

Where the Phlox are we?

Or

Not much. What's new with you?

Or

But First, Coffee

Or

Fried Chicken and Fever Dreams

Or

The Good, the Bat, and the Picnic

Or

Phlox in Wonderland

Or

A Feast with a Side of Revenge

Or

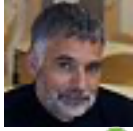
When the Roomba is Uninvited to the Party

Or

Raven Forest

A Story By

Design and Civic Engagement



[Al Boss](#) 🏠 Apr 7th at 6:42 AM

Wednesday 07 April 2021 check-in thread

Write the next 1-4 sentences of this story, building on what's been written previously. If you don't participate there's always an increased risk that you might wind up in the story.

It was a dark and stormy night—or perhaps it was just misunderstood. A low growl wafted across the evening air. “That could be a lowland mountain lion,” Phlox Lombardi said to herself, “or a feral Roomba.” She checked her grip on the baseball bat.

22 replies



[Al Boss](#) 🏠 13 days ago

She regretted not having covered this situation in her goals statements. Meanwhile, somewhere else, other people were probably unaware as to whether or not they had a part to play in this, or any other, misadventure.

👍 1



[Mary Delahanty](#) 13 days ago



[Wendy](#) 🏠 13 days ago

Phlox's bat powered to life, turning into a handheld helicopter. It lifted her up and carried her over the jungle, where she could see the source of the noise. Phlox could not believe her eyes.

👍 3 🐿 1



[rebecca](#) 13 days ago

She had never seen anything like it. Very large ants were carrying full buckets of Ezell's fried chicken to what looked like a giant picnic table. Suddenly three ravens swooped down and surrounded her.

🍗 1 😂 1 😊 1 🐼 1



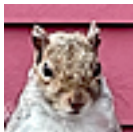
Dominique Barni 13 days ago

In their beaks the ravens carried a large checkered tablecloth, billowing in the evening breeze.



Megann Devine 13 days ago

The large checkered tablecloth retailed for \$28.99. It could be found on Amazon. But instead, the ravens had found it where no bird had ever expected to find it, or any other picnic item...



Jeff 13 days ago

Animals of all kinds silently came out of the forest with various edibles and beverages in wooden and leafy containers and soon the table was fully laden for a grand feast. Phlox stood there in awe and wondered, "Is this all for me for a midnight meal?" But then, the animals stood there staring at her ravenously and she wasn't sure what to do next.



Derek Sheppard 13 days ago

"Phlox, you're so astute," replied Walgrus the wolverine as he skittered out from under a juniper bush, grabbing a fistful of berries as he did. "Of course, this is *all* for you. In a sense."



Al Boss 🏠 13 days ago

"Well," thought Phlox, "this night is getting darker. But where *did* the ravens get that tablecloth?"





[Dominique Barni](#) 13 days ago

"An interesting question, Phlox," said Haliburton the hedgehog, reading her mind.



3



[Ruoxi Zhang](#) 13 days ago

Good morning! 💡



[Fred Bentler](#) 13 days ago

"Croak," quoth the Raven. "From the creek where that lightning just flashed?" she asked. "Croak." Blinking away a crisscross retinal mirage, she noticed the sky beyond the boiling clouds seemed faintly checkered red, and she tightened her grip.



2



[Andrea](#) 13 days ago

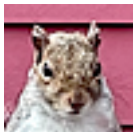
"We picked it up from Mr. Shark!", exclaimed One-foot, the head Raven. Mr. Shark was notorious for dining picnic style. Always one for mealtime etiquette, tucking a picnic basket under his pectoral fin. "He always brings a red-checkered tablecloth and a nice Chianti before chomping!", added Two-Foot-and-a-Beak.



4



1



[Jeff](#) 13 days ago

Theodore the Bear leaned in to Mr. Shark and said, "Ooh Chianti, my favorite! So uh, did you bring the fava beans?" as they stared at Lisa the Lamb who was about to baah out an indignant retort but Mr. Shark told her, "Silence!" (edited)



2



2



2



[Laurel Preston](#) 13 days ago

The raccoon family brought their offerings salvaged from local garbage cans. “These have seasoned nicely...enjoy!”



[Alex](#) 13 days ago

It was a feast with a side of revenge. “The Raccoon Squad remembers!“, yelled Kigthor Raccoon. It was an ambush. Phlox quickly found his bat.



[Raven Tish](#) 13 days ago

Somewhere in the distance the docile tones of synthesized drums and deep bass could be heard. Could it be so ... music? The Faucists had forbidden it so long ago that Phlox could barely recognize it. Erring no caution to the potential of eminent danger ahead, she ran as fast as she could toward the alluring sounds. If this were to be the last night of her life, at least she would spend it dancing.



[Krygier](#) 13 days ago

Suddenly a shot rang out. The maid screamed. A feral Roomba emerged from the forest charging toward the assembly of amicable forest denizens, frightening them to scurry in all directions. In its mechanized frenzy, and to the horror of the lot, the Roomba consumed the Gingham cloth of the picnic. It belched and roared in triumph and proceeded to circle the scene in search of its next prey.



[Fred Bentler](#) 13 days ago

Then she awoke with a start, her sheets drenched and shaking from the fever. "She's awake," the attendant turned down the music and spoke into an intercom. "It was so happy there, so peaceful,"

Petunia whispered before falling back, weak and tired. Then, a tap, tap, tap at the window summoned her to consciousness to notice a silhouette of a large bird through the checked curtain. "Where am I?"



[Jay Beach](#) 13 days ago

McConnell the Turtle heard the music, too, but was less enthusiastic than Phlox. Although Mitch loved to dance, his tiny little legs usually delivered him late to the party. He was sure the Forest Corporation had plotted to move the celebration deep into the woods, but how could he prove his conspiracy theory?(sorry, the news is on in the background 😊)



[Al Boss](#)  13 days ago

Kigthor the Raccoon stared fixedly at Phlox. "Wait, what? Did you turn into a dude for a second there, back when my squad uncloaked?"

Phlox said, "Huh. There must be hormones in the chicken."

Petunia shook her head as if to clear these visions. "Are we both real, or just one of us?"

Phlox said, "As long as that band is real, I don't care."

McConnell the turtle addressed them both. "Don't expect to vote on it."

