

LFC FALL 2016 CREATIVE WRITING CONTEST WINNERS

The following are the winning entries by grade, published with the consent of a parent. All entries are exactly as submitted to the contest, so no corrections or edits were made. Happy reading!

The Day I'll Never Forget by Jacob Haddad (Grade 4)

I woke up that day without eating breakfast. I was so addicted to my dog Max's food. It was also really weird because my cats Fuzzy Lizzy and Thiago were both acting aggressive towards me. Then I reached for Max's food. Then my mom asked "what are you doing?", she said with a weird manner, even though I was the one acting weird for a human. "Uuuuuhhh, I was just gonna fill Max's kong's", I lied. (a kong is a brand that makes rubber dog toys and Max has a bunch of there toys) "But he already had his breakfast", she replied. (four filled kongs is his breakfast) "I do give you credit for remembering about him" "Thank you", I replied. Then my skin got tanner and my arms and my legs suddenly grew more hair. Luckily my mom went to go use the bathroom. Then this tickling sensation went through my body and then I lost my bearings. I noticed something, I WAS MAX! Then I tried to say mom but I let out a loud bark that probably startled my sister and my dad who were still sleeping or watching T.V. by now.

Then I thought, what if there is no human Jacob? (me) Then the cats came by. I started barking. But then I stopped, I thought about how Max got credit for letting the cats go by without barking or getting aggressive. But now I was Max, I have to make decisions that Max usually made when I was human and he was a regular Shiba Inu. (a Shiba Inu is a breed that is Japanese and are a ancient breed from thousands of years ago. They could be a bunch of different colors. They are stubborn and are bred for hunting) But then I noticed that there was another

Jacob that acted just like me. Thats probably me but then i'm also somehow stuck in my own dog. Then the other Jacob said "how's Max doing and do I have to get ready for school?"

"He's doing fine and you could play for 10 more minutes or start getting ready for school", she answered. "I think i'm going to play for 5 more minutes instead of 10 minutes. Not a big difference", he replied. "Okay, do whatever you want" Then he went downstairs and I laid down and tried to do something interesting instead of just sitting there barking at every move I see. Then he came back. "i'm going to get ready for school", he said while running upstairs. "Okay", she yelled trying to make him hear her as he ran up the stairs an out of sight. Then she put a bone with a pizzle in it and put it in the crate and cried out "take it Max!" I obeyed to her command, and then she went upstairs to get ready and get the other Jacob and his sister ready for school. The crate was different then being in the outside of the crate in the pen. I waited and the other Jacob and his sister said goodbye to me and then them and there dad went out the door and they were gone. I was in the crate until there mom came back and took me out of the crate and put me on the leash and took me outside.

I noticed she was taking me out for a walk. It was quick because just had to use the bathroom. After, she put me in the crate. I waited for a long time until there dad came by and took me out to the yard to play. Then I wondered about the other me. There dad let me play without any leash on me. I ran around the yard and then chilled out and started playing fetch with the ball. We played for a long time until there dad took me in and let me in the pen. Not the crate,which is inside the pen still. It was a long time until there dad gave me four kongs. I ate them all. Then he took me out for a walk. We went down Margherita Lawn and back. I had to do number two. Then a couple of hours later, Jacob and his sister and there mom all came through the door. I started barking frantically and excitedly. I've been

waiting the whole time for them to come back.

Mom exclaimed "hey Max!" Then I really wanted to see what the other me was doing. He did go downstairs and was probably playing on his X-box one. Something that i'm addicted to. Then there mom came back minutes later. She grabbed the leash and put it to my collar and let me outside. She took me out for a long walk and back. I was tired and drank a lot of water when I came in. I also laid down. Then after a while it was time for my dinner. The snacks I had were probably filled in the kong's toys. I ate my four kongs. A little after dinner there mom took me out to do number one. When we got back I chilled in the pen for a little bit. Then there mom took me out to do number two. I sniffed around for a little bit until I found the right place. When I found that right place, I did number two. Then we came back and she brought me upstairs and when I got to their room they let me off leash for little bit in their room. Then they picked me up and my other mom started massaging me. A little after that she put me in my crate to go to sleep.

When I woke up I was back to normal. I loved to compare me being a dog to Max being himself. But it was great to be back to normal. Now, there dad or there mom were back to being my dad and my mom. Their sister is now my sister again like it used to be. But hopefully this will never happen ever, ever again in my LIFE!

Oh What A Dream! by Michael Lucifora (Grade 5)

The loud beeping noise of the alarm clock woke me up. When I looked down at my hands to turn off the alarm, they weren't my hands they were paws! I began to realize that I was not myself, I was actually a dog named "Bailey".

I heard my owners calling my name so I hopped off the bed and went downstairs to the kitchen. They were all there eating breakfast. I was hungry too but begging was not allowed. I found that out really fast. My food was actually in a bowl on the floor next to

my bowl of water so I walked over and ate it all up. It didn't taste bad at all.

I heard my name called and before I knew it I had my leash on and was going for a walk. It was a really nice sunny day out. I wanted to keep walking but as soon as I did my business the walk was over and we were on our way back to the house.

When we walked into the house, my tail started to wag, they asked me to sit so I did, and I got a really delicious treat.

Then the door closed and I looked around and everyone was gone. The house was so quiet. I felt sad and lonely but then I saw a way out. I don't think they realized they left the basement door cracked open.

I ran outside and saw a bunch of other dogs from the neighborhood hanging out at the fire hydrant in front of my house so I trotted over and joined them. Boy did we have fun! We played hide and go seek and dog tag for hours. The day flew by. It couldn't get any better. I noticed the sun was going down and figured it was time to go back home before I got in trouble.

It's a good thing I did because my owners all came walking through the door just when I laid down to take a rest from my busy day. I heard them calling my name so I hopped up and once again I had my leash on and was going for a walk. The only problem was I had been outside all day and was so tired that I didn't even want to go but I didn't have a choice. They didn't know I was out all day.

We got back to the house and after dinner everyone watched TV for a little while and then went to sleep and so did I. I was really tired.

All of the sudden, I woke up to a loud beeping noise again. This time when I went to turn the alarm off my hands were not paws. It was all just a dream and oh what a dream it was.



Family Tree by Ciara Roberts (Grade 6)

On May 14th, 2005 I was planted along with the baby that was born. It was a warm, sunny day. Birds were chirping and squirrels were chasing each other around the yard. As days past, the baby grew and I did too. Just before my eyes, the baby had turned one. Later I realized that it was my birthday too. But there was a difference, I had nobody to celebrate with. As I stood there, the child's mom came over to me with a big box. I glanced at it, and realized it said "Piñata". *Is it for me?* Then the little baby came over with her father, and attempted to hit it, but missed and hit me instead. It was painful, but at least I was noticed.

During the fall, pine cones began to grow on me. The baby's big sister picked them and became very sticky after that. It was kind of funny, watching the sap stick to her hair and clothes. As the two girls became older, they made Cheerios on a sting for squirrels to eat and placed them on my branches. It was a good day, because I was noticed.



In the spring, they decorated my branches with plastic eggs. Oh, was I colorful. Later that spring, birds built nests in my branches. The birds would chirp, it may have been annoying but at least someone was there with me.

As the baby grew older she went off to school and I saw less of her. The birds flew away and now the nest was empty.

One day while the girl was walking home from school with her sister, they heard a loud noise and saw that the young girl's dad had a saw and was cutting me down. The girl ran as fast as she could and put the sawing to a halt. She told her dad no! She cried and cried and that caused her dad to say he won't cut me down!

So from that point on the young girl and I have grown older and older.

Are You Kitten Me?! by Ceili Roberts (Grade 8)

The last thing I remember, was closing my eyes. It was a gloomy night and all I wanted to do was fall asleep. For the past 2 hours, all I had heard was cats meowing. I loved cats, but after 2 hours, it became irritating. I felt my eyes close, and before I knew it I was asleep.

I woke up to the sound of my alarm buzzing. I turned it off and sat up, wishing for the day to already be over. I put on my clothes and walked over to the mirror. I gasped. "*What's this?!*" I glanced at my head, and to my great horror, I had cat ears. I attempted to pull them off, but they wouldn't budge. I ran into my closet, and pulled out a hat. I threw it on and ran downstairs.

"Morning Ceili" my mom said. She smiled at me, and I managed to grin, despite my mood. I was too stunned to say a word to my mom about the ears. I prayed she wouldn't notice anything.

At 7:30, I set off for school. I stood at the bus stop, hoping that nobody would be able to see the ears through the hat. For the entire ride, that was the only thing on my mind. Once I got off the bus, I started to make my way inside. At the door, one of the teachers was instructing people to take their hats off. I panicked, and tried my best to sneak by, but I was caught. She pulled me off to the side, and told me to take my hat off. I responded, saying "I can't. I have something on my head that is very abnormal and therefore, I can't take it off." Before she could say anything else, I ran to the bathroom.

The first thing I did, was call my mom. I told her I felt sick and that I should be picked up. Finally, I was able to convince her, and was picked up in a matter of minutes. When I arrived home, I paced my room thinking of how to get rid of the ears. I sat on my bed, thinking when it hit me. *I have to fall asleep. Then the ears will go away!* I jumped into bed and sprinted to the mirror. I noticed that the ears were gone! I smirked, and ran downstairs.