



A FIRE'S *Love* FOR ICE CREAM

Written by
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Illustrated by
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For someone I already love dearly,

A goal does not have to be a
final destination.

Goals are what set a direction.

Naomi

To Mom,

Thank you for your constant
support and endless love.

Lina





It was another beautiful summer afternoon, and I, Ember, was at my parents' café. I was chatting with my friends Rockxanne, Earthur and the twins, Nicold and Jeffreeze.

My friends were all describing their favourite flavours of ice cream, the "best summer treat ever," and I was just listening.



Of course, I had never tasted ice cream. We all know that ice cream would turn into liquid cream if I tried to eat it.

But that night, I had a crazy dream about eating
ice cream flavours and toppings of every kind.

Even ones beyond imagination!



When I opened my eyes, I was
DETERMINED

I was going to find a way to eat ice cream!



As I ran downstairs, I licked up my breakfast and got ready in a flash.



Then, I blasted toward Rockxanne's parents'

DESSERT SHOP



Once I got there, I excitedly explained the mission of the day to my friend Rockxanne, who always gave solid advice.



Rockxanne brought out a scoop of the shop's signature dessert: the famous *Rocky-Cookie-Monster Ice Cream*.

"My trick," Rockxanne said, "is to lick the ice cream from the bottom, so it doesn't melt all over my cone and my hand."

But as soon as my tongue flickered out towards the cone, the whole scoop melted.

"You could try asking Earthur for help," said Rockxanne. "He's always so good at making ideas bloom."





So I went to Earthur's mom's flower shop, where he was helping out with a few tasks here and there.

I told Earthur that I wanted to eat ice cream like everyone else and asked him for suggestions.

He replied, "I always eat my ice cream so quickly, it doesn't have time to melt!"



Keeping his advice in mind, I flew to the nearest park.

There was often an ice cream truck there that was popular for its *Berry-Good-Summer-Delight Ice Cream* covered with cloudy cotton candy.



Next to the truck, I saw my little brother and his friend Pedreau.

I told them about Earthur's advice. They thought it was a great idea and said I should try swallowing the whole thing at once. So I did.

Then suddenly...



BRAIN FREEZE!!!



"My cousins Nicold and Jeffreeze could probably help you find another way," said Pedreau to keep me fired up for my mission.

Of course, why didn't I think about it before?
My cool friends were probably the best people to go see for advice!



The twins gladly offered their help and coolly welcomed me in.
"The best way to stop your ice cream from melting is to eat it in a cold place," said Nicold.

"It sure is chilly in here," I said out loud. "My ice cream will never melt in your house!"
We went in the kitchen and Jeffreeze pulled out a pot of his mom's homemade
Vanilla Bean Ice Cream with some bowls and spoons.



But as I was waiting, my nose started to become runny and I...



At the end of the day, I was back home warming up with a warm cup of hot charcolate, my dad's special comfort recipe.

The twins had given me a pot of their mom's ice cream to bring home, but when I opened it, the ice cream had already melted.

I put my head down on the table, tired from the long disappointing day, and closed my eyes.



A few moments later, my little brother came in shouting "I'm home!"



"Yuummm, something smells good in here...."





I scream
You scream
We all scream for
Ice cream!

Even I, Ember,
The little girl of fire
Who has a dream:
To taste cool ice cream!

