a peice of blank paper folded in

the inside o		e cara
RESULTS:		
Front side	Insi	da
	Happy Valentines Day!	From: Sait & Gary To: Dill & Dename

Salt and Gary spent the whole morning making valentines for all their friends. Salt even wrote down the instructions for how to make them.

After they finished writing all the valentines cards, they went to visit their friends. First was Chili and her little sister Cinnamon. They met in a skiing contest, and Chili was the host. Then, they went to visit a very old friend, Rosemary.

After handing out all of the valentines cards, Salt said goodbye and went back home for lunch. But what he didn't expect was a huge surprise waiting for him!

While they were making the valentines cards, Gary secretly texted all of Salt's friends to plan a big Valentine's Day party for Salt!

Salt's friends, Cinnamon, and Rosemary were going to decorate Gary's house while Gary and Chili got the supplies.

An hour later, Gary visited Salt to check if he was done with lunch. And he was. So, Gary sent another message to their friends to alert them. But, to distract Salt, Gary led him to the carnival first, and that gave Cinnamon and Rosemary to finish decorating and making gifts for Salt.



After Salt and Gary came back from the carnival, they went to Gary's house for some random excuse he made up.

When Salt arrived at Gary's house, Chili, Cinnamon, Rosemary and every one of Salt and Gary's friends were there. This was unexpected of Gary and even more for Salt! Gary thought only Chili, Cinnamon, and Rosemary were supposed to be there!

"Chili! Cinnamon! Rosemary! Cloves! Ginger! Basil! What are you all doing here?" Salt exclaimed, shocked. "Happy Valentine's Day!" They all celebrated.

THE END.

THE VALENTINE'S DAY PARTY

by Kaycee Once upon a time, there was a girl named Barbet. She baked twenty heart cookies to bring to the party.

She walked outside onto the street to meet her four friends. But it was so rainy and messy outside that she slipped. The heart cookies flew all over the place.

Barbet's friends helped her back up. But there were no more cookies.



Then her mom came outside. She said, "What happened to this mess?"

The girls said, "We were going to the Valentine's Day party."

And Barbet's mom said, "Oh sillies, it's not the Valentine's Day party today, that is tomorrow."

So the girls went back inside and baked more cookies together for the next day.

THE END.

SWEETS LAND

by Linxi It was Valentine's Day! Joey was delighted since he had been single for forty-three thousand, three hundred and forty nine minutes, ever since Olivia Brown broke up with him. Joey was also very lonely. He hadn't seen his family for about thirty minutes. I suppose that he isn't actually that lonely. But he just didn't want to be single this year. So off he went to look for a lover.

Joey had a plan in mind. He was going to look for his soulmate. He wanted to meet Mary Mellow because they were 'soulmates.' In simple words, Joey had a crush on Mary. Anyways, he went to find Mary.

Joey headed out of his own house so he could go find Jess, his best friend. When Joey arrived at Jess's house, he rang the doorbell and Jess answered the door.

"Hi Joey! What are you doing so early? It's only 6 am!" Jess asked.

"I'm looking for Mary, I can feel it! Today's the day!" Joey answered. Without further explanation Joey took Jess's hand and they left!

Jess suggested they look for Joey's soulmate around snack bars, so Jess could get snacks while Joey looked for Mary. First, they went to Rainbow Toast Stand, because that's where Mary worked on Mondays. Joey went up to the store clerk and asked if Mary was there.

"Is that her?" as the store clerk pointed to another person.

"No..." Joey answered.

"Then no," the store clerk said.

With slumped shoulders with a cloud over his head, Joey went to report the news to Jess. Unlike Joey, Jess had a huge grin on her face. She got a large sized rainbow toast. Rainbow toast was normal toast with melted cheese on it, but the cheese was coloured like a rainbow. "Joey! I heard that Mary went to the Jelly Donut Department because they needed volunteers to help them. Let's go!" Jess exclaimed.

So this time, Jess took Joey's hand and off they went to the Jelly Donut Department.

They weren't so far from it, so they arrived quickly and wow! It looked like a stampede. Jess ran to get a jelly donut immediately. Joey had a bit of hope left so he went to see the manager to ask about Mary. And that's when he saw her! *Mary*!

Joey ran up to her. He was elated! The worst that could happen would be Mary saying no to being his Valentine.

But, the worst Mary could say wasn't no. Because, "Eww, you're so weird, go away," was worse than no. And that's exactly what Mary said to Joey.

I guess Joey would be lonely forever.

Then, a beautiful blonde girl walked by...

Joey was in love again!

THE END.

TALLY TOAD AND THE VALENTINE'S PARTY

by Mmesoma "I'm so happy today!" I said.

"Why are you so happy for the Valentine's party, Tally?" Tom annoyingly questioned me, while staring at me in a weird way.

"Duh, it's so cool!" I protested. '*Tom sometimes underestimates me*,' I thought to myself.

"Up ahead!" Tom shouted. "I see the school!"

At school, Tom and I walked into the lively classroom.

"Tally! Tally!" I heard. It was my best friend, Betsy Butterfly! Betsy and I hugged like we do everyday. When I looked behind her, I saw our teacher, Mr. Hopper.

"Today we are going to learn about Valentine's Day," he said.

"Yay!" the class screamed.

"So, did you know that Valentine's day is named after Saint Valentine, who was a priest?" Mr. Hopper asked the class.

"Nope," Betsy and Tom replied.

Ding! Ding! It was recess! For about six minutes, everyone played outside at the park.

When recess ended, Mr. Hopper called everyone inside. All of us ran into the classroom, shivering. Mr. Hopper shut the door and grabbed his special white chalk. He scribbled the words, *'Valentine's Party'* on the board.

I looked at the word and felt excited. I quietly screamed. I glared at Tom, who was angrily staring at the board. Tom doesn't like Valentine's Day.

ÀB É DÉFE HI JKLMNOPARSTUV NXYZ VALENTINES MRITOPER

"So, who wants to organize our party?" Mr. Hopper asked.

Annie, Betsy and I raised our hands.

"Hi Kids!" Our drama and EA teacher, Ms. Buffalo, walked into the classroom. "I'm taking Tally, Betsy, and Annie today Mr Hopper," she hollered.

Betsy, Annie and I stood up and followed Ms. Buffalo to her secret office. After walking past the washrooms, we reached her office and walked inside.



"Sit, you three," Ms. Buffalo said. She scribbled the words, '*Valentine's Day Organizing*' on the board. Then she continued to write more words like, '*Fun. Pink. Kind.*'

"Ms. B., can we add our own ideas too?" I quietly asked.

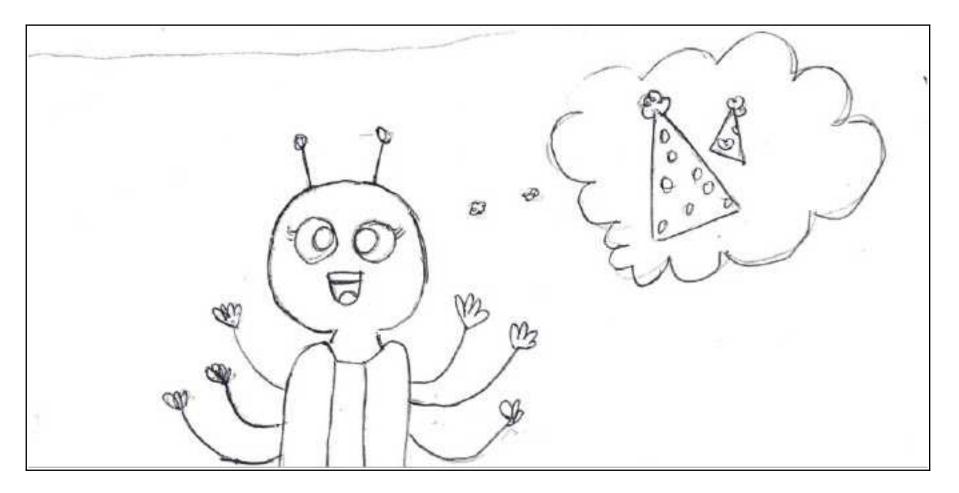
"Yes!" she replied.

"I have an idea Ms. B!" Annie shouted.

"What is it?"

"We should make party hats!!"

Ring! Ring!

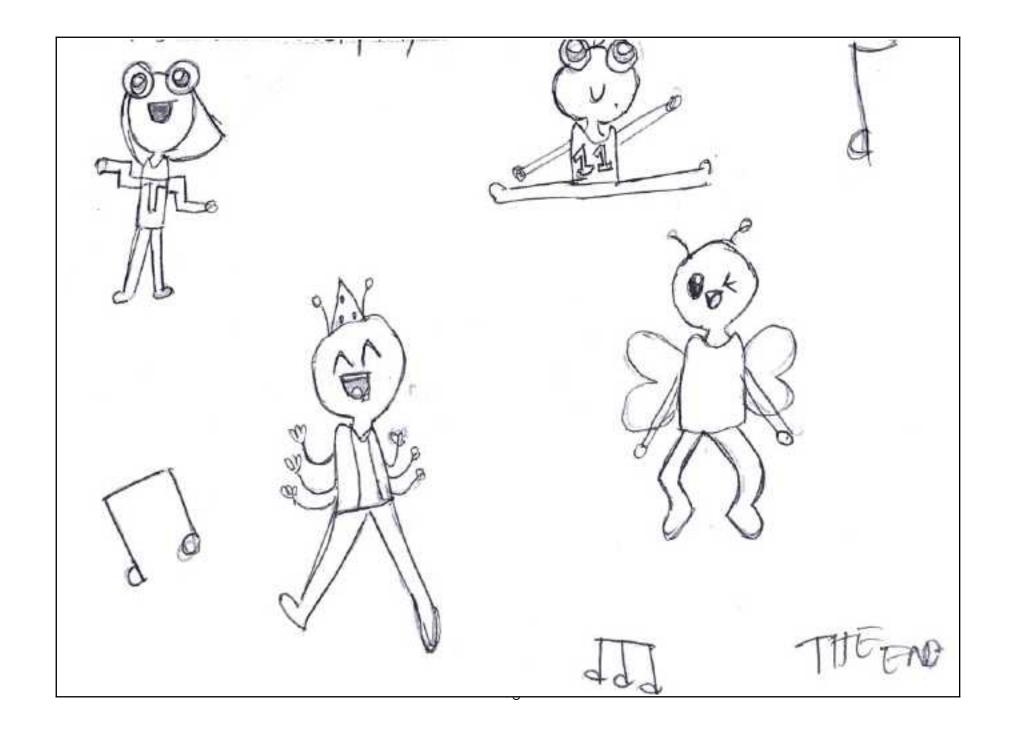


We were out of time! We had to show our ideas to Mr. Hopper. Annie, Tally and I ran to the classroom. Annie showed Mr. Hopper our ideas and he loved them!

"Party time!" he exclaimed. Mr. Hopper started the music and Annie gave out the party hats. Betsy and the class boogied to the chill song. Tom and I handed out chocolates.

Mr. Hopper was doing a jig. "Tally, could you come up?" he asked.

I bounced on the stool cheerfully.



"Now sing!" he said.

"Happy Valentine's day to you!" I sang. This was the best Valentine's Day party ever.

THE END.

ARF

by Neilan We entered the restaurant, without so much as a peep. We snuck through the building, our canine ears perked for every possible threat. We stalked towards where I thought the food was and suddenly froze. I heard the clinking of toes. I dropped down, into stealth mode, padding across the floor.

My family and I turned the corner and saw what we were concerned about. A cat. The cat yowled and ran off, knocking things over, which made a spectacular noise.

"Let's grab some food and get out of here," I quickly barked.

We snatched some bacon, sausage, and a weird-looking thing that looked like a ball. We skedaddled out while keeping the food we got. We ran a short distance away and then dropped the food we collected. We split the food amongst ourselves and ate. It was only then did we realize there was a human looming over us with a net.

'TIME TO SKEDADDLE,' I thought. I hopped to my feet, and just as I was about to sprint away, I was hit with something and slumped to the ground. I woke up in a kennel. 'Great.'

This was the first time I was in a kennel, and so far I wasn't enjoying it. I took a nap. Then I was awakened by Shadow, barking.

"Rover! Charge for the front door at your first break! First chance or you will lose it! I went to that shelter before! Get out at the break!" Once I got the message, I dozed off again, confident in my friends.

I recalled what Shadow said, "First chance you get."

I silently did some thinking. Many shelters get the annoying dog dealt with first. I was going to be the annoying doggo I was. I started howling and yapping. The humans sighed as if annoyed, and came in to fish me out. Success! The human opened the kennel door, and I dove out the first chance I got. Twisting and turning, galloping and sprinting, trying my best against the humans. I rejected the urge to escape through the front entrance, considering the large man blocking it. I started an expedition to find the back door.

Turns out finding back doors was extremely hard. I finally found the back door after a series of dead ends. The door was the kind of door you see in old fashioned bars. Those are easy to get through pushy doors. I barrelled right through, into the back alley. I ran towards the alley exit, only to find a pack of coyotes blocking my way.

"I WOULD LIKE SOME HELP HERE," I howled.

Suddenly, I heard the howls of my family, and I could have howled for joy. My family appeared at the back of the pack of coyotes, and we charged. After merely ten seconds of combat, we sent the coyotes on their way, minus some patches of fur.

Family is a wide range of things. Love, loyalty, and a whole sea more. I wish there were a word to describe it.

THE END.



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