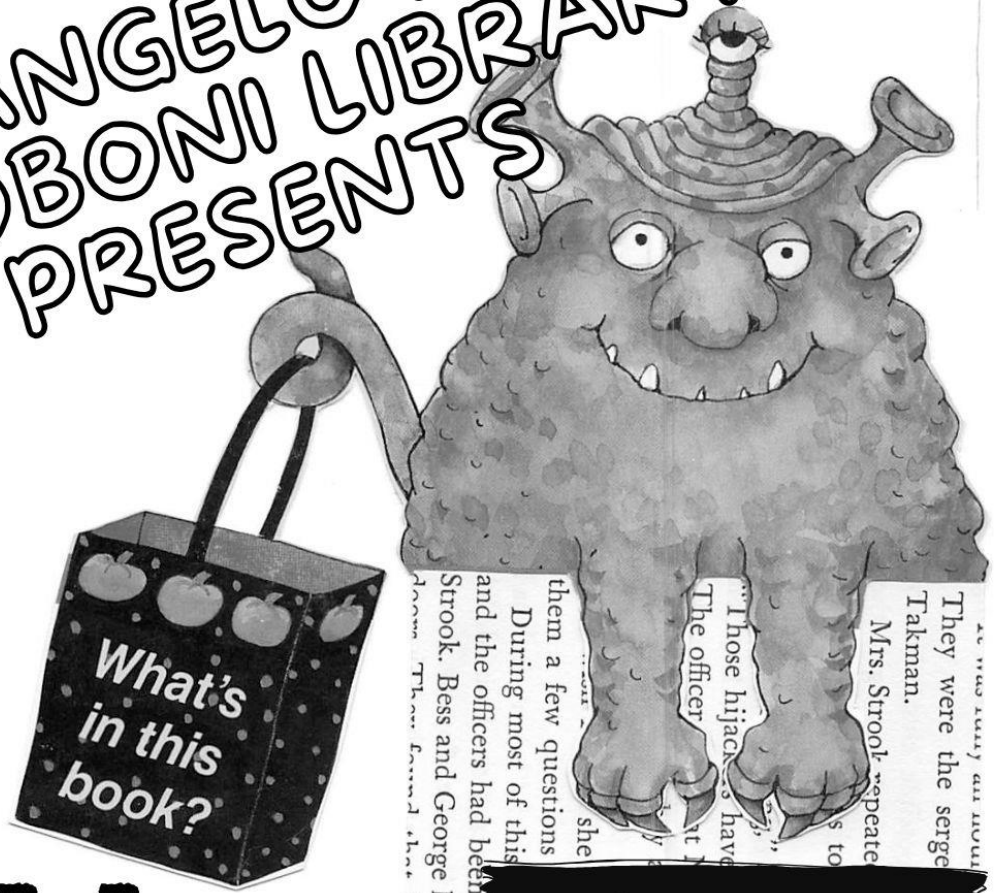


ANGELO M IACOBONI LIBRARY PRESENTS



fall

Vol. 2, 2024

 **short**

*** story**

contest *

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A special message from the children's librarian, Ms. Kay:



The library often highlights our fabulous artists, but I wanted to share the community's wonderful writers too! I love getting the entries because we have so many imaginative stories brewing in our community!

I hope you'll join us in the future for our library programs too!



"While I was looking at her she just faded away...."





1st place
k - 2nd grade

The Lost Pumpkins

By: Gavin O, 1ST GRADE

It was a dark and stormy night on Halloween eve. The pumpkin family was headed home from a party. They came to a fork in the road. It was so foggy, they accidentally took the wrong path. They got lost! Suddenly, they met a werewolf who seemed like a nice guy. They were wrong.

"Hello, pumpkin family! You look lost. Follow me and I can help you find your way home," said the werewolf.

"Thank you, Mr. Werewolf. We were so scared," replied the family. So the pumpkin family followed the werewolf.

The werewolf tricked them into a booby trap! Oh no! What will the pumpkin family do now? Luckily, the dad pumpkin carries dynamite with him wherever he goes. He lit the dynamite and blasted the family free! The pumpkins ran as fast as they could away from the werewolf.

Somehow, the pumpkin family was able to find their way home just before midnight. When the pumpkin family opened the door to their house, they were greeted by all of their friends who yelled "SURPRISE!" The werewolf actually planned a surprise party for the pumpkin family and tricked them on the way home so that the friends had enough time to decorate for the party. The pumpkin family was so happy to celebrate Halloween with their friends!



BY: FRANCES V.
2ND GRADE

2nd place k - 2nd grade

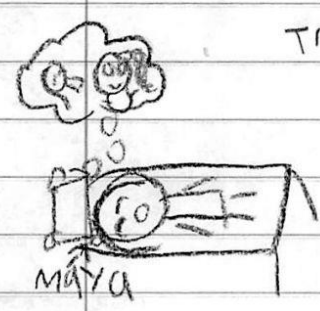
The ghost strikes again!

Once upon a time there was a girl named Maya Reindeer. She lived in a small old hut in a town called Ghostville. Maya went to Alcatraz Elementary School. She had only one friend there named Miss Potato. Maya always thought she was kind of suspicious because, well, her name was Miss Potato.

One night she had a sleepover with Miss Potato, and in Mayas dreams, Miss Potato was staring at her, all throughout the night. Although, the thing is, Miss Potato was named after her Grandma, the least suspicious person in town. And when Miss Potato woke up, Maya was gone.

And that was the last we saw of Maya Reindeer. The end. or is it? Just kidding it's the end. or is it? Just kidding it's the end. or is it?

from the mind of Frances Vargas
transcribed by Theodore Vargas





The Dino and The Moose

By Nathan G, 2nd grade

Once upon a time there was a Dino and a Moose.

They were friends.

The dino was hungry and wanted food.

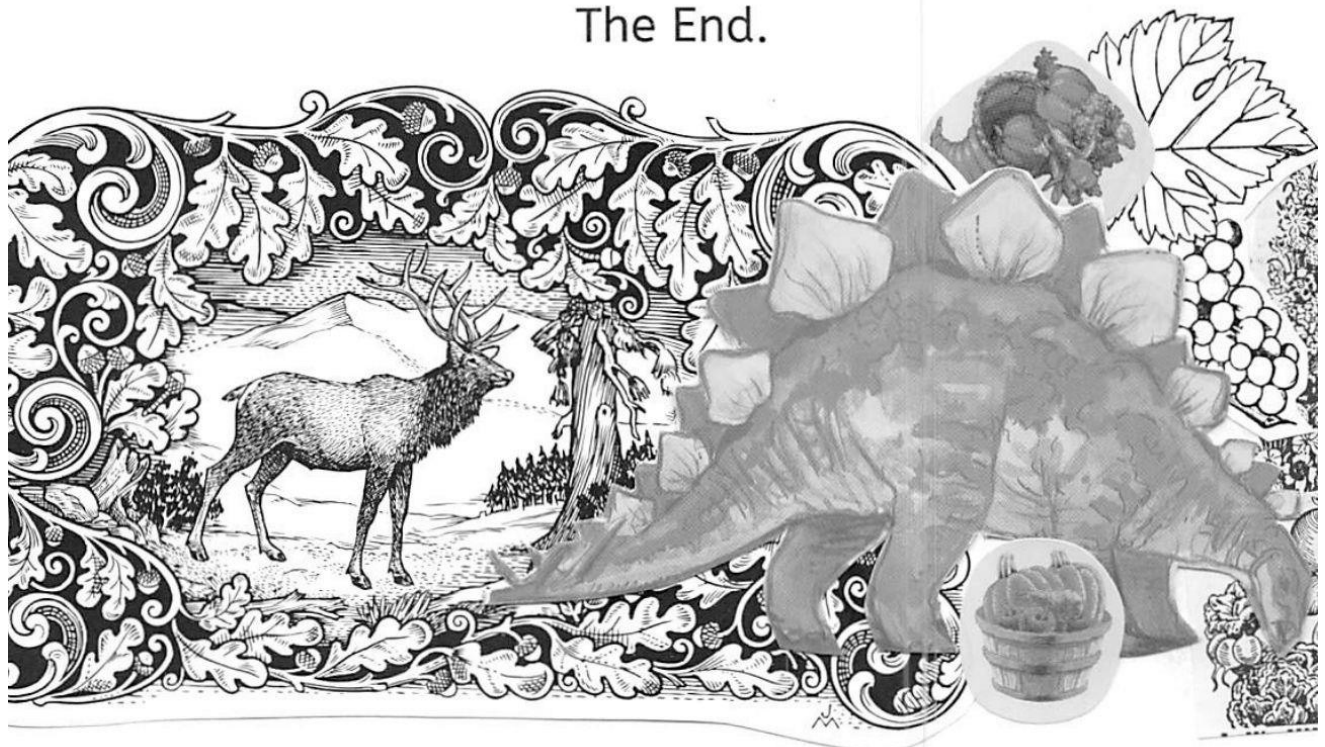
The Dino said, "I want to eat you friend!"

The Moose said, "No, do not eat me. I'll get you food!"

The Dino said, "Thank you!"

They never wanted to eat each other again.

The End.



1st place
3rd - 5th grade

The Leaves

By Martin D, 4th grade

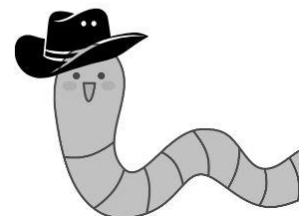


Orange Leaf was sitting with his friends, Yellow Leaf and Red Leaf.

“Why don’t we go get some sun?” Orange Leaf said.

Both of his friends said yes. Luckily, the grass nearby was going to be watered soon. Yellow Leaf got up and started walking toward the grass.

“Wait!” Orange Leaf exclaimed.



In Yellow Leaf's path was a huge CATERPILLAR! Yellow Leaf ran away from the caterpillar, which was chasing him! Orange Leaf, Yellow Leaf, and Red Leaf jumped into a pile of dirt nearby. Of course, the pile of dirt was an anthill. The three leaves ran out of the anthill, but the caterpillar was blocking their path! Suddenly, the caterpillar seemed to notice something and dashed away.

"I wonder why the caterpillar ran away?" Red Leaf said.

Just then, a huge shadow appeared over him.

"Run, Red Leaf!" Orange Leaf and Yellow Leaf screamed.

Finally, Red Leaf looked up. He saw a big shoe coming toward him! The three leaves ran as fast as they could, but the shoe just kept stomping toward them! They finally decided to hide behind a large acorn. Then, a big hand whooshed toward the acorn! Orange Leaf started to climb a tree.

"Up here!" he yelled to his friends.

As Orange Leaf, Yellow Leaf, and Red Leaf scabbled up the tree, a huge bushy tail swished in their way! A huge furry face soon appeared! The three leaves screamed and started climbing diagonally. Before they knew it, they were near the top of the tree! They did the last thing they could think of—jumping! After the three leaves jumped, they started floating to the ground. It felt amazing!

Suddenly, Yellow Leaf heard a scraping sound behind him. When he turned around, he saw every leaf's nightmare: The Rake! Red Leaf, Yellow Leaf, and Orange Leaf ran speedily away. Then they tumbled into a dark hole. Orange Leaf heard a telltale squeaking. "Oh no," he whispered.



Sure enough, a furry groundhog was digging in their direction! Yellow Leaf ran through a tunnel, and his friends followed him. At the end of the tunnel, Orange Leaf saw a wiggly tendril. It must be a root, he thought. Then he gave the tendril a nice hard tug. Suddenly, the tendril started going into the dirt! Another tendril burst through the earth. It was a WORM! The friends were surrounded!

Orange Leaf frantically thought up a crazy idea! He jumped onto the worm's back and rode it like a bucking bronco. His friends got on behind him, and the worm started digging. It was hard work, but the worm finally burst out of the hole.

“Wow, that was actually fun!” Orange Leaf said.

“Now let's sunbathe!”

Just as he said that, a soft shower of water began.

“This is the life!” Red Leaf said.

“Actually, this is a lot better than sunbathing,” Orange Leaf replied.

Then the three friends sat back and relaxed in the nice shower.



2nd place
3rd - 5th

The dead and the living



By: christine
A
4th grade

This story is based on a true incident that happened, but I have changed names.

Over 30 years ago, one day a grandma named Norma wanted to repaint a small bedroom in her house, so she hired a painter. She then left to go run some errands. While the painter was working on the walls, a young man walked into the room and asked him "Hello! Is my grandma here?" The painter replied, "No, she went to the store, but she will be back soon."

The painter and the young man talked a bit while they were waiting for grandma Norma. About 30 minutes later the young man said to the painter "I'd better get going. Please tell my grandma that I came by and said hi." The young man left.

The painter continued his job. Grandma Norma came back home. The painter told her "Before I forget, your grandson came by and said hi to you." "Grandson? Which one?" she asked. "I didn't get his name, but he was tall and skinny with glasses!" Grandma Norma looked at him so shocked. She went and grabbed a picture and pointed to it: "Is this him?" The painter said: "Yes! That is him!"

Grandma Norma started crying: "That is my grandson, Jason. He died in his sleep a year ago in this room." The painter was stunned.

The dead and the
Living

29

and he told her: "This is too weird! I was talking to him this whole time while I was working. You'd better get somebody else to finish the job because I can't do it anymore." The painter cleaned up, packed his tools rapidly and left in a hurry.





3rd place
3rd - 5th grade

"The New Halloween Tradition"

By: Ailynn P



By Ailynn P, 5th grade



Once upon a time, in Feline Hills, there lived a ghost cat named Scary. Scary had monster feline friends. One of them was hairy and had many legs; its name was Tarantula. Another one was orange and had hard skin; its name was Shiny Jack O' Lantern. Finally, Witchy, the cat, was magical and made creepy potions.

Every Halloween they had the same plans. The feline ghost friends always made Halloween parties for cats. However, one day, Scary wanted to make something special for Halloween.

"What's the point of being a monster if we don't even scare anybody? What about if we change plans for this frightening night?", asked Scary, with a suspicious smile.

"But what are we going to do?", asked Witchy.

"Are we going to scare people?", asked Tarantula with excitement.



"That's exactly what we are going to do!", cried out Scary.

"I don't have a good feeling about this.", replied Shiny Jack O' Lantern.

"Don't worry, nothing bad will happen... I hope.", laughed Scary.

The next day, the feline ghost friends were looking for ways to scare people. But no matter how much they tried, they failed because they were goofing around instead.

"Ugghhh, why can't we be petrifying enough?", said Witchy.

"It's just like an endless loop of failures.", said Scary.

Later that evening, they had a meeting and gathered all the ideas of how to scare people.





“We have to think of something to scare people out of their souls.”, said Scary.

“I think we should pop out of nowhere and say something scary.”, said Shiny Jack O’ Lantern.

“Nah, we should make a potion and turn them into mice so we can eat them all.”, laughed Witchy.

“I have a better idea. we should make a web and catch them all.”, said Tarantula.

After that, they all started arguing about which idea was better. The argument carried on for hours.

“Stop, just stop!”, shouted Scary. “What about if we make a haunted house and put traps in it?”, continued Scary.

“That’s a great idea!”, everyone agreed.

“Yes! My idea was the best!”, bragged Scary.



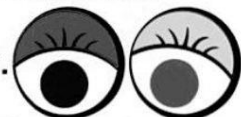
They started working on the haunted house. Tarantula was in charge of weaving the spider webs. Witchy was in charge of serving potions as refreshments, and Shiny Jack O’ Lantern was in charge of the rest of the decorations. Scary made sure everyone was on task.

The haunted house was finally completed. The feline ghost friends were anxious to frighten the people in the neighborhood.

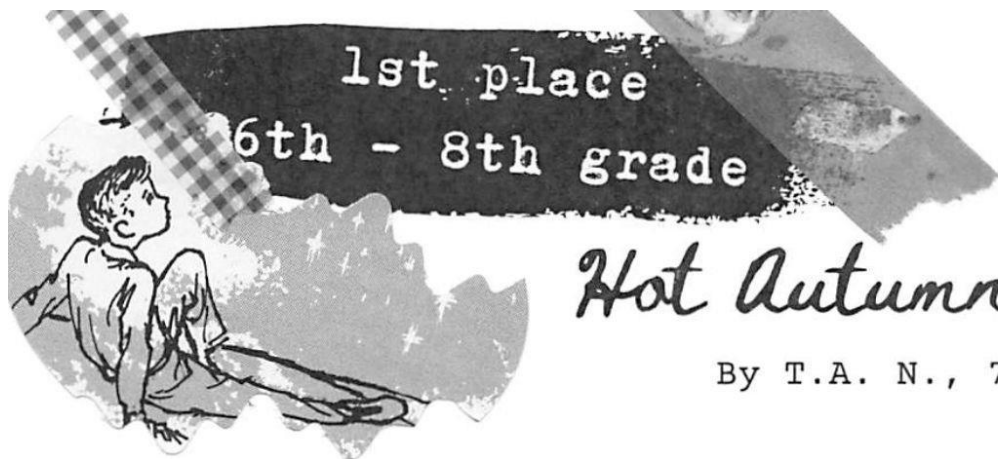
“I can’t wait for tomorrow. Then it will be Halloween!”, said Shiny Jack O’ Lantern with excitement.

The day was finally here, and the feline ghost friends were ready to scare people. But the people were too scared to enter the haunted house. So, the feline friends felt disappointed and decided to chase people around the neighborhood and they started having fun with the humans.

“This Halloween was not bad after all.”, said Scary.



“I think we found our new spooky tradition.”, said Tarantula.



Hot Autumn

By T.A. N., 7th grade


Sunny skies are not all they're cracked up to be. Some of you, heck, most of you, would trade anything in an instant to live in California, land of movie stars and sunny beaches. I'll give it to you. It is pretty nice here. But you're missing a thing. Californians are seriously detached from the season cycle. You didn't think that's where I was going with this, did you?

Here, let me start. This year, I was supposed to go to Albany to visit my cousins. With the enthusiasm I got into this with, you'd think, "Wow, she must really love her cousins!". Well, I don't. I mean, of course I like my cousins, but not that much. I was excited because we were going during Thanksgiving Break.

Now, a normal, sane person would wonder why I am being so focused and excited about something so insignificant. Well, buster, I used to love having fall when it was warm. I didn't have to wear scratchy socks, and the afternoons were basically guaranteed 70-80 degrees. I used to guffaw at the East Coast kids, that they had to walk through pea-soup cold and shovel driveways of snow.

But after the child whimsy wore off, I was left with the mature adult pieces.



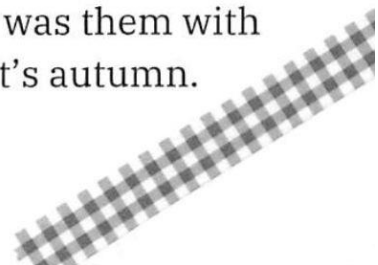


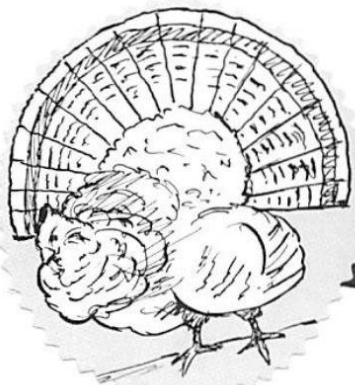
The reality that I would probably never get to experience real fall. Sure, you have the fake orange leaves at Dollar Tree, and the Thanksgiving decor that your weird neighbors put out. But I wanted the real red and gold leaves from dozens of trees in a park and the chance to actually see my breath in the morning, like late morning, and breathe in crisp autumn air.

I soon became obsessed with everything autumn. It's a mostly healthy obsession. That's why I was so jazzed to be going to Albany. Finally, I would see those leaves. So obviously the universe can't let that slide. Their game plan is to: 1) send in a big storm to cancel the flight, 2) make someone steal my aunt's car, and as a fail-safe, 3) give my brother food poisoning. Although, I did tell him not to eat that chicken.

I was crushed. I fell into a deep state of sadness. Which, to be clear, was not depression. I didn't really engage in conversation, I drifted away, and I just kind of felt like a ghost. It was a dark time.

So, when my mom asked me to come with her to the backyard to see something, I didn't feel like doing it. I went and didn't really look. But I turned back. All my friends and my family had set up a party. A fall party. My life came rushing back and soon I was human again. There were fake orange leaves and cheesy decor. I was still right. Autumn was an experience. But I wasn't never going to have it. I had it here, despite the weather. It was them with me, and me with them at that moment. That's autumn.





2nd place
6th - 8th grad



Naomi's Visit to the Farm on a Beautiful Fall Day

by sasha m, 6th grade

This fall, Naomi's family drove to a small farm. There was a pumpkin patch filled with pumpkins of all different sizes! Some were small, some were huge, some were round, some were bumpy. Naomi picked a small, round pumpkin. Her older sister picked a huge pumpkin!

Then they walked toward a tall corn maze. Naomi and her sister went inside, but soon they got lost. Naomi called for help, and gladly, her mom came to help them. After, they went to the cannon ball pumpkin shooter. Her dad launched the furthest. Afterwards, Naomi and her family went to get fresh, cold apple cider. It was delicious!



Fall scents were everywhere. Naomi saw fall leaves on the ground and heard kids stomping on the leaves. She joined them, too. They also had a petting zoo, and Naomi saw turkeys, silkies, cows, chicks, and even a piglet. The turkey's feathers were huge!

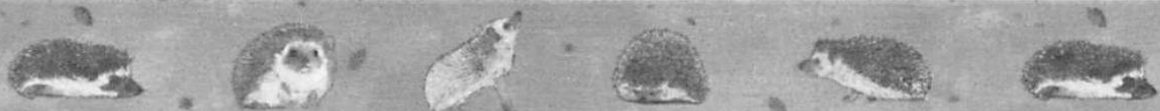




As they continued to walk around the farm, Naomi saw a squirrel collecting acorns, nuts, and plants for the winter. Naomi also heard geese honking loudly. She found that the farm also had a small bakery. Her mom said she could choose anything she wanted. The bakery had pumpkin and apple pies and other scrumptious fall treats. Something caught Naomi's eye, apples covered with warm caramel and nuts. Her mouth began to water. She had made her choice.

After she ate the last piece of caramel apple, she continued her tour throughout the farm. Naomi and her family went on a wagon ride. Her eyes were amazed at the many rows of tall, bright yellow sunflowers. She saw orchards of red juicy apples and green sour apples. She even experienced cows lying down under a shady tree!

When they got off the wagon, Naomi's attention went toward a small tent where they had tables and craft supplies. Naomi decided to paint a small pumpkin. She painted the beautiful sunflowers that she noticed during the wagon ride. When she was finished, Naomi and her family walked to a small gift shop and were able to purchase some of their fall-scented candles. After they were done shopping, they drove home and that's what she did this fall.

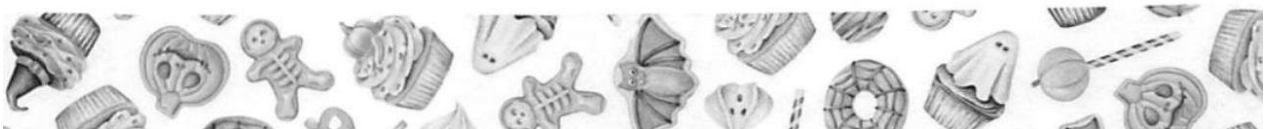




She disappeared as if she had never even existed. She was there one day and gone the next. They searched for her, but she was never found alive nor dead. There was nothing to suggest that she escaped safely, yet nothing that implied she had perished as they had intended either.

Her home was abandoned, and she was gone long before they could hold the trials to condemn her for the dark magic they suspected or the powers she supposedly possessed. She was seemingly gone long before the mob had even arrived in the dead of night, and not a trace of her was found by the search parties and hunts that followed.

And so she was gone, vanished as easily as if she had never existed at all, yet she never truly felt gone. Whether it was a curse she had left behind on her accusers or her spirit itself haunting them, the village on the edge of the woods was never quite the same.





Sometimes, it was the feeling of being watched by a presence that couldn't be found or hearing the whisper of a voice in the breeze. Perhaps it might have been the way the fog seemed thicker, blotting the day out and making everything gray, or the drop in temperatures and the increasing violence of the storms.

Other times, people would claim to have seen a glimpse of her around the village or strange groups cloaked in black in the woods. There were also the disappearances that would come sometimes with the sound, almost like a song. Like those who had also disappeared had been called by an unknown force.

The strange events never stopped, even though she had left. The mysteries and darkness continued to plague the village long after her cottage was burned down by the fearful people in an attempt to finally free themselves from her. Eventually, the realization was reached that even though she might have vanished, she would never truly be gone. Even now to this day, the whispers continue—a haunting reminder that some things never truly disappear.





Aspen stumbled through the piles of Autumn leaves, muttering to herself. Where are those dratted garlands? I could have sworn I set them here....

It was only three hours until the annual Autumn Harvest Feast. Already, Aspen could see the sun slinking down through the trees, casting yellow light everywhere.

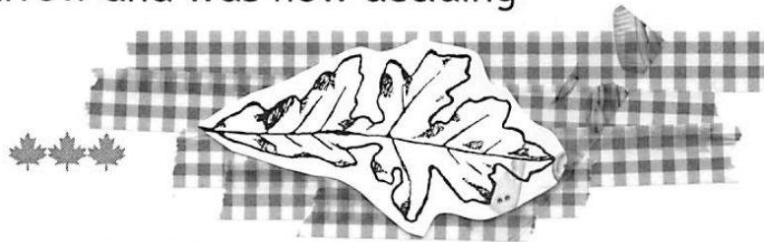
A few hours ago, Aspen had been given the task of putting up the dried flower garlands in the clearing where the feast was to be held. She had set them down on a stump while she visited Mr. Hedgehog in his hollow tree.

After talking with the kind hedgehog for only a few moments, Aspen had returned to the stump to collect the garlands, only to find them gone!

Peering through the forest of orange and gold trees, Aspen frantically searched for the missing garlands. The garlands were the centerpiece of the entire feast, except for the food, of course. If she couldn't find the garlands, what would she do?



Meanwhile, in a burrow at the edge of the forest, Marlen the fox sat hunched in a chair, staring at the flower garlands in her paws. She had snatched them off a stump where someone had carelessly left them. Marlen had taken them to her burrow and was now deciding what to do with them.

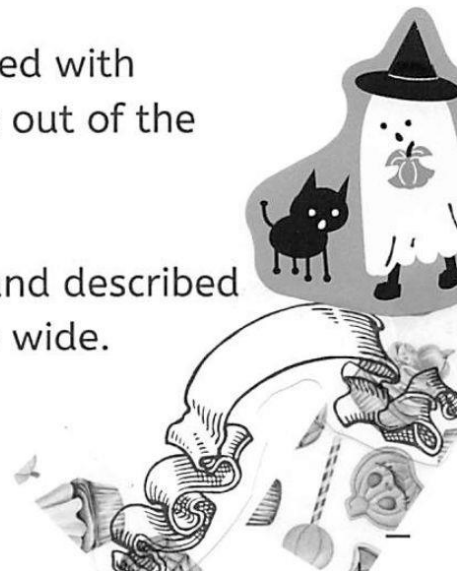




After searching everywhere and asking everyone she saw if they had seen the garlands, Aspen sat down on a log to rest. She had searched every part of the forest, but to no avail. The garlands were gone. She would have to tell everyone that there would be no decorations for the feast.

A red leaf floated on the breeze and settled in Aspen's lap. Suddenly, she jumped up. She had asked everyone but one animal! Running as quickly as she could, she dashed through the trees to the far reaches of the forest. There, she spotted it. Marlen the fox's burrow. Maybe she knew where the garlands were.

Knocking on the door, Aspen's hands tingled with anticipation. Marlen peeked her furry face out of the door. "Yes?" she asked, cocking her head.

Hurriedly, Aspen explained her situation and described the garlands in detail. Marlen's eyes grew wide.





“Just one moment,” she said, and disappeared back into her burrow. A few minutes later, she returned with a bundle in her paws. She handed it to Aspen.

It was the missing garlands! Marlen explained how she had come upon them in the forest and taken them home.

“I’m terribly sorry, Aspen. I didn’t know they were for the feast,” Marlen apologized.

“That’s alright,” said Aspen. “Anyways, you’ve just saved the feast!”

An hour later, everyone from the forest was gathered at the long feast table, enjoying the fall harvest and telling stories to one another. Suddenly, as the first snow flakes began to fall, everyone started to sing:



“Autumn is gone, colorful days are past;
Now winter is here and merry days begin anew!
Winter, we welcome you!”





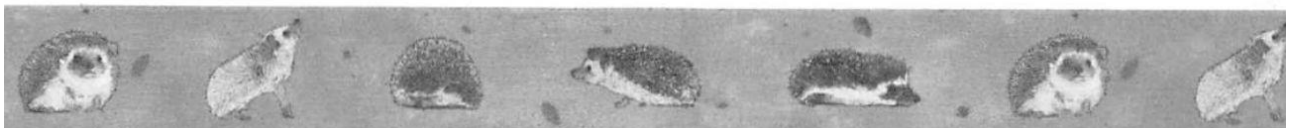
3rd place
9th - 12th grade

by: lorelei h, 9th grade

In the small town of Maplegrove, there lived two bakers, Jessica and Alex, who worked in a small, quaint bakery on the town square. They had been friends for years, working side by side, creating delicious pastries and breads every day. The fall season was their favorite time of year, and they loved the way the town square looked with all the colorful leaves and the smell of autumn in the air.

As they spent more time together, a strong connection began to form between them. They would sneak glances at each other and share laughs while decorating the display window with fall-themed treats.

As the days went on, Jessica and Alex spent more time together, both in and outside of the bakery. They would go on long walks through the town square, admiring the colorful leaves, and chat about their dreams and aspirations. They found themselves opening up to each other in ways they never had before, sharing secrets and stories from their past.



As the season approached its end, Jessica and Alex found themselves spending even more time together. They would attend local fall festivals and events, enjoying the food and each other's company. And the feelings they had been trying to ignore grew stronger with each day.

Every time Jessica and Alex went to the bakery. They would find themselves talking to each other for hours, laughing and sharing stories while decorating the display window with pumpkin pastries, apple pies, and fresh apple cider donuts. One night, as they were closing up the bakery, Alex took a deep breath and finally worked up the courage to confess his feelings for Jessica.

To his surprise, Jessica confessed that she had felt the same way. They shared a kiss, sealing their love for each other and officially becoming a couple.



We are sharing all of the contestants stories! Keep reading for more! Thanks to all of our participants for their great stories!



Cody The Cat's Happy Halloween

by; jeremy d, 5th grade



Cody was having a hard time choosing his costume for Halloween. Cody had many ideas: a wizard, mummy, ghost, vampire, robot, or a zombie. They were all spooky! All of Cody's friends had their costumes planned out. Billy was going to be a ninja, and Mary was going as a witch!

"Halloween is in just two hours! I have a great idea. I know, I'll be a dog! You can't get much spookier than that!" The time had come for Cody to show off his new costume. "Wow!", said Billy and Mary. "Now", Cody said, "Let's go get some candy!" Happy Halloween!

Sara and the Deer



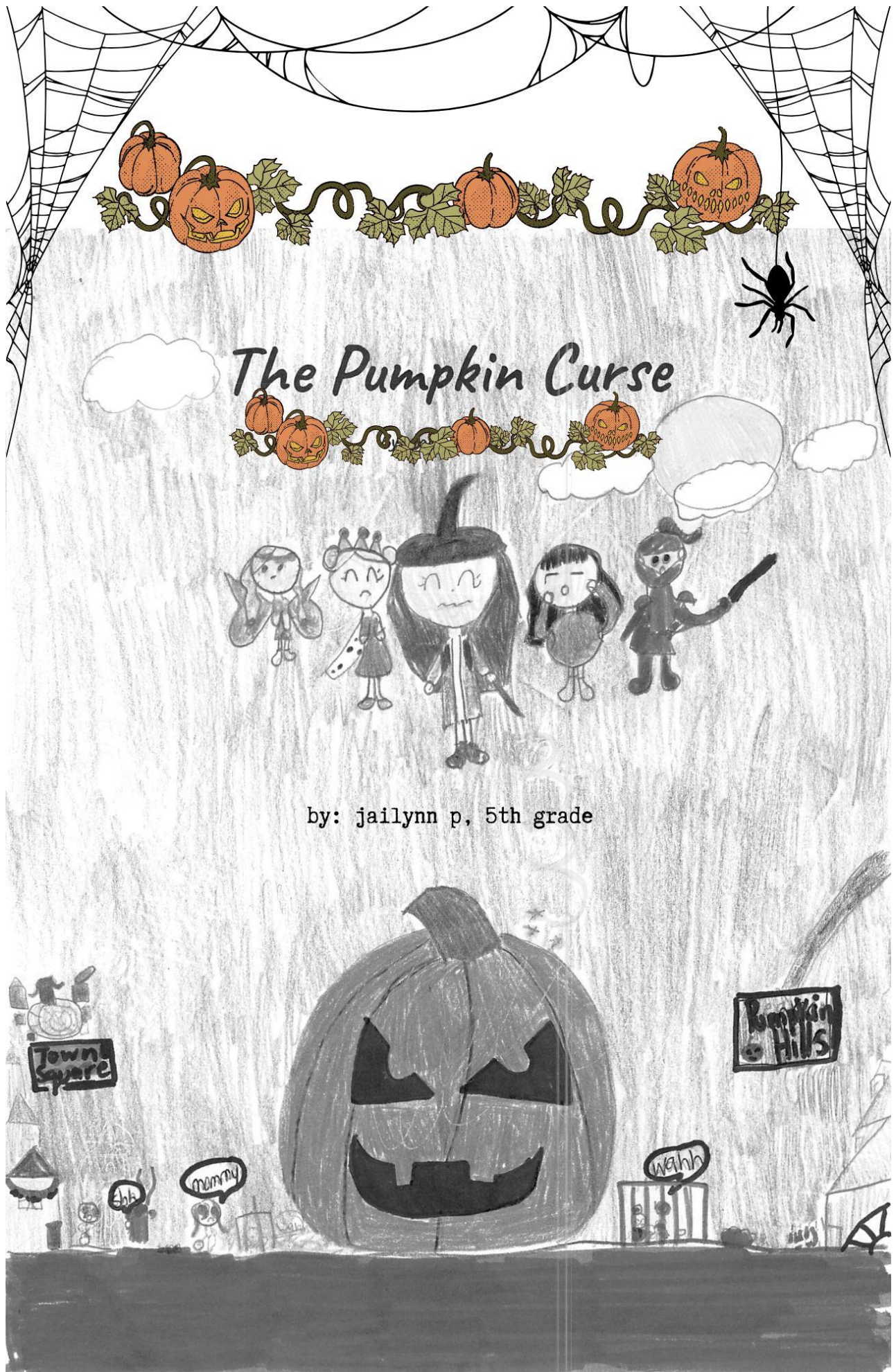
by; olivia d, 3rd grade

One day, Sara sat on her front porch, looking at her yard and thinking how pretty all the changing leaves were. Thinking of leaves made Sara think of her book. It was the best book she had ever read. It had beautiful drawings of leaves, mushrooms, and rain. Sara sat up from her chair and walked out on her lawn and started crunching through the autumn leaves.

“It is so cold,” said Sara as she looked around, “but it is beautiful!” As Sara walked through her lawn, she saw three beautiful deer. She asked them, “Are you lost?” Of course, in our world, deer do not talk, but in Sara’s world, all things are magical.

One of the deer answered, “We can’t find our house.” The next deer answered, “I am the mom deer, and this is my husband and child. Could you help us find our home?” Sara said, “Yes!” Sara took out three teacups and a hot bottle filled with tea. “Here, you can have some tea.”, she said.

Then, Sara pulled out a jar of cookies. Sara and the deer had tea and cookies. After they ate the cookies and drank the tea, Sara and the deer walked through Sara’s lawn near the trees, looking for the deer’s home. They found a beautiful meadow filled with flowers, moss, and grass. “This is our home!”, said the deer. The deer thanked Sara, and she walked home.



The Pumpkin Curse

by: jailynn p, 5th grade

Town Square

Pumpkin Hills

mommy

wahh

Once upon a time, in Pumpkin Hills, there was a girl named Autumn. She was so excited for Halloween. Autumn invited her friends over to her house to talk about their costumes.

“Hey everybody. What are you guys going to be for Halloween?”, Autumn asked.

“I am going to be a knight”, said Alex with excitement.

“I was thinking about being a fairy and I am going to make the costume myself”, bragged Isabelle.

“I will be a queen”, said Alexis, as if she ruled the whole world.

“I am going to be a coco puff”, said Koko.

All the kids stared at Koko for a minute and then started laughing.

“What’s wrong with coco puffs?”, laughed Koko.

“Anyway, what are you going to dress up as for Halloween, Autumn?”, asked Isabelle.

“I will be a witch”, Autumn replied with a sly smile.

The kids talked for a while but then they had to leave. It was still quite early, so Autumn went costume shopping. She decided to shop in the town square. While she was walking in the town square, she found a costume shop and bought a witch costume. When she came out of the shop, she realized she did not have a want. She walked and walked until she found a store called “Vinny’s Magic Wands.”

The store looked like it was haunted and had rotten pumpkins around the door.

She went in and there was a sign that said, "Take one for free if you dare." Autumn ignored the sign and grabbed a wand and left. When she got home, she put her costume in her closet with the wand. The next day, at night, she and her friends went trick or treating in the neighborhood. While they were walking, Autumn spotted a pumpkin.

"Look, I'm a witch, and I am going to put a spell on this pumpkin!", cried out Autumn.
"Malica, Mistica, Boom, Boom, Boom, Boom.", joked Autumn.

Her friends started laughing and they kept walking. What Autumn didn't know was that the wand was real, and she put a real curse on the pumpkin. After one minute, the pumpkin grew long legs. It had arms from hay and sharpened teeth. People from the neighborhood started screaming and ran away. The people locked their doors, and the kids that were trick or treating hid behind anything they could find. Autumn and her friends hid behind trashcans. The monster had a lot of people in cages. Autumn wanted to save her town, so she grabbed Alex's sword and fought the monster. She chopped the pumpkin's arm and in that second, the monster disappeared. The cages turned to dust, and everybody was set free. The whole neighborhood thanked Autumn, and she saved Halloween.

"Good job, Autumn.", said Alexis.
"You were very brave!", complimented Koko.
"Thank you very much.", replied Autumn.

Autumn felt proud of herself and learned not to mess around and make fake curses anymore.

The Costume Catastrophe



by: gavin k, 5th grade

One crisp fall morning, I woke up and scrambled out of bed, threw on clothes, and ate breakfast. I was going to make my Halloween costume today. My mom was going to the store, and my dad was at work, so I was on my own. I got cardboard and glue out of the arts and crafts cabinet and got to work.

Earlier that week, I had decided that I was going to be a robot. I started to make the robot's head, but I couldn't figure out how to cut the eyeholes to see out of. I decided that I was going to just not have eyeholes, because I figured I knew my neighborhood pretty well. So, I added funny googly eyes, lots of glue, and voila! I was finished with my costume.

But then, everything went wrong as I tried to put my costume on. My elbow tipped over the enormous bucket of super glue, and then I bumped the bowl of feathers and googly eyes when I turned around. The feathers, googly eyes, and glue flew all around the room.

“Nooooooooooooooooooooo!”, I cried. “That’s impossible!”

But as I looked around the room, I saw it was all too true. My bedroom was covered from the ceiling to the floor with glue, and the feathers and googly eyes. My mom was going to be back in about an hour, so I thought I would probably be able to clean it up before she got home.

So, I grabbed lots of cleaning supplies from the cabinet and got to work cleaning up. I used a big spoon to scrape all the mess into a gigantic bowl (my mom's special China bowl, I hoped she wouldn't mind).

When I was done cleaning up, I sat back and admired my work. I was sure that when my mom got home from the store, my room would be as clean and tidy as ever. Boy was I so, so wrong. After I had cleaned up, set the bowl and the big mess inside on the counter, and fixed up my costume, I was ready for a snooze. So, I took a long, nice nap. When I woke up, my mom was home.

"Hi mom!", I said, walking into the living room.

"Hi Bob!", she answered.

"Can I put o

"Sure!", she said. "Where is it?"

"In the kitchen.", I replied.

She followed me into the kitchen. I pulled on my costume.

"Where are the eyeholes?", she asked.

"I don't need them.", I responded.

I wobbled in the direction of her voice, holding my hands out so I wouldn't bump into the wall. Soon, my hands pushed something. I realized with a shock that it was my mom's China bowl with the mess inside. The bowl slid off the counter and shattered, spilling the mess everywhere.

"Oops.", I said, ripping off the costume.

Then I ran.

Mr. Gerick Gets Ready For Winter Late



by: astrid w, 3rd grade

Mr. Gerik the gator was fishing. When all of a sudden, a group of hares walked past the pond. Mr. Gerik said, "Aren't you supposed to be in the tundra? It's the first day of fall! You're supposed to migrate right now, not be in the forest yet." A hare said, "You better go check your calendar because winter starts in two weeks! It also can get really cold here, shouldn't you be getting ready for winter?"

When Mr. Gerik got home, he got his winter jacket, but a bunch of worms had taken over it! He had to get new special needles and thread to make a new one! But he didn't have the money to get them. So, Mr. Gerik got out his grandmother's cookbook and started making tree bark cookies, moss cupcakes, sardine cake, and worm slurpees. But as he was making them, he realized he had run out of twinkle dirt. He can't make these delicious treats without it.

So, he went to the other side of the forest to start digging for it. While he was digging, the sun was going down. So, he set up a campsite and went to sleep. The next day he realized he woke up late. "I better start digging," he said. He started digging deeper and deeper.

Finally, he found one small pile of twinkle dirt. After he found 3 more piles of twinkle dirt, which took a week to gather, he packed up his things and went back to his house. At this point, winter was only a week away!

Mr. Gerik made all the food he needed to sell. The hares bought the tree bark cookies, the snakes bought all the moss cupcakes, his gator friends bought the sardine cake, and the birds bought the worm slurpees. This took 5 days to sell. Only two days were left of fall.

So, he quickly bought all the supplies and got to work sewing his new winter jacket. He went so fast that he sewed 3 arms and 2 legs. With only one day left, he still needed to fix the mistakes he made! He cut off the third arm and used the extra fabric to cover the hole where the third arm used to be. Then cut off the two legs and turned them into a hood. When the jacket was finished, it was the first day of winter. He put on his jacket and jumped into the pond to hibernate. He put his snout above the water to breathe and the water froze over.

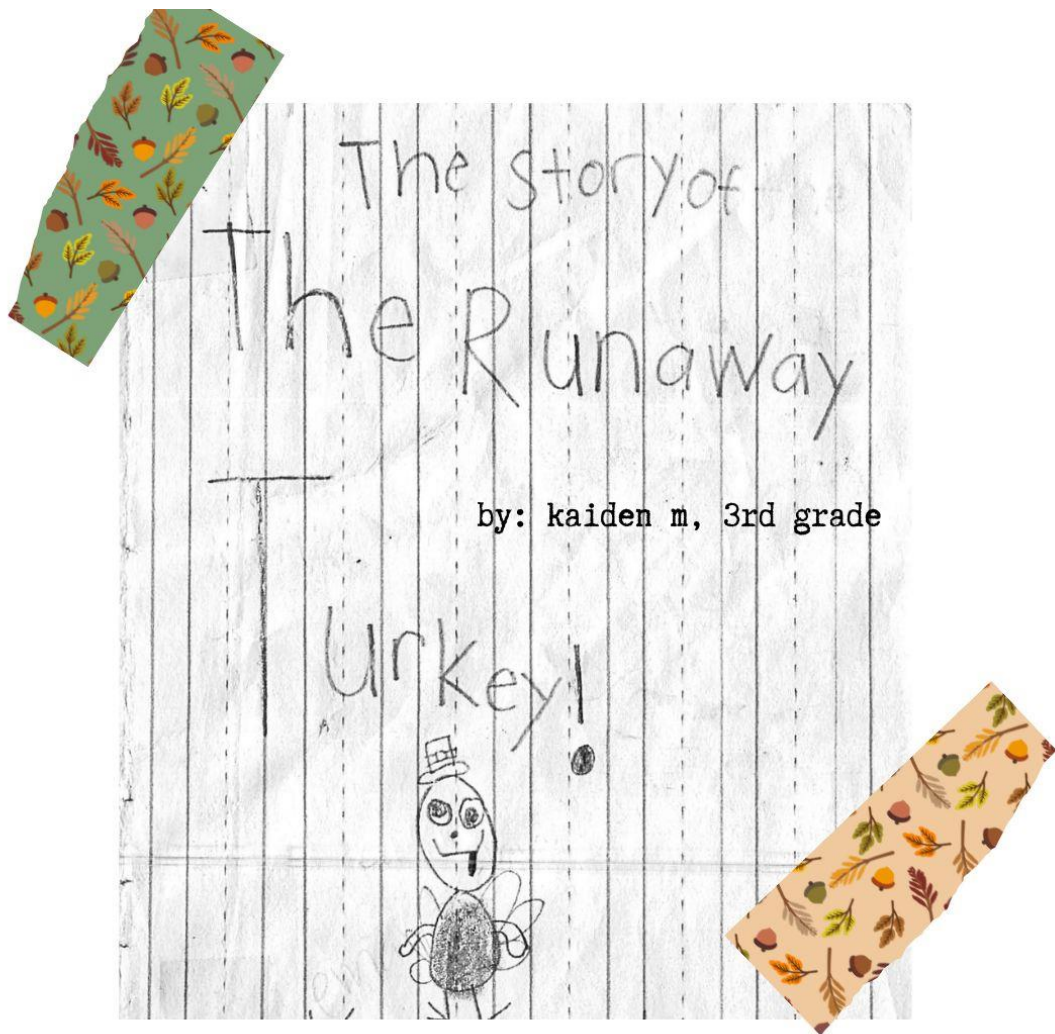
When spring came the ice melted and Mr. Gerik jumped out of the pond. He saw a bunch of animals in front of his house including the fox mayor.



She asked Mr. Gerik to be in charge of the food at the spring festival. So, Mr. Gerik made his tree bark cookies, moss cupcakes, sardine cake, and worm slurpees for it. They all had a fun time.

The End





Once upon a time, in the city of Thanksgiving, lived a turkey named Andrew. Andrew, he could be a little crazy sometimes, but you'll get used to it. He also LOVES yogurt.

One day, Andrew was taking a walk and he saw a door, he also went in! What do you think was inside?

Here's what's inside, a pit. Andrew wanted to get out but he couldn't! Oh no! In order to get out he had to find a key.

Now you may be thinking, "Kaiden, what was that hole in that picture in page four?" Well, it was a hole for Andrew to jump down. Andrew jumped down.

And in that pit he saw pure **DARKNESS!** He fell down that pit for three minutes!

Finally! He arrived at his destination! It was Christmas Land! Andrew did not know where he was at but it seemed FUN!!

So he played in the snow for nine hours! He still wanted to get out but he was not able to. So, he came up with a plan!

So, he started thinking. He explored more of Christmas Land. He eventually got out and never returned. He found the key and he ran away!

He's back in Thanksgiving Land, his real home. He never came back to Christmas Land! He played tag with his friends and played kickball and dodgeball and even played steal the bacon.



Nightmare Before Halloween

There was a town; the town was Halloween town. There was a lot of grave yards. The People were Dead Because it was the land of the Dead. And ghosts roamed the Land. And the king of the land was a monster!

And then the Biggest fire started!

The People thought it was the end of the world. The fire was getting bigger and Bigger and No one could stop it!

Christmas town heard about the fire and they brought some snow. And the snow put out the fire! the fire!!! The People of Halloween town were still Mean!

The People of Halloween town celebrated Halloween. And it was the scariest Halloween ever!!!



THE END

By
3rd

karis p.
grade



On Halloween night in a haunted house spiders are crawling up walls, jack o lanterns are lighting up the room with flickering lights, and cob webs are every where. Then a child named Maia knocks on the door to the haunted house. When the door opens there are ghosts, zombies, witches, skeletons, vampires, and bats at the door. Maia screams at the top of her lungs and then runs for her life. Next, she goes to a house with a lot of blow ups and lights. Maia really liked the decorations so she knocked on the door and said "trick or treat" and got three candies. She was so happy she went down the whole street and then ran as fast as she could back to her house. When she got back home she counted and then sorted her candies. She had ninety candies and a lot of different kinds. At the end of the night she had a cheeseburger and french fries with lemonade. She said "it was the best day ever!"



by ciera s.
2nd grade



