









STORIES FROM THE THIRD GRADE MARY M. BETHUNE SCHOOL CLEVELAND, OHIO 2025

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Battle by the River

By Marshawn, Devonte, Nehemiah, Esther, and Bailey





One day a talking pear named Buddy was going down the river and saw some friends. One of Buddy's friends was Teddy, a cute panda, and Teddy was playing in the water.

Then they saw a flying figure. "It's a bird, it's a plane, no, it's Cageman," said Buddy.



Meanwhile, Fangwoman was hiding behind a tree watching them. Then Fangman and

Fangwoman jumped out from behind the tree and started to attack people.

Fangwoman attacked Buddy, the pear, and Buddy ran away. Teddy fought back.





Cageman used his superpowers to trap Fangman in his cage. Fangwoman ran away, but then she went back. And Fangman tried to kick out of the cage, and that was when her sister helped her escape the cage. They began to attack Cageman.

Then Buddy the pear returned and saw Fangman and went to help Cageman. Teddy went to help Cageman to fight

Fangman. Then Cageman did a special attack and trapped Fangman in a cage and then flew up and threw a big fat magic lock at Fangman. Fangwoman ran away. "I'm sorry," said Fangman, "Can you just let me out?"

"No," said Buddy.

"I think we should let him out of the cage but if he do it again, we're going to bring him to jail forever," said Teddy.

"Yeah, I agree with Teddy. Everybody deserves a second chance."

So they let him go, and he ran away to find his sister Fangwoman. "Gotcha," he said.

Making Friends at the Gingerbread House

By Asteri, Maliyah, Lacey, Emilie, and Ja'Niyah



One night Lani was sleeping in her bed inside her gingerbread house, and something was moving under her bed. She hid her head under the covers. Then a scary zombie came out from under the bed. Lani peeked out from under the covers and saw the zombie, and she screamed.

Then the zombie tried to attack her, and she tried to run out of the room,

but the doors were locked. Her screams woke up her sister Ally.

Then Ally ran into Lani's room, busting the doors open by taking a hammer and throwing it at the door.

Elliana the Zombie said, "I'm not gonna kill you. I just wanna be friends."

But then Asha the ghost popped out of the wall with a big "Boo!" Then she said, "Hello, I am the zombie's friend too."

Lani and Ally were still scared so Lani said, "I don't wanna be your friend because you're a zombie."

Asha said, "Rude."

"I know I'm a zombie, but I was just born to be a zombie. It's not my fault."

Asha said to everyone, "Why can't we be friends? Even though we're monsters, we can still be friends."

"Fine, you can be friends with us as long as you don't kill us," said Ally.

"Ally, you know we can't be friends with them. How do you know they're not gonna kill us?"

"You should be friends with me. I really don't have that many friends," said Elianna.

Asha said, "The only reason we should be friends is because you're alive and we can both protect you because other humans are scared of zombies and ghosts."

"If you protect us, we'll definitely be friends with you. Sometimes stealers try to steal our stuff," said Ally.

"I think we can be friends, but if they try to kill us then we can't be friends no more," said Lani.



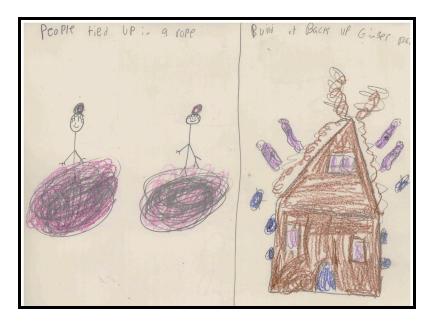
The next night they heard some banging downstairs. Elianna woke up and woke up her sisters. They went downstairs and saw Mr. Snake and Coffee Man. Mr. Snake and Coffee Man were trying to eat all the candy decorations on the

gingerbread house. The zombie and ghost try to boo them away, but they are not afraid.

Lani said, "Go get the hammer, Ally, and throw it at the people who are trying to eat our house because there's candy on it."

Ally went and got the hammer while Asha wrapped a ghostly rope around the two villains.

They tried to run away but got tangled in the rope and bumped into each other. Elianna the zombie came out and she pounced on them, and Mr. Snake and Coffee Man yelled, "Help! Help! A Zombie!!!!"



A bear named Janeeya heard the loud yelling and came running. She saw the zombie jumping on the two thieves. "Oh no! What's happening here?"

"Why are you pouncing on Coffee Man and Mr. Snake?" asked Janeeya the bear. "We're just friends and we're just trying to find food."

Asha said, "Should we let them have some of our house?"

"No," said Janeeya, "Do you have a garden because candy is not really that good for us."

"Yes, we do," said Lani. "Do you like carrots?"

"Yes," said Mr. Coffee Man. "I like carrots."

"I like bell peppers," said Mr. Snake. "Do you grow bell peppers too?"

"Yes," said Ally.

"Do you have a beehive near your garden?" asked Janeeya.

Asha said, "Yes, we do, and I just got some from the hive."

"All this talk about food is making me hungry too," said Elianna.

"Oh no," said Asha. "What do you like to eat?"



"I like to eat tacos," said Elianna. "Let's go out to eat."

"I know how to make tacos," said Lani. "And I have all the ingredients. Bell peppers, ground beef, onion, tomatoes, cheese, queso, sour cream, spinach, and tortillas."

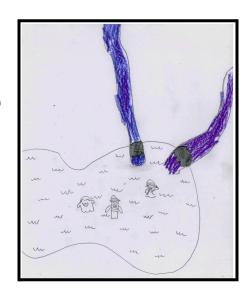
"What about me," asked Asha. "I like eating ghost burgers."

"I have one in my backpack," said Janeeya, "but bears don't eat ghost food, so you can have it."

So they all ate food, and then they fixed the gingerbread house up again.

"Who wants to go to the waterpark?" said Asha.

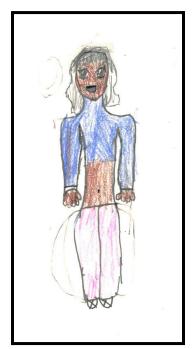
"Me," said everyone.



The End

The Superheroes who Stopped the Bad Guys and Saved the Day

By Adalynn, Basilio, Nyomi, and Reggie



One day, Tiger Woman was playing at the park. Then Spider Baby came up to Tiger Woman and said, "What happened? You used to be human."

"I got hit with a meteor," said Tiger Woman.

The co-workers Mr. Pencil and Mrs. Eraser were also at the park.

"Are you guys okay?" asked Mr. Pencil.



Squid Man landed down from the sky because his boss told him to check out the people at the park. "What is going on here?" he asked.

"A meteor transformed us," said Mrs. Eraser. "Now we can talk."

Then they all started talking and having fun at the park playing hide and go seek.



When they got tired, they went to Spider Baby's house to watch TV. Suddenly, they saw that someone was trying to take over Los Angeles and poison the water.

Mrs. Eraser said, "We have to stop them and save the day!"

Squid Man said, "If we catch them, we can save the day."

"Here's what we should do. Squid Man will talk to them and ask them questions, and then Spider Baby will trap them with his webs together."

"Good idea," said Spider Baby. "Let's go."

So they went to the water tower. There was a masked man with brown hair holding a green bottle of liquid.



Squid Man shot him with black squid ink and blinded him. Then Spider Baby tied him up in webs. And Tiger Woman scared him so much that he peed his pants. And Mr. Pencil and Mrs. Eraser poked him and erased his memory and his eyebrows.

They took him to the police station and he got jailed for life. Then they used Squid Man's powers to clean the water. And then they went to Tiger Woman's house and then Tiger Woman went and got ice

cream and cones, and they watched a movie. Tiger Woman made dinner. They had cornbread, steak and ribs, hotdogs, and fried fish for Squid Man. They also had Pepsi and water.

They decided to all live in Tiger Woman's house. So they bought some extra beds and put in a pool for Squid Man and a jungle gym for Spider Baby and Tiger Woman, and an art room for Mr. Pencil and Mrs. Eraser.

The Treasure Seekers

By Karim, Natalie, An'yla

One day, Olivia the tiger girl, Moonstar, the wolf girl, and Mass, the catboy, were looking for food in the forest. "I found something," said Mass suddenly.



"What is it, Mass," said Moonstar.

"Pennies," said Mass.

"Y'all found something? Ooh, look, they're in a golden box. I see a necklace," said Olivia, "with a diamond on it."

They were very excited. They picked up the box and started home. Suddenly, they heard a mysterious noise. "Guys, did you hear that?" said Moonstar.

"I'm gonna get my treasure back," said a dark low voice, growling in the

bushes.

They all screamed. They dropped the box and ran as fast as they could.

When they got home, "Who has the box?" Moonstar asked.

"I dropped it," said Mass.

They were sad and still hungry. "But where did you drop it?" asked Olivia.

"He probably took it when I dropped it, but I still have this." Mass held up a map.

"What? Mass? You got a map? I didn't see that," said Moonstar.

"I see.. it's a treasure map," said Olivia. "But will it still be there?"

"It looks like the treasure is at the top of the mountain. Let's go. I'm not scared," said Mass.

So they went off to go find the treasure, but the map was hard to read and they ended up getting lost. "Guys, where are we," asked Olivia. "Are we lost?"

Mass looked at the map. "I think we're going the wrong way. I think it's not this mountain."

They looked shocked.



"Guys, I can look at the moon and see red lights leading the way to the mountain," said Moonstar.

"Oh, is that why your name is Moonstar?" asked Olivia.

"Yep," said Moonstar. "I'm a Moon Ultima."

They followed the red light toward the moon. They went up the mountain, up and up. The mountain was so high and chilly. "I'm so tired," complained Olivia. "Are we almost there?"

"I think so," said Moonstar. "Because the light is pointing to the top. I can see more

and more light."

Finally they reached the top of the mountain. There was a huge cave. "I'm going in there," says Mass.



At the back of the cave, they found a boss dragon guarding the treasure. It was big and mean and red. Moonstar distracted the dragon while Mass and Olivia grabbed the treasure. They ran so fast but they didn't drop the treasure this time.

They used the treasure to buy what they wanted. Olivia wanted a big bag of meat because she was hungry. Mass wanted chicken. Moonstar wanted to buy a big mansion for them all to live in. They lived happily ever after.

The Big Storm–A Play

By Temaj, Harlaal, De'zyah, Sophia

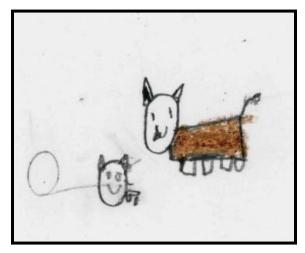
Characters:

Ruby is a bunny and a girl who wants to be able to jump high. Jackie is a dog and a boy who wants to run fast. Jack is a dog who wants to be able to teleport. Flame is a human who is really strong who wants friends.









Setting-the park

(Jack the dog is playing around with his toy clone. Flame walks into the park.)

Jack: Hello. What's your name?

Flame: Flame. What's yours?

Jack: My name is Jack. Do you wanna play at the playground?

Flame: Sure. But I got to go back to my kingdom soon.

(Jackie and Ruby arrive at the playground.)

Jackie: Hi, Flame, Hi Jack.

Ruby: What do you guys want to play?

Jack: Let's play hide and seek.

Ruby: Not it!

Jackie: Not it!

Flame: Not it!

Jack: I guess I'm it.

(Jack starts counting and everyone runs to hide.)

Jack: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20. Ready or not, here I come!

(Then Jack looks up into the sky and sees the blood moon. He sees a shadow of a villain, but he can't see his face.)

Jack: I think we should go!

(But everyone thinks he's joking so they keep hiding.)

Jack: Hurry up! I'm not playing! We got to go!

Jackie (pops up from behind the slides): What's going on?

Jack: Look up!

(Jackie looks up and sees the blood moon and the shadow, which has grown larger. And the clouds are bloody and big.)

Jackie: Guys, come on, he's for real!

Ruby (runs up to them): Flame! It's not a joke. Something is on the move.

Flame (runs up): Yo, what's happenin?

Jack: There's no time to talk. We gotta run.

(They run to a shelter.)

(It begins to rain red rain and the wind is blowing the rain under the shelter.)

Ruby: What should we do now?

Jackie: Call someone for help?

Jack: There's no wifi and no connection.

Jackie: Oh. I guess we have to solve this ourselves.

Ruby: Let's make a plan. (She takes out her notebook and a pen.)

Flame: I will go fly up and see who it is.

Jackie: No, don't go.

Flame: Why shouldn't I?

Jackie: Because it's dangerous.

Flame: I'll be fine.

Ruby: Are you sure you'll be fine?

Jack: Just go.

(Flame flies up into the storm. Meanwhile, a black and purplish portal begins to open up from the ground.)

Jackie: Um, guys, what is that?

Jack: There's no time to waste. Let's jump in.

Ruby: Do you guys know what that is?

(Jackie takes a closer look.)

Jackie: It's a portal. I went inside one of them before. I just forgot. It will help us get more powers.

Jack: Let's go!

(They jump through and land in a room with bottles of powers. They each take one and jump back to the park.)

Ruby: This one will help me jump higher.

Jackie: This one will help me run fast.

Jack: This one gives me the power of teleportation.

(They drink the bottles. It tastes nasty and makes them feel funny. So they make faces and react as if it hurts a little.)

Jackie: Let's go help Flame now.

Ruby: We don't know how to use the powers yet, why don't we try to practice them.

Jackie: Good idea.

Jack: Let's practice using our powers in the portal.

(They disappear into the portal and then come back having mastered their powers.)

(Flame is still up there trying to defeat the shadow.)

(Jack teleports behind him and tries to steal the shadow's power.)

(Ruby tries to help.)

(Jack fails.)

Ruby: Here's what we're gonna do. Jackie should run fast and try to tangle his feet up in the swings. Flame—you should flip gravity so the villain falls. I'm going to hop onto his head and jump up and down to confuse and distract him, while Jack gets ready to teleport him out of here.

(They do the things Ruby tells them to do, and Jack teleports away with the villain.)

Jackie: I hope Jack is okay.

Flame: He'll be fine.

Ruby: The weather is getting a little better.

(Jack teleports behind them.)

Jack: Boo!

Jackie and Ruby: Ahhh!

Flame: What did you do?

Jack: I teleported him far away so that he will never see us ever again.

Jackie: Not it!

Flame: Not it!

Jack: Not it!

Ruby: This time I'm it. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20.

(Lights out. Show over)

How to Make Friends and Get Rich

By Eli, Natalie, Aariz, and Shaanay

Characters

Blood–He is a vampire. He has a vampire dog named Cash Blood. He is 200 million years old. He likes movies.

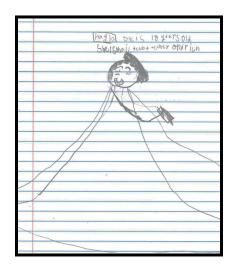


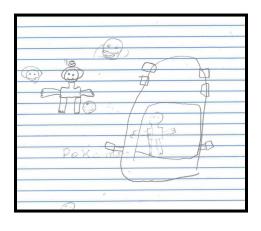
Akisha–She is a vampire. She is 400,000



years old. She loves to hang out with her friends. She likes to hang out in her coffin during the week. Sometimes she likes to scare people. She is very mischievous. She has a pet bat.

Cam— is a boy who is 15 years old. He is very rich. He has a mansion. He has luxury cars. He has a pet named Second Cam. It's a dog.





Nayla– is an 18 year old girl. She is a nail tech and a teacher.

Scene One-Akisha's living room-The party

Akisha: I have an announcement everybody. We are having snacks, and after we go to the store we're going to have a challenge. And whoever can survive the night without falling asleep wins two blocks of gold!

Cam: I'm too tired. I want to sleep.

Nayla: I will get you some coffee.

Blood: I will go and buy the snacks.

Akisha: Ooh, ooh, I want to choose my snacks first. Here's my list: I want takis, I want gummies, I want Prime energy drink.

Cam: I want to buy cheetos and doritos and cold drinks.

Nayla: I want Takis and sour skittles and Prime. That's it.

(Blood leaves to go buy the snacks. His dog Cash goes with him.)

Akisha: How about we prank Blood and go hide from him. When he comes to find us we all jump out and scare him.

Cam and Nayla: Okay.

Scene Two-In Akisha's secret basement

(Blood comes back and looks for everyone. He goes into the basement.)

Blood: Where are they?

Everyone: BOO!

(Blood jumps and drops all the snacks on the floor.)

(Akisha tries to catch the snacks but they all land on her.)

(Cam gets a bandage for Blood who banged his head on the ceiling when he jumped)

Blood: Thank you.

(Nayla grabs her snacks.)

Akisha (talking to herself): Hmm. I think I have a plan. Maybe I should get some hot chocolate and drop a sleep pill in it because I don't really wanna give away my gold.

(Akisha leaves the basement.)

Cam: We should tell jokes and make each other laugh so we don't fall asleep.

Blood: Good idea. Do you know why vampires drink blood?

Nayla: No. Why do vampires drink blood?

Blood: Because they can't make it all the way to Ludo Street.

Cam: We have a technique to make funny jokes.

Akisha: Hi everybody, I made hot chocolate.

(Everyone takes a cup of hot chocolate.)

Blood: We were making jokes to help us stay awake.

Akisha: Oh... Well, I'm going to tell a joke next. Knock knock.

Cam and Nayla: Who's there?

Akisha: Moo.

Nayla: Moo who?

Akisha: Moove over!

(Blood laughs. Cam laughs. Nayla doesn't think it's funny.)

Blood: Knock Knock.

Cam: Who's there?

Blood: Howl.

Cam: Howl who?

Blood: Howl you know unless you open the door?

(Cam and Akisha laugh.)

Akisha: Knock Knock.

Nayla: Who's there?

Akisha: Canoe.

Nayla: Canoe who?

Akisha: Canoe open the door?

Nayla: Knock knock?

Blood: Who's there?

Nayla: Good.

Blood: Good who?

Nayla: Good job.

(Blood laughs.)

Cam: Knock knock.

Nayla: Who's there?

Cam: Tank.

Nayla: Tank who?

Cam: You're welcome.

(Time passes. Everyone gets sleepy except for Akisha.)

Akisha: Is anybody feeling sleepy yet?

Cam: No.

Blood: I feel super sleepy, but I'm just gonna sit down and play some games.

Nayla: Let's play Monopoly.

Blood and Cam: No! Let's play a math game!

Akisha: I'll play Monopoly with you, Nayla.

(They play board games, but they keep getting sleepy except for Akisha who is winning at Monopoly.)

Blood: I am so sleepy. I just wanna play Fortnite so I don't fall asleep.

(Blood begins to fall asleep.)

Nayla: Wait a minute, how come Akisha isn't sleepy and everyone else is falling asleep?

Cam: Yeah, why isn't she sleepy?

Akisha: (yawns) I don't know what you're talking about guys, I'm sleepy.

(Cam finishes his hot chocolate and looks into the bottom of the cup.)

Cam: Ooh. What is this green pill in my cup?

(Nayla looks in the cup.)

Nayla: Yeah what is that? I have one in my cup too? And it's not a marshmallow.

Cam: Blood! Blood! (Cam spills a glass of water on Blood.) Wake up!

Blood: Ugh. Who woke me up?

Cam: I did. Because you are sleepy, I helped you to wake up.

Nayla: So we finished our cups and we saw these pills at the bottom and they weren't marshmallows.

Blood: It must be a sleeping pill. Is it green?

Cam: Yeah.

Blood: Oh, so it is a sleeping pill.

(Nayla looks at the bottom of Akisha's cup.)

Nayla: She doesn't have one. She must be behind all of this.

Akisha: What? I— I—I don't know what you're talking about. It was not me. It must have been somebody else. I must have bought the wrong thing. I thought the sleep pills were marshmallows. I didn't know.

Nayla: How? If Blood was the one who went to the store?

Akisha: Because I already had some marshmallows and they were left over from Halloween and I thought I'd just make some hot chocolate cuz I didn't know. and I had sleep pills because I was scared someone was going to prank me because it was Halloween. I must have got them mixed up.

Cam: Why?

Nayla: Let's check the cameras then.

Akisha: I don't have cameras. This is my house. I don't have cameras because I'm a vampire so I can just scare people away.

Blood: I think you did that on purpose because you were the only one inside the kitchen... and how would you get small pills confused with marshmallows?

Cam: Why would she do this?

Blood: She might want to win the two blocks of gold without any competition so that she doesn't have to give it to anyone else.

Akisha: But why would I do that if I'm the one who made the announcement?

Blood: Why would you do that if you want to keep the gold?

Nayla: Maybe she wants it for herself so she can buy a nicer coffin.

Akisha: Yeah, I want to buy a Bugatti like Cam has. When I saw his car, I realized I needed all my gold.

Blood: I got three bars of gold anyway. I just wanted to compete so I can get 5 blocks of gold so I can buy a mansion even though I already have one mansion and 3 Bugattis.

Cam: I have so much gold in my house.

Nayla: Share with me since y'all got so much gold.

Akisha: Well you should have asked. You know me and Blood are rich because we're vampires, and Cam is rich because he won the soccer championship.

Blood: Why don't we each give a block of gold to Nayla?

Akisha: I'll be super generous and give her two.

Blood: And I will give her ten.

Cam: I will give you 15.

Nayla: Thank you. (She fans herself in shock.)

Blood: Sharing is caring.

Akisha: It feels good to be generous.

Cam: We be honest in our lives.

Nayla: We should always tell the truth.

Blood: Hey, guys, y'all want to go to my mansion and play at the

beach because I bought the beach.

Akisha: YES!

Cam: I want to go swimming.

Nayla: Yeah, but I gotta change and put my bathing suit on.

Akisha: Me too.

(Everyone walks off stage.)