

SPACE CATS IN SPACE



WRITTEN AND ILLUSTRATED
BY FLO LAM



A close-up photograph of tall, thin, light-colored grass blades against a dark, out-of-focus background. The grass blades are angled upwards and to the right, creating a sense of depth and movement. The lighting is soft, highlighting the texture of the grass.

**SPACE
CATS
IN
SPACE**

The first time I wrote this, I was eight and in third grade. I had thought of writing a story about cats on a foreign planet. So when my teacher told us we could have “freestyle writing”, a fancy way of saying that you can write whatever you want, I grabbed the opportunity.

Over the years, I have changed a few minor things. Now I present to you, *Space Cats in Space* (also short for SCIS).



PART 1:
BOBBIE

CHAPTER **ONE**

Bobbie shook her fur. It was very cold. She and her friends were looking for a place to rest in the cold storm.

SHAKE



Brr'.

D-d-don't
worry, Findy.



Then Devon, the oldest cat with black-and-white fur, pointed to a strange thing with a lid. “It’s called a trash can. We can sleep in it.”

So, they jumped into the trash can and slept. Findy was the smallest and the coldest, so he slept in the middle of all the cats (Bobbie, Devon, Ring and Pixie).

Bobbie woke up to see swirling. Everything was swirling! "WHAT'S GOING ON?" She yelled over the roar of the wind.

"It's a tornado!" Devon called as he suddenly came into view. Bobbie was so scared. She closed her eyes.



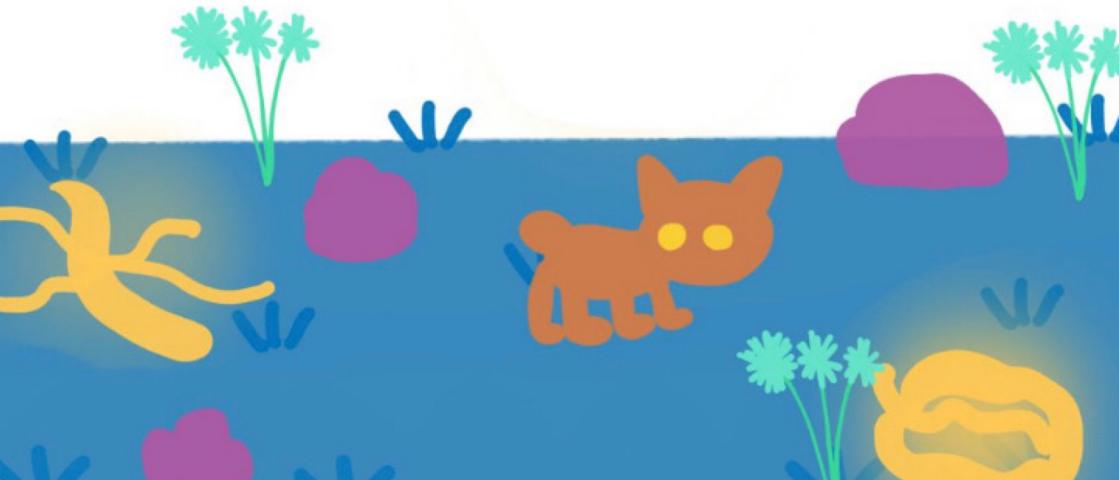
what is
happening?



WHOOSH! SWIRL!

The tornado was dizzying, but soon Bobbie felt grass beneath her paws. She opened her eyes to see a bizarre world! The grass was blue, the sky was white, there were yellow vines and there were bushes of violet leaves. When Bobbie looked around, she could see turquoise flowers, but she was scared they were poisonous, so she didn't dare touch them. Then Bobbie heard a voice calling out to her friends. It was Devon.

“You’re here!” Devon purred, but then he yawned. Bobbie decided that they get to sleep.



CHAPTER TWO

The next day, when Bobbie was foraging for people cat food, she saw a violet bush rustle. And out jumped... a rabbit. But it wasn't a rabbit. It looked like one, but it had green fur.

"Who are you?" Bobbie asked.

"I'm Greenie-Beanie, she-Greeny. What are you?"

"I'm a cat."

Greenie-Beanie shook her head. "Never heard of ya. K-ATS. Weird!"

"You're here!" Devon purred, but then he yawned. Bobbie decided that they get to sleep.



Then Bobbie asked, "Greenie-Beanie, you have any food I could eat?"

Greenie-Beanie nods, and points to the turquoise flowers. "Those are Bellydelights. They are yummy." And they were! They were delicious. So Bobbie picked some and headed back to the camp Devon was building.





PART 2:
FINDY

CHAPTER THREE

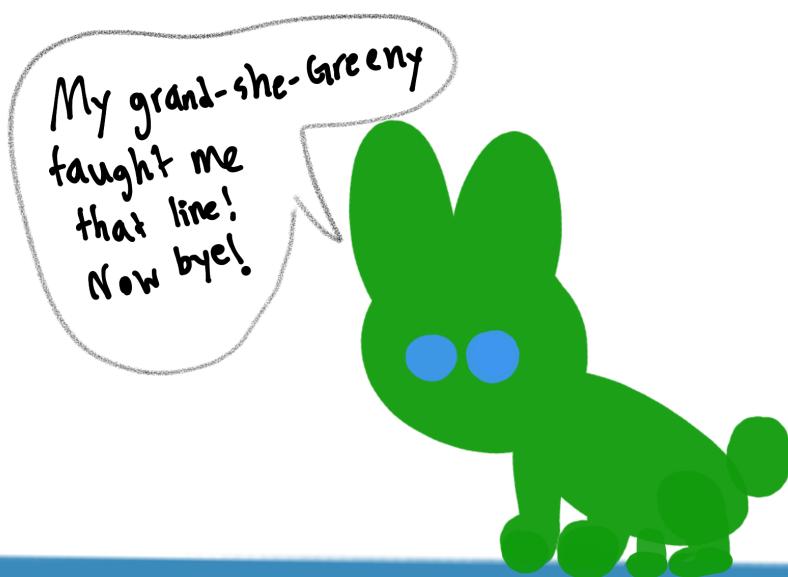


Findy was hiding in some yellow vines. He had heard the chat between Bobbie and Greenie-Beanie. He jumped out. “Meowrrr!”

“EEEK!” Greenie-Beanie shrieked. “Are you a Longmouth? Oh! It’s another one of the cats. What’s your name?”

“Findy.” Findy said. “Excuse me, Greenie-Beanie, yes, I know your name, I was listening to you, can you tell me where I am?”

“Oh!” The Greeny laughed.
“There’s a traditional speech
for that answer. Here it is the
tenth planet. Here it is Planet
Babbitty. Here it is brilliant,
boring, and dangerous all at
the same time.

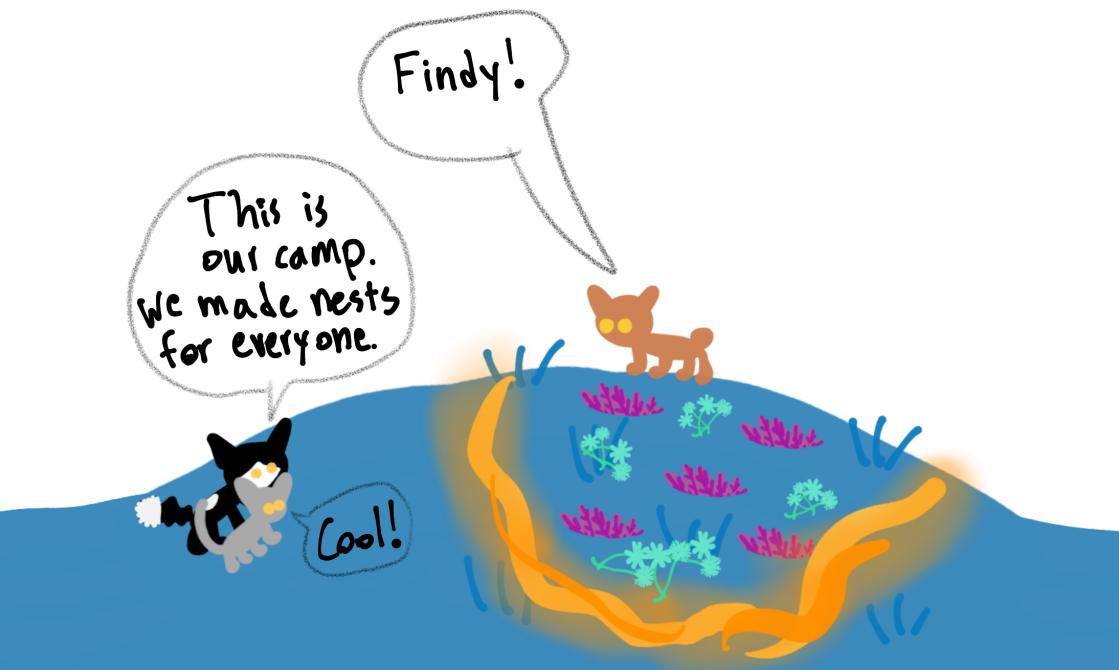


Later, Findy was nosing through the bushes when a familiar scent made him smile. “Devon!” He yelped.

Sure enough, the big cat came out from a purple bush. “Findy! You’re here!”

“Findy!” Bobbie came out. “Come and eat these! They’re delicious.”

“Oh, no. I ate some Bellydelights on the way here.” And he did. The sweet-and-sour taste was still on his tongue.



“Oh!” Bobbie said, surprised.
Then Devon decided to take
watch while they slept.



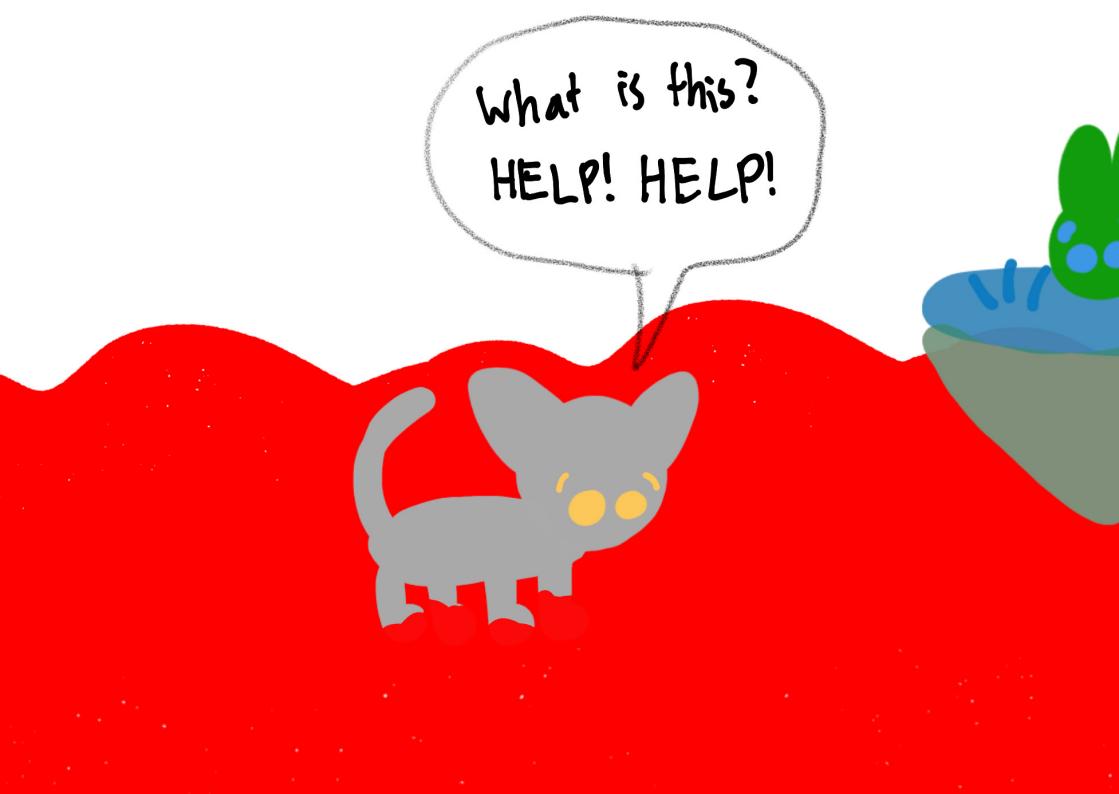
CHAPTER FOUR

Findy was looking for Greenie-Beanie and had no luck. He wanted to know what Longmouths were. He vaguely remembered Greenie-Beanie calling him one.



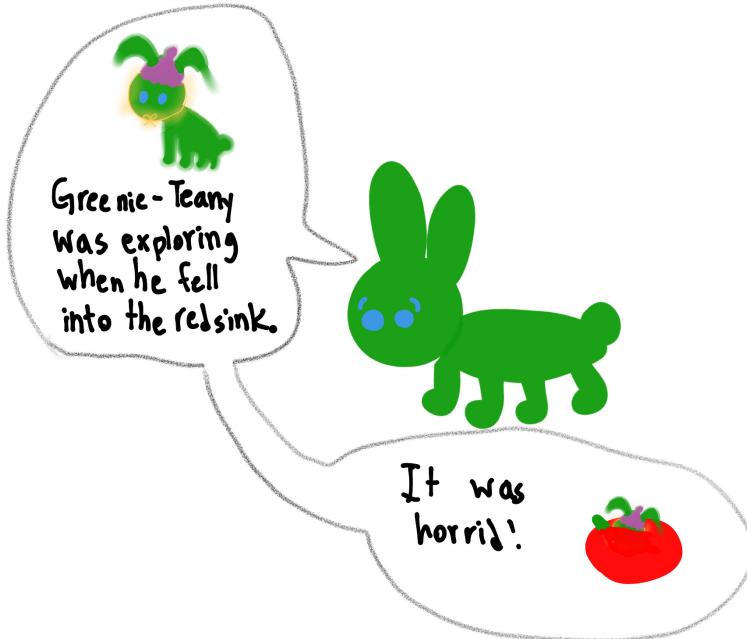
Suddenly he smelled her. He ran forward yelling “Greenie-Beanie! Where are you!?” Then Findy felt a tugging on his paws. He looked down to see that his paws were stuck in some red mud! It was tugging him down.

Then Greenie-Beanie’s face stuck out from a ledge. “Oh no!”



A gray cat is stuck in a pool of red mud. A speech bubble above it contains the text "What is this?" and "HELP! HELP!"

What is this?
HELP! HELP!



“What?” Findy screamed. Now most of his legs were inside the squelchy red mud already. “That’s redsink, and it can swallow you up less than a minute!” Greenie-Beanie squeaked. “It swallowed my father, Greenie-Teany!”

Oh no! Findy struggled, but he couldn't pull himself out. Then a familiar face poked out. It was Ring, another lost friend! Her light gray fur and blue eyes were wild with fright. Then she picked a branch from a purple tree and held it out to him with her teeth.

"Grab dis!" Ring shouted with the branch in her mouth. Findy didn't hesitate. He bit the branch as hard as he could, hooking onto it as Ring, with the help of Greenie-Beanie, pulled a slick, red, Findy out.



“Follow me, Findy!” Greenie-Beanie said. She led him to a lake and pushed him in. “This is Healiiquid. It heals everything and cleans you as well.”

Findy never thought he would like water, but now he did. It was soothing and it rubbed the redsink off his fur.



When Findy climbed out all traces of redsink were gone. As Findy was about to reunite Ring with the rest of his friends at the camp Greeny-Beanie, who had been following them, asked, “Can I live with ya’ll?”

“Of course!” Findy exclaimed. “Bobbie would like that.”

“Is Devon there?” Ring asked.

“Yup.” Findy nodded. Ring curled her tail into a ring. “Yay!”



CHAPTER FIVE

When they got back to the camp, the first to acknowledge them was Devon. Then Bobbie came up and greeted them. “Greenie-Beanie! Ring!”

“Um, Devon, I-” Findy started. But Ring cut him off.

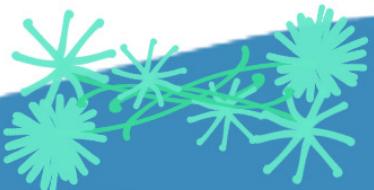
“Findy fell into some red quicksand stuff.” She meowed.

“Findy, how irresponsible of you!” Devon said.

“Devon!” Ring’s tail uncurled and curled happily.

“Ring!” Devon said.

Findy purred. But then he remembered another friend.



“I miss Pixie.” Findy said. The no-tailed she-cat wasn’t here yet.

Bobbie nodded. Pixie and Bobbie were real friends, batting off mean cats who teased about their short tails.

“If you’re ever gonna go back to Planet Earth, can I come?” Greenie-Beanie asked.

“Sure.” Devon said. “But we first have to find Pixie.”

“I wonder where she is.” Bobbie wondered out loud.





A close-up, low-angle photograph of tall, thin blades of grass against a dark, out-of-focus background. The grass blades are sharp and thin, creating a sense of depth and texture. The lighting is dramatic, highlighting the edges of the blades against the dark background.

PART 3: **PIXIE**

CHAPTER **SIX**



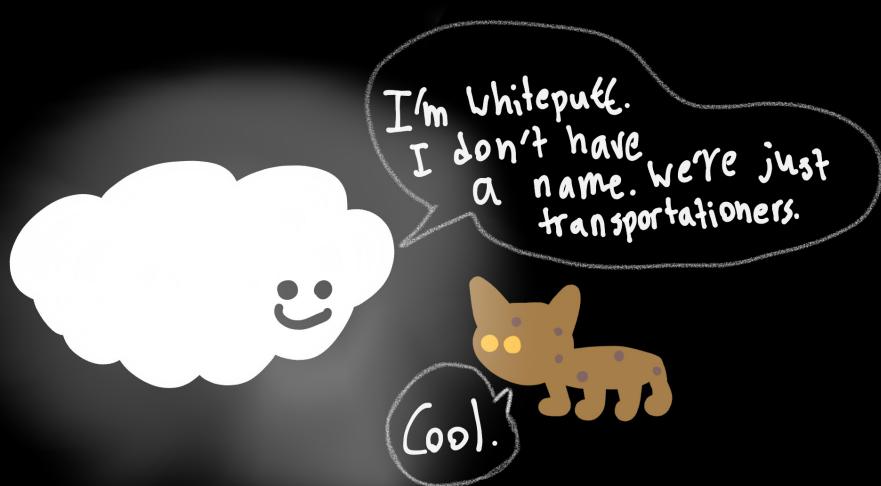
Pixie blundered in a dark cave, creeped out. Just because she was the third oldest in her group didn't mean she wasn't afraid!

Suddenly a puff of smoke whooshed past her.
“AHHH!” Pixie yelled.

“No need to be so scared.” The puff of smoke was a cloud. A talking cloud. With a smiley face. That was absurd! Plus, it was glowing a little bit.

“Who are you?” Pixie asked.

“I’m a Whitepuff, transportation for ANYONE to ANYWHERE.” His smiley face smiled even more, and his eyes were friendly.



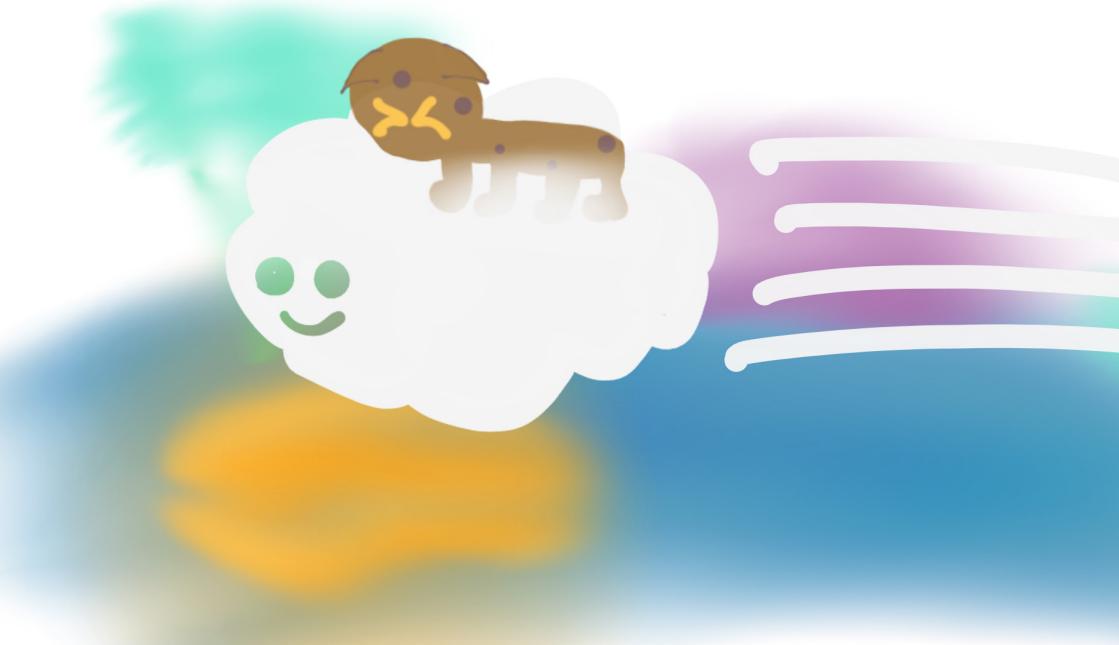
“Oh, good.” Pixie said. “Have you seen any other cats? Animals like me.”

The Whitepuff thought for a moment. “Yup. But she was orange and had yellow eyes.”

“That’s one of them! You saw Bobbie.” Pixie purred. “Can you take me to her?”

“Okey-Dokey.” The Whitepuff lifted Pixie and they zoomed across the blackness into a blur of blue grass.

Zoom!



Suddenly they stopped. There, Bobbie. Pixie nodded her thanks to the Whitepuff. "I'm Pixie, by the way."

"Goodbye, Pixie." The Whitepuff was gone.



CHAPTER SEVEN

“Bobbie!” Pixie yelled. Bobbie saw her. “Pixie!”

“Have some Bellydelights. They’re delicious.”
Bobbie gave some turquoise flowers to Pixie.



“Bobbie, you know where the others are?”
Pixie asked.

“Yep. Follow me!” Bobbie led her to the makeshift camp and Pixie was shrouded with greetings.



“Bobbie gave me a Bellydelight. It was SOOO yummy.” Pixie told her friends.

Then came a squeak. “Of course, they are. They’re Bellydelights.” A green bunny tipped her ears to Pixie in a polite gesture. “I’m Greenie-Beanie, a she-Greeny. You must be Pixie.”

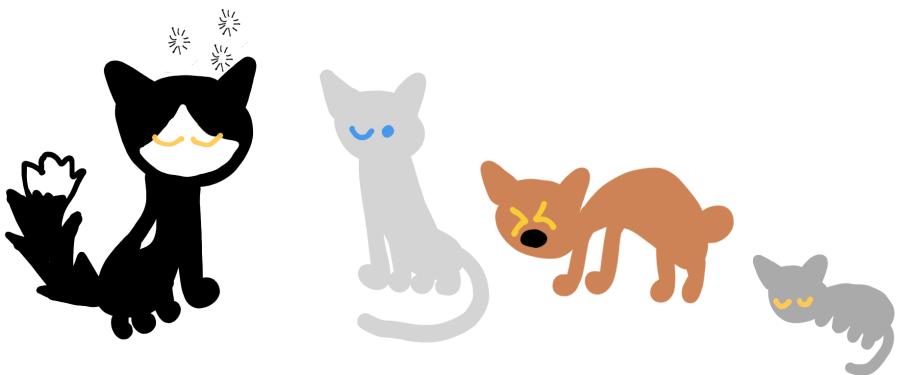


“Yes I am.” Pixie said to Greenie-Beanie.

“So now we can go back to Earth!” Findy said.

“Wait, we’re not at Earth?” Pixie was puzzled. She thought that they were in some foreign island. It took a while for everyone to explain what happened.





“Well when are we going back?” Pixie asked.

“Tomorrow morning, of course!” Devon said. But Pixie did not think that. All of them looked weary and tired; Bobbie was yawning, Ring was trying not to close her eyes, Findy was already sleeping, and even Devon’s eyelids were drooping. The only one who didn’t seem sleepy was Greenie-Beanie.

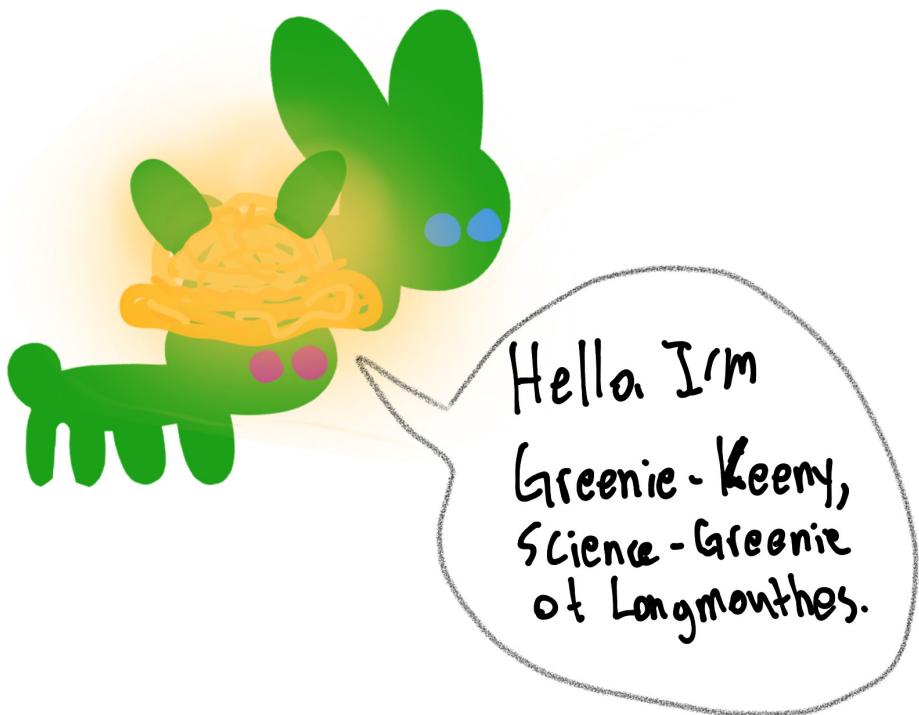
“I don’t think so,” Greenie-Beanie shooed them into their nests, and pushed Findy into his. “You guys are too tired. We’ll go back tomorrow. Yes, I’m coming with you guys. This place is being inhabited by Longmouthes, and I’ll get eaten in a matter of time if I don’t come.”

CHAPTER EIGHT

The next morning, Pixie woke up to find two Greenie-Beanies. What? No, the other one had purple eyes and a flatter head. He also wore a glowing yellow vine hat. “Hello, I’m Greenie-Keeny.” He said. “I’m a distant cousin to Greenie-Beanie here.”

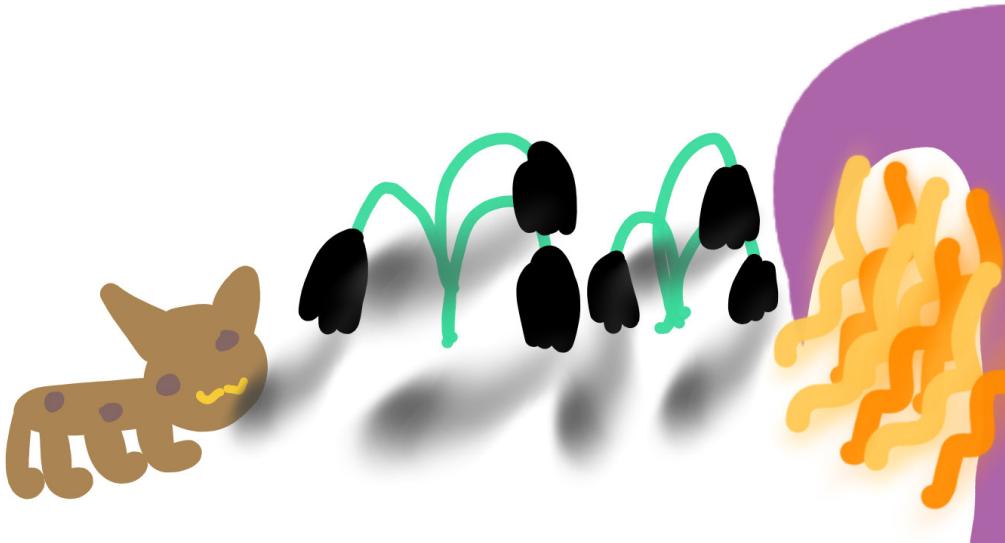
Devon asked, “Do you know how to get us back to Earth?”

To Pixie’s surprise, Greenie-Keeny nodded. “Yes, Follow me to my house.”



Hello, I'm
Greenie-Keeny,
Science-Greenie
at Longmouthes.

Greeny-Keeny led them to a den made of purple leaves. Before they went in, though, Pixie smelled something sweet and fell asleep.



CHAPTER NINE

“Pixie!” Pixie woke up. Bobbie was giving her some water. “It’s Healiqid. I heard it saved Findy.”

“Sorry.” Greeny-Keeny said. “I guard my house with Poppydroops. They make non-mammals sleep, oldest to youngest.”





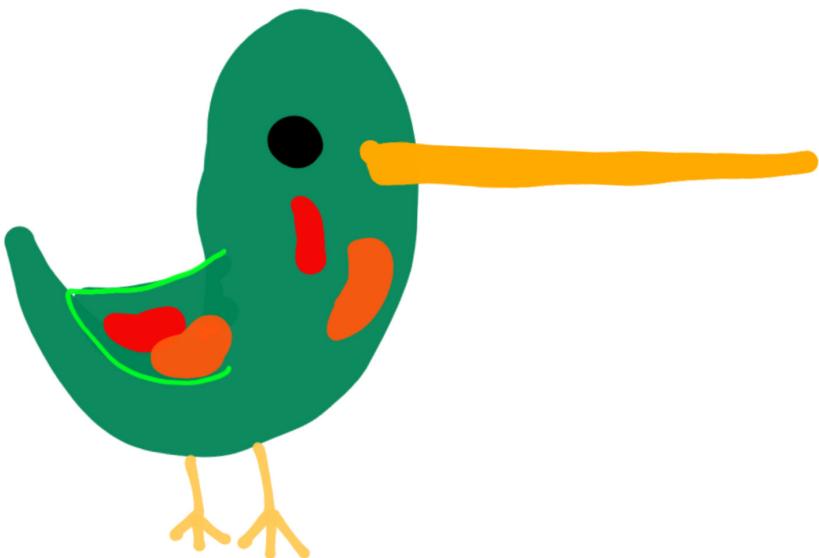
“Wait, you’re not a mammal?” Devon was waking up. The den was purple and there was a trapdoor underneath, and there were many nests of yellow vines.

“Nope!” Greeny-Beanie hopped up. “Ya’ll come from your parent’s bellies. We come from eggs. Longmouthes also come from bellies. Even though they are gigantic birds with long beaks.”

“Cool!” Bobbie said. She jumped up. “So how are we gonna get back?”

“Oh. You’ll fly with a Longmouth.” Greenie-Keeny said. Then he said some weird stuff in clicks. “Click click hoot hoot click!”

A huge bird came up. He had green, red, and orange feathers. He also had a loooong beak, as long as a branch.



“Wow!” Findy said. Greenie-Beanie cowered. “It’s okay.” Greenie-Keeny told her.



“He’s Hummer. He’s the most tamed Longmouth. And you’ll be hanging on with a sunvine. It’s these.” He turned to the cats and pawed at the bedding. “These are vines that come from the sun.”

“I can see that.” Pixie saw a faint glow from the vine. “But is it strong? Like, really strong? So strong that it can hold a... Greeny?”

“Obviously!” Greenie-Beanie said. “It’s a sunvine! The sun is strong, so this is strong! I mean, who doesn’t know that?”

“Okay. So, now we gotta sleep, right, guys?” Pixie said. “We’ve a long day ahead of us. So, chop chop!”

So, Bobbie, Findy, Devon, Ring, Pixie, Greenie-Beanie and Greenie-Keeny went to sleep. But Hummer was munching on some Bellydelights, so he wasn’t sleeping.





Where
are
my
friends?

“Now, to steer him you gotta point somewhere, and he’ll go there. Oh, and you should wear these Healiqid bubbles. They let you breathe in space.” They were about to go home, and Greenie-Beanie was just tying herself to Hummer’s leg. Pixie looked down from Hummer’s body. They were finally going!

“Hoot click clack chirp squawk squawk!”
Greeny-Keeny chirped, and they were off!





A close-up, low-angle shot of tall, thin blades of grass against a dark, out-of-focus background. The grass is a vibrant blue-green color, creating a sense of depth and texture. The background is a dark, blurred gradient of blue and purple, which makes the grass stand out.

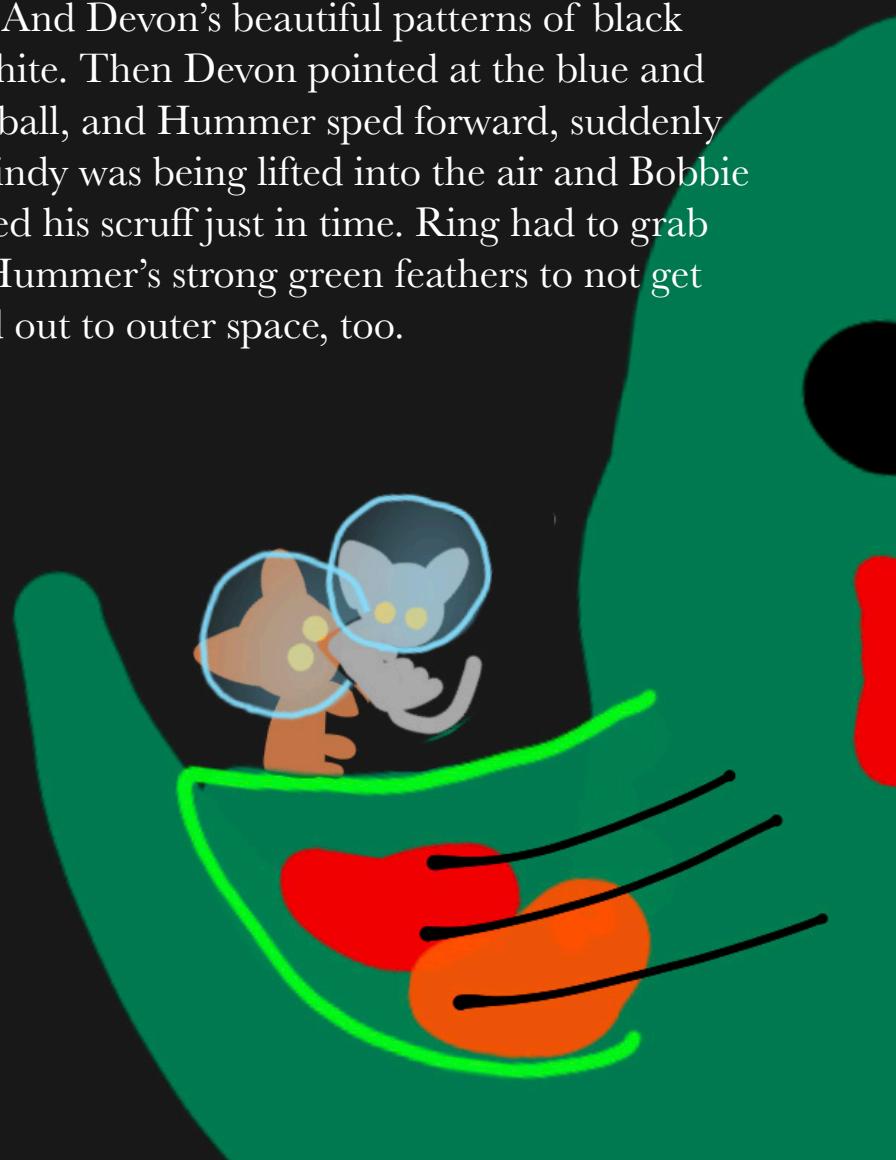
PART 4: **RING**

CHAPTER TEN

Hummer was real slow. Ring looked at the batch of Bellydelights in Bobbie's jaw and wondered if they could last long enough. As they lifted, Greenie-Beanie whispered, "Goodbye, Planet Babbitty. I will never forget you."



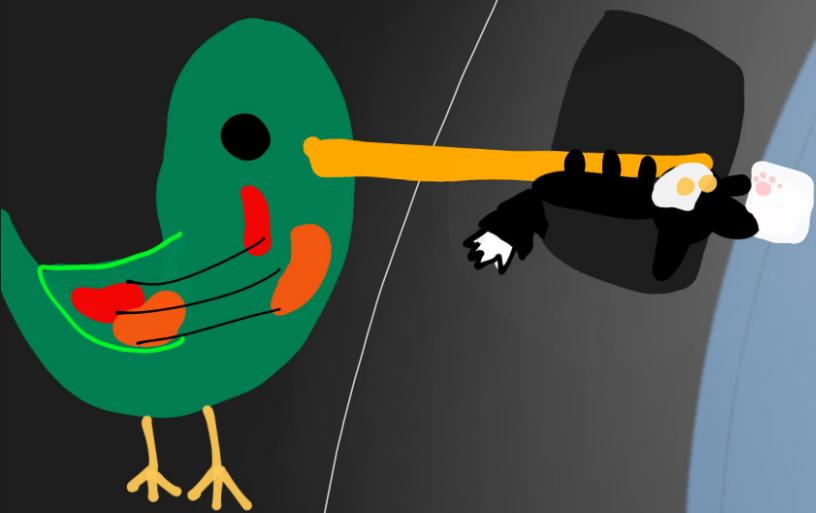
They were going home! And they would have SO many stories to say! Ring thought of the colorless street back home. She couldn't wait to return their colors to the brown and gray of the street. Bobbie's vibrant orange, Findy and Ring's glimmering silver, Pixie's tiny dots of caramel and black. And Devon's beautiful patterns of black and white. Then Devon pointed at the blue and green ball, and Hummer sped forward, suddenly fast. Findy was being lifted into the air and Bobbie grabbed his scruff just in time. Ring had to grab onto Hummer's strong green feathers to not get drifted out to outer space, too.



Ring chewed on some Bellydelights until the juice was so slithery it was impossible to swallow. Earth was really close now, just a few miles away, and the Healiiquid bubbles popped because you could breathe now. but Hummer stood on a rock and began whining hungrily. “Greenie-Keeny should’ve gave you some snacks before we left!” Bobbie gave him some of the turquoise flowers.



“BURP!” Suddenly Hummer sped forwards again, and Findy drifted upwards again, but Ring used her powerful tail to hook him back down. As they entered Earth, there was a pleasant female voice saying “Welcome to Planet Earth, unknown space creatures. Please place your paw, talon or hand on the ozone layer.”



Devon did, and a small opening appeared. “Alright, cats, Longmouth, and Greeny,” He said, trembling with excitement, “Earth, here we come!”

CHAPTER ELEVEN

Ring curled and uncurled her tail with excitement. As they went forward, she saw familiar things. People buildings, cars, and the same old trash can they lived in. Devon patted Hummer's head, and the Longmouth slowed to a stop. "Good boy," he said, and they jumped down. When Bobbie saw the Greeny, she gasped. "Greenie-Beanie, what happened to you?"

The she-Greeny had turned snowy white. Only a streak of green and her blue eyes told you that she had once been a Greeny.

"Oh, I think I turned into this when I passed the air shield." Greenie-Beanie shrugged. "It's no big deal."

“Well, guys,” Findy said, smiling. “We are finally home!”





BONUS:
GREENIE-BEANIE

EPILOGUE

Ring and Devon had kittens. One was gray with a bushy tail like Devon who was male, and one was yellow with blue eyes which was a female. They named the gray kitten Tornado, and the yellow one was called Babbitty. Greenie-Beanie had suggested it, for a reminder of Planet Babbitty.

Greenie-Beanie scrambled to her box with a freshly picked carrot. The group of cats lived in the trash can that they had toppled over, and Greenie-Beanie found a box to live in. Also, she seemed to like carrots a lot these days. Greenie-Beanie once saw Hummer with another “Bird” who was laying eggs. There was so much life here in the narrow space between two people buildings!





Babbitty liked Greenie-Beanie, and she would gladly share some of her stories from the planet the kitten was named after. Greenie-Beanie missed Planet Babbitty, but was happy to have new friends. “There it is the tenth planet. There it is Planet Babbitty. There it is brilliant, boring and dangerous all at the same time.”



I would like to thank a number of people. My third-grade teacher, Mrs. Elsie, who let us have 'Freestyle Writing.' Also, my current teacher, Ms. Raveena, who is very kind to me and told my class about Grade Four Market Day. And, of course, my dad, who helped me design, print, and personalize my book. Finally, my mom and brother for their encouragement and support.

FLO LAM!



“Here it is the tenth planet. Here it is Planet Babbity. Here it is brilliant, boring and dangerous all at the same time.”

When Bobbie, Devon, Ring, Pixie and Findy wind up in a tornado, they get separated and are far from home. Can they find their way back to Planet Earth? Or will the perils of Planet Babbitty destroy them before they get a chance to?

