



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

# ***STAND UP TO DRAGONS***



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 March 2024 creative writing contest. The task this month was to write a flash fiction story of 500 words about standing up to dragons! This contest was inspired by Annick Press' Paper Bag Princess Day. We were looking for unique stories with exciting characters that would keep readers poised on the edge of their seats!

**Winners:**

With a total of only four entries in both categories, all authors are winners!

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# ***THE MYSTERY DRAGON***

by

Esmée

age 6

Once upon a time, there lived a girl who was seven. Her name was Eagle. She lived with her mum, dad and two sisters in a medium-sized town. She liked living there and was happy. She loved to play with her BFF and neighbour, Roslyn. On most days they would go to the beach and the park together, their favourite game was playing dress up.

One day, Eagle had to leave the town and move to a different town far away because her mum and dad didn't have enough money. They had to live somewhere cheaper where there were better jobs. Eagle was heartbroken. When Eagle and Roslyn said their goodbyes, Eagle promised her friend she would always come back if Roslyn needed help.

“If you ever need help, just use our BFF alert scream machine and I’ll come as fast as I can!”

A few months later, Eagle was riding on a horse in her new town, feeling sad and lonely, when suddenly her BFF alert scream machine made a loud noise.

She put the device to her ear and heard Roslyn’s breathless voice saying, “Eagle, someone’s spotted a dragon in the town! We’re all in danger and we need you, I can’t fight it alone. Come as soon as you can!” Without hesitating, Eagle jumped up and her horse magically turned into a flying Pegasus.

Within a few seconds, her horse had flown all the way back to her hometown. There was chaos everywhere and the townspeople were panicking, running into their houses.

“Hey girl, let’s go fight this dragon!” Roslyn said when she saw Eagle. They turned around and the dragon was there. A huge, pointy, scaly, green, terrifying and beautiful creature. The girls picked up sticks and lit them on fire and charged towards the dragon, ready to fight.

“I see its weak spot!” Eagle shouted. “Look, right there on the top of its head.” They charged towards the dragon’s weak spot but suddenly, as they were about to stab the dragon, they heard

a small noise coming from the dragon's mouth. The girls stopped

“What was that? Did you hear it?” asked Roslyn. The great big dragon opened its mouth and a tiny baby dragon hopped out.

“Awwww!” the girls said. “She’s a mummy dragon!” At that moment, five more baby dragons came clambering over a nearby wall. The mother dragon went to pick them up and disappeared in a flash. The girls realized that maybe the mummy dragon hadn’t been attacking the town at all, she had just been searching for her missing babies.



The next day, the two girls went to the dragon's lair to apologize and asked if they could help babysit the dragons as a way of saying sorry. The mummy dragon agreed and gave them some treasure in exchange. Eagle and her family were no longer poor and they moved back to their old town.

Eagle, Roslyn and the dragon were friends forever and lived happily.

***THE END.***

# ***THE BIG FIGHT***

by

**Junray**

age 9

A big, chunky bear was about to snatch a nice, juicy salmon when...

**GULP!** Everything was quiet. Then an ear splitting shriek filled the air.

**“EEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE!!!”**

An angry dragon flew into sight. The bear looked up and started raging. “You took everything from the river!!!” he screamed.

“The water! The fish! The plants! Everything! Literally everything! So the bear bolted up the river to the swamp and found his friend, Robbit the frog.

The bear told the frog what had happened, then the frog said, ”I can fix this!” The frog turned into a blob, which for some reason, resembled a giant, living lollipop. Then the two friends set out to fight the dragon which was too strong.

After three and a half days of battle, a random servant from a castle came and spanked the dragon with a fishing rod. After that, the dragon started bawling. Then the servant spanked the dragon so hard, he flew to the sun. Because it was a sun dragon, it was unharmed from the heat of the sun.

But it's not over yet because a tribe of 400,000 bright orange aliens captured the dragon for research, and he was never heard from again.

***THE END.***

# ***THE TWO LOVERS***

by  
Matilda

age 9



Once upon a time, there was a girl around the age of 13. Her name was Meg. She was a princess who was secretly in love with a boy called Eric. She knew she would never be able to marry him because she was to marry a prince called Drace.

She tried to push her secret crush away, but it didn't work. So she decided to start going on secret dates with him. On the dates she learned that he was a farmer, his favourite food was cow's tongue and his mother had died giving birth to him. Once he said that one time, when his father was really mad with him,

he had told him that it was his fault that she was dead. They fell in love and kept going on secret dates with each other.

One day, a dragon came and terrified the villagers! The King fought as hard as possible but it still took Eric. Meg was in tears.

“Eric!” she cried, then she dried her tears and she said to the villagers in her bravest voice “People of Narcisa, I will go and fight this terrible dragon and get back my Love! I will not stop until I succeed.” Then she hopped onto her horse, put on her cloak and galloped to the mountain.

When she finally reached the mountain, she saw a cave that seemed very dark. *'This must be the dragon's lair,'* she thought. After tying her horse to a tree, she walked into the cave. She got into the cave and saw Eric, who was being bullied by the dragon.

“Stop!” she said, but the dragon either didn't hear her or didn't listen. “STOP!” she screeched at the top of her lungs.

The dragon looked shocked. It turned its head and said, “Why?”

“Because bullying isn't nice, you really shouldn't do it!”

“Hmmm.. I'll think about what you said. Anyway, you can have your prince back, Mr. Knight.”

“Actually!!” she said, pulling off her cloak. “I'm a girl.”

“What?!” said the prince and the dragon at the same time.

“Princess Meg!” cried Eric.

“I go by Meg,” said Meg.

“Oh Meg, will you marry me?” asked Eric.

“Yes!” cried Meg, after a moment's silence.

“Ew!” said the dragon as he flew off.

Then they rode home on the white horse. When they got home, they got married and lived a long and happy life. They had a prince and a princess and ruled for 50 long, happy years.

***THE END.***

# ***THE GIRL AND THE WOLF***

by

Sunaina

age 11

A young girl was hiking through the forest with her family when they came across a wolf, with teeth as sharp as daggers and blood-red eyes that shone maliciously. With one hiss it sent her family away screaming. But the girl refused to be chased away.

“What are you doing here? Aren’t you afraid?” the wolf growled.

“No.”

“But what about my vicious teeth?” he snarled. “I could eat you up with one bite!”



“Ok,” the girl replied, clearly not intimidated at all. The wolf was shocked. He had never felt so deeply disregarded.

He howled loudly, but the girl didn't blink. Suddenly, dark silhouettes emerged from out of the shadows. Other wolves prowled into the clearing.

“Are you scared now?” he asked. If she was, she didn't show it.

Immediately, she heard a familiar voice. She turned around to see her baby brother crawling toward her. He smiled when he

saw her and started babbling over. That was, until he saw the pack of wolves. He froze in his tracks and started bawling on the spot.

Two skinny wolves picked him up in their jaws.

She lunged for him, but one of the wolves stuck their paw out and she fell into the dirt face-first. The wolf leader sauntered over with a sly smile.

“You thought you could steal from a wolf?” he questioned calmly.

She thought for a moment. She was frightened for her brother, but determined to get him back.

“Maybe I can’t, but I can scare you so much you will never sleep again.”

The wolf scoffed.

She had many older brothers, and was used to getting pushed around. These wolves wouldn’t frighten her. She remembered a scary story her brothers used to tell her.

“Once upon a time, there was a rabid wolf who lived in these very woods. He was rumored to eat other wolves. He was blind, so he sought out his prey with his nose. After every kill, he would howl so high-pitched and loud that anyone nearby would practically lose their hearing.”

“Lies,” the wolf hissed. “We’ve never heard a howl that loud.”

“That’s exactly it,” she proclaimed. “Nobody has seen or heard from him in years. But he’s out there lurking in the shadows, waiting for his next kill.”

She looked up at the wolves, expecting them to be scared. Instead they stared at her, confused for what seemed like an eternity, and then burst into laughter.

She was stunned. This was not the reaction she was hoping for. They started crying from laughter, clutching their rib cages. Suddenly, her thoughts snapped back into focus. Her baby brother! Her eyes darted to the two wolves, who had dropped him and were sprawled on the ground. Carefully, she skirted around the hysterical wolves, scooped him up in her arms and ran out of the woods, never to come back.

***THE END.***



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