

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



# ***KIDS IN CHARGE STORIES***

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 develop 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 September 2023 creative writing contest. The task this month was to write a 500 word story about what school would be like if kids were in charge! We were looking for creative stories with fun ideas!

**Winners:**

- Ages 5-9: 'The Day the Kids Got Back at the Principal' by Rylea, age 9  
'The Kid Principal' by William, age 9
- Ages 10-13: First Place: 'The New Principal' by Oliver, age 12  
Second Place: 'The Kid Who Ran a School' by Aubrey, age 10

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# ***THE KID WHO RAN A SCHOOL***

by

Aubrey

age 10

Kaylie always dreamed of being the principal of the school. She wasn't really good at any subjects and thought school was really boring. Everyday was the same routine. She wondered why teachers got so many privileges. Teachers got to rest at the Teachers' Lounge after lunch. But where was the Students' Lounge? If she ran the school, she would definitely get that.

*'If I ran this school,' she thought, 'I'd give more recesses and add a students' sleeping room. And ban the teachers' lounge for a whole week! And no homework for everyone.'* There were just too many things to change and correct.

“Alright class, can I have your attention please?” Kaylie’s teacher said, walking into the classroom. “The teachers are all going on a vacation this week, including the principal, which means one of the students in this school gets to be the principal for the whole week!”

She explained that they had to put their names in a jar and the principal had to pick out three names. Then, the three would come to her office and tell her what they would do for the week, and have the teachers decide which student would be the best.

Kaylie didn't even hear the laughing of the middle school kids in the hallway. She found this an opportunity to do what she wanted! So she wrote her name on a sheet of paper and dropped it in the name jar.

The next morning, the teacher came back with the results. “Okay,” she said. “The principal has picked the three students already. Kaylie, you are the only one who has been chosen from this grade. Please go to the principal’s office now.” Everyone started whispering. Kaylie was full of emotions. Kind of like happiness mixed with excitement and nervousness.

Kaylie walked across the hallway to her office. The other two were from sixth grade. When it was her turn, she told them that she would improve the school, if she had enough time, and give the students a pretty good time, but it would be safe. After finishing, she headed to the waiting area. Waiting for results or scores was the most hardest and boring time of all. Finally, after twenty minutes of waiting, the principal came back.

“Kaylie Johnson, I think you would make a good principal,” she said, smiling. The sixth graders groaned.



Kaylie closed her eyes to think. *'The next morning at 8:00am when I walk into the school, I'm the principal. Head of school.'* She felt like she was dreaming. Then she pinched herself hard to make sure she wasn't. And it did hurt.

The next morning, she happily entered the school. Everyone surprised her at the front doors. Kaylie made sure that this week would be the best week this school has ever had.

***THE END.***

# ***IF I WERE IN CHARGE***

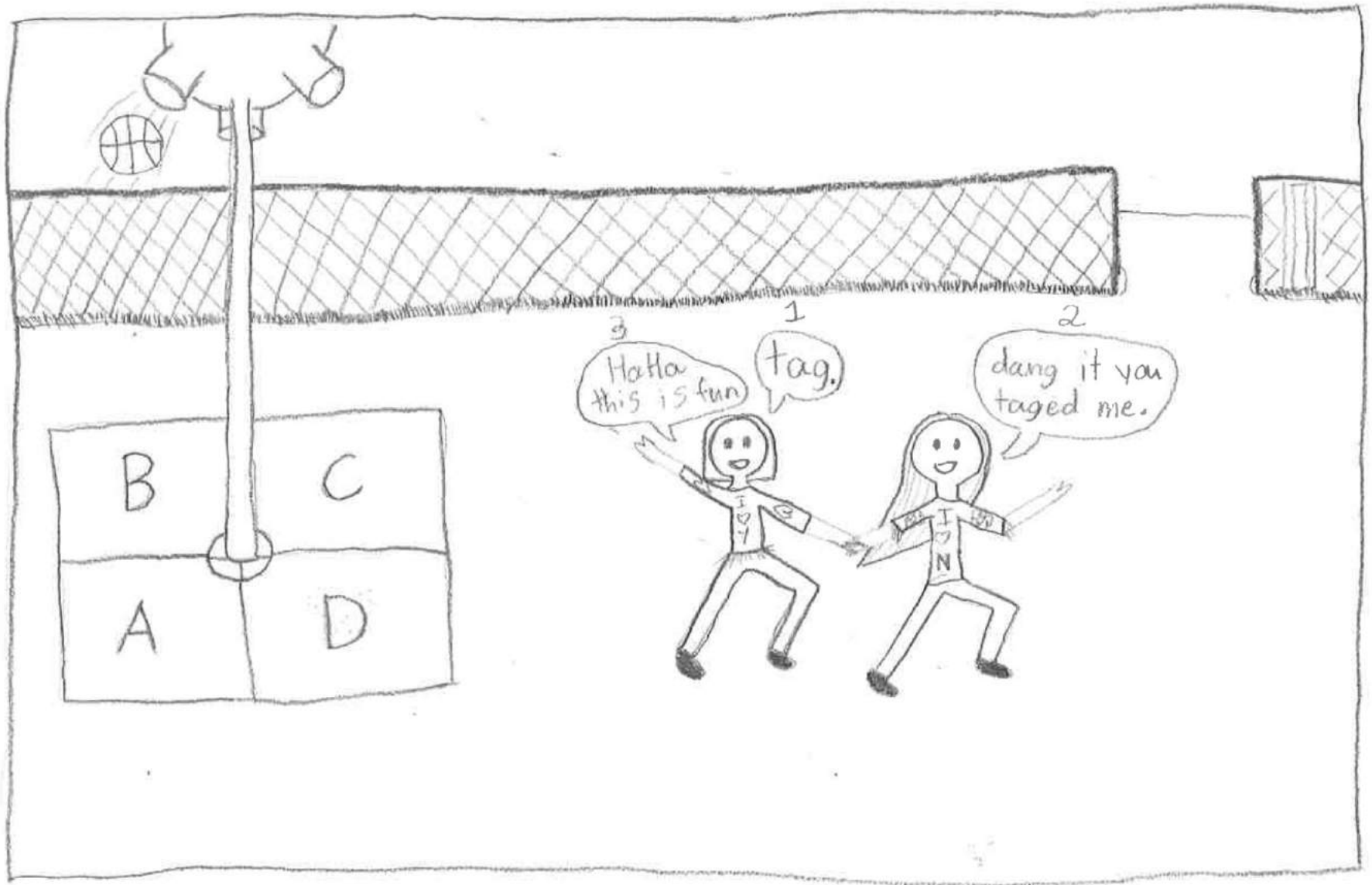
by  
Nicola  
age 10



If I were in charge of the entire school for a week, I would make sure kindness would spread everywhere. There would be no bullying and everyone would be treated fair and square. I would also make sure that there would be one field trip every month! I know! So much fun! I'd also need some work done in the office as there is always lots of paperwork. The students need to study as well, so I'd be giving them two pages to finish each day.

As a person in charge I would make sure that everyone is having fun and that no one is sad or feeling left out or alone. I'd make sure that everyone is happy and feeling safe and sound (especially the kindergarteners).

I'd make sure that everyone has a partner and a friend to talk to because everyone should have at least one friend, especially when they get lonely.



The rules would be nothing like our school has today. I mean My Rules would be nothing like my principal's. Well... almost nothing. We both make sure that the kids are safe and listening to their teachers, respecting them, being on their best behaviour, sounding out their spelling, not doing silly things, fulfilling their responsibilities and that the fifth graders show leadership for grades four, three, two, one and Kindies.

We all want to do our "fair and square" around here but the most helpful people in our school are the custodians.

They really care for our school and they want it to look shinier than a whistle! So if I were in charge, I'd declare the custodians to have a break from work four times a month. Because of their hard work they deserve some free time, don't you think?

If I were in charge, I'd also have to hand out flyers before the end of October. Do you know why? It's when the Halloween party is here! Now that I'm in charge I'll add a little bit extra... Okay, okay, you caught me! I want it to be a BIG extra!



Here's what I'm thinking: decorations, balloons, costumes, dance party and food table! Speaking of dancing, I think it would be a great idea to have a "dance day" once a month. That way the students from other divisions could get to know each other better. Plus, dancing is fun!

I imagine that if I were in charge I would add a very special lesson on how to take care of our planet. Once a month all students and staff would go out with garbage bags and clean up around the school.

Lastly, I would like to add rest time when the students could take a nap or rest for thirty minutes. It is fun to be in charge, but also hard work. Definitely! If I were in charge, I would be very tired from all my work, but also satisfied.

We should always respect a principal and all school staff as they do an amazing job.

***THE END.***

# ***THE NEW PRINCIPAL***

by  
Oliver  
age 12

“Hunter!”

I almost jumped in my chair, then quickly regained my composure, trying to look like I had been paying attention. School would be a lot more interesting if my best friend Daniel were in my class, but I hadn't seen him today.

“Hunter,” my teacher repeated, “The principal wants you in his office. Immediately.”

It took five seconds for my teacher's words to fully register. '*The principal's office? On the first day of school? What had I done wrong?*' I could feel that my classmates shared my confusion as I self-consciously rose from my seat and trudged out the door. The hallway was empty, and each of my footsteps echoed menacingly. Questions swirled in my head like a storm. I heard that we had a new principal this year... '*Why would he single me out on the first day?*' I shuffled into the office.

A secretary noticed me and said, “The principal is waiting in his room.” There was a strange expression on her face. Something like... Fear. I dismissed the thought and stepped into the principal’s room. He was sitting in one of those cushy, spinning chairs. His back was turned, just like in a movie. A shiny copper name tag sat on his desk, with engraved lettering that said Mr. V. At this point I was getting seriously creeped out. Then he turned around. The face I saw was surprisingly familiar.

“Hunter! It’s me!”

I sat, stunned, for a moment. Then I began to bombard my friend with questions. “Why is this happening? What is going on? And how are you THE PRINCIPAL??!”

“Calm down. I’ll explain,” Daniel offered. “The principal retired last year, and the school couldn’t replace him. They were desperate enough that when I applied, they believed my fake background! It’s great. I’m living a dream.”

I was confused for the second time that day. “Why don’t the staff just kick you out?”

“Because I have authority. I kick them out first. Or I lock them in the basement if they’re too much trouble.”

“Cool!” I exclaimed. Don’t blame me for being happy. The teachers at Curbton Middle had never done me any favours. Daniel nodded. “And I changed the schedule. It’s recess all day!”

I grinned. Then it melted into a frown. “Isn’t this illegal?” My best friend shrugged. Then, right on cue, the wailing of a police siren cut through the air. “It’s for us!” I blurted.



“Relax,” Daniel replied. “It’s probably just some random thing. Here, try a cookie.” He handed me one from a jar on his desk. The siren got louder. That meant closer. It sounded like it was right by the front of the school. Daniel stood up and peeked out the window. His eyes widened. “Holy cow,” he muttered.

“What?” I asked fearfully.

“There’s two FBI vans out front.”

“FBI?!!” I yelled incredulously.

“And a police car,” he added. “We’re screwed.” We shared a look. Then we bolted. Within a minute the FBI dudes had caught both of us and tossed us each into the back of a van. The darkness of the vehicle was good for contemplation, if not anything else. I reflected on the morning as I was driven off to some unknown place. I hope the first day of school won’t be this strange next year.

***THE END.***

***THE DAY THE KIDS GOT BACK  
AT THE PRINCIPAL***

by  
Rylea  
age 9

I was speed-walking to my class because I was going to be late. There was a mob of students complaining at the office. It looked like Miss Colleen, the principal, was getting annoyed.

“Are you here to complain as well, Rylea?” said Miss Colleen angrily.

“I was just wondering why there are so many students at the office,” I replied.

“They think being a teacher is so easy,” said Miss Colleen as she pointed at all the students.

“Well, it doesn’t seem that hard,” exclaimed Blake. “All you have to do is sit at your desk and tell kids what to do.” All the kids shouted in agreement.

“You know what?” said Miss Colleen, throwing her hands in the air. “Fine. You guys can see how hard taking care of a bunch of kids really is. Today the students are in charge of the school.”

With that all the students jumped in excitement.

“But how are we going to choose who the principal is?” said Nicholas.

“I know,” I said. “Let’s put all of our names in a hat and whoever’s name gets drawn, they can be the principal.”

All the kids wrote their name on a piece of paper and put it into Conner’s hat. Everyone crossed their fingers (but not on both hands because that’s bad luck) and hoped their name would be picked. Conner was elected to draw the name because it was his hat. He reached in and pulled out a crumpled ball of paper. He carefully unfolded it.

“Lyle,” said Conner with a gasp.

“Lyle can’t do it,” said Isaiah. “He likes homework too much.”

“I don’t want to do it anyway”, said Lyle. “I think kids are annoying and way too much work. I’ll just stay a student, thank you.”

Conner reached in his hat for another name.

“It’s Gabrielle!” exclaimed Conner.

“It can’t be Gabrielle,” said Hudson. “She’ll put all of us in detention if we don’t do what she says.”

“Its okay,” said Gabrielle. “Being principal has too much paperwork and I don’t want to call all those parents.”

Conner reached in his hat for a third time.

“It’s me,” grinned Conner as he held up his own name.

“Conner can’t be principal,” said Karina. “He’ll make us run one hundred laps around the field everyday after lunch.”



“I don’t want to be principal either,” said Conner. “You guys will complain too much.”

“I know how we can get back at Miss Colleen,” said Maisie. “We can make her deal with all the homework and crying kids. We should make her the principal.”

All the kids cheered and thought Maisie’s idea was perfect. They knocked on Miss Colleen’s office door.

“We’ve decided to make you principal, Miss Colleen,” said Emma.

The kids went back to class and some snickered as they thought of all the work Miss Colleen was going to have to do.

***THE END.***

# ***SCHOOL FUN!***

by

Rysa

age 10

## **Characters**

Mila: Main character and a super smart student

Mom/Abigale: Mila's mom

Dad/James: Mila's dad

Lilac: Mila's best friend

Ruby: Mila's enemy

Other people in the school: Sebastian Fields, Mr. and Ms.

Fields, Principal Hudsons

## **Chapter One**

Today was a great day, Mila could feel it. She didn't know why, but a surge of energy was in her.

When she got to breakfast, her mom said, “Hi Mila. Come eat breakfast. We have something to tell you.”

“Ok, coming Mom,” replied Mila.

At the table, her dad said, “Bad or good news first?”

“Bad,” answered Mila.

“Ok. The bad news is that all the teachers in your school have a teacher disease, including your principal,” replied her dad.

“Oh no!” cried Mila.

“But the good thing is that you're the principal today!” said her mom.

“Really?” asked Mila.

“Yes!” her mom said.

So Mila went to school...

## **Chapter Two**

At school, a bunch of parents came up to Mila and asked her a lot of questions like:

“Are you sure you’re the principal?”

“Will you feed my child candy for lunch?”

“How are you going to teach our kids when you're not even older than us?”

Mila was nervous, but she had an idea. She went to the principal's office and called in the speaker. “Hello everyone. It is Principal Mila speaking right now. As everyone knows, all the teachers have caught the teacher disease. So today, parents can volunteer to be teachers.”



Clapping sounds were heard all around the school, and then Mila rang the bell.

## **Chapter Three**

So Sebastian's parents volunteered. Ms. Fields was an accountant and Mr. Fields was an interpreter, so they could teach Math and Languages.

There was a girl called Ruby and she was jealous of Mila, so she always teased her. But Mila's best friend, Lilac, always defended her. So today, Mila and Lilac decided to face Ruby.

They went up to Ruby and Ruby said, “Oh, if it isn't the nerd principal and her slobbery little dog.”

Lilac was about to react, but Mila raised up her hand and she said, “Stop Ruby. Why are you always so mean to us?”

Ruby sighed and replied, “You're so smart. I just want to be like you.”

Mila and Lilac smiled. They said together, “Let's be friends.”

And they went to class.

***THE END.***

# ***THE KID PRINCIPAL***

by  
William  
age 9

“Jake!!!!!!”

Yep, that is my name. Mean old principal Mr. Ben chases me around the school! I don't really know why. I didn't do anything wrong! Except for... not doing homework, skipping class, running in the hallway, and talking loud in the library. But that is normal stuff kids do, right? Wait, Mr. Ben is gaining on me! Got to run faster!

I trip on my shoelace and Mr. Ben finally catches me, so here I am, in Mr. Ben's office.

Believe me, you never want to be in Mr. Ben's office! The chairs are so uncomfortable and it smells like eggs! Wait... but there is a new smell! A smell of hope and greatness!

I hear Mr. Ben say something important, that if I can beat him in Rock, Paper, Scissors, Shoot, I can be principal for one day! But if I lose, I will have to do ten pages of hard algebra and follow all the rules!

I hate algebra, so I take a chance. "ROCK PAPER SCISSORS SHOOT!" I put out scissors and he put out paper! Does this mean...

Minutes later it is announced, “Attention students and faculty, this is your secretary Ms. Katherine speaking. Jake will be the principal tomorrow!”

I am so excited that I spend the whole night thinking about how I should rule the school! I will start by, of course, firing the teachers!

I am never this excited to go to school! When I get there, I order a cotton candy machine with the school's money, and put candy in the hallways!

When the students come, I blindfold them and walk them into the school! I take their blindfolds and let them swim in a pool full of candy, and let them eat cotton candy! Nothing can go wrong!

**CRASH!**

The cotton candy machine falls over and breaks into pieces! I think that the kids were too hyped that they knocked the cotton candy machine down.



I see that the kids are arguing and I want them to not argue, so I give them one hundred percent play time! They are running around the school. Happily they jog outside and start to play anything! Then something bad happens. It turns out that scientists are right about how sugar makes you hyped! I am seeing people breaking scissors, cutting erasers, and even shredding paper!

I am worried that when the principal comes, I will be in trouble. I try cleaning up, but it is raining and someone has made a hole in the school, so the school starts flooding!

I run for the exit and call everyone with me. Once we are out, we run back to our homes and it is 8:00 pm, so we go to bed.

The next morning is the most baddest day ever. I have to tell the principal everything and I have to pay for everything that broke in the school, and I have to do twenty pages of algebra!

I learned that being a principal is hard!

***THE END.***



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