

## Writing competition

Book an adventure and whisk us away to new lands and unforgettable characters.

Write a short story about an amazing and unforgettable adventure.

Lily lived in a rusty old tin house all by herself, with nothing or no one to keep her company but a stuffed cat called Forever. Lily had had Forever, for Forever. But one day while Lily was playing with Forever, a bird appeared out of nowhere and snatched Forever right out of Lily's hands! Lily was devastated. She didn't have any other toy like Forever. She couldn't afford to buy another toy. A dark cloud of sadness and loss was brewing inside Lily's usually cheerful mind. But she told herself, 'I'm going to find Forever, and even if it takes a lifetime, I'm going to bring her home.' And Lily dug out her warmest coat, and a pair of threadbare Uggs, and set out to follow the mysterious bird.

Once Lily had reached the edge of a dense forest, she was astounded by what she saw. It wasn't like anything that she had ever noticed before; for a second, Lily thought that the trees were glittering like magic. But then she snapped out of it. Lily heard the deafening cry of a bird and instantly knew that it was the one that had taken her toy. So, she set foot into the magical wonderland.

When Lily got to a part of the forest where it was overcast, she was astonished at what caught her eyes; there were tiny little lights floating around as if riding the breeze. At first, Lily thought they were fairies, then fireflies, then fairies again! But then, Lily happened to look up and spotted something poking its tail out from an old nest.

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She knew ~~that~~ that fluffy, worn-out, tall ~~wasn't~~ ~~mistakeable~~ it was Foreverly. But inside the nest was a stern looking crow. Lily cocked her head at what looked like shimmering purple streaks in the female crow's feathers. Lily was about to step closer when the frightening looking bird suddenly spun her head around to check if there was anyone trying to steal her chicks. But Lily had noticed that the crow's head was starting to spin around, and she rapidly ducked into a bush for cover.

After a couple of tough attempts trying to bring Foreverly to safety, Lily was starting to feel despondent, and was wondering how she would ever get her friend back. But just as Lily sat herself down for a rest, the mother bird left the nest to forage up some food for her babies. This was Lily's chance. She stalked the nest like a panther. Then, like a jaguar, Lily pounced. She leapt up the tree and seized her toy right out of the nest. But as she was making her way out of the woodlands, Lily heard a spine-chilling shriek coming from the depths of the forest. She had been caught. Lily quickly grabbed all the materials she could find and swiftly put together a replica of Foreverly. She left the duplicate on the damp, mossy ground and cuddled her to her chest, pretending to look very miserable. Also mock-surrendering to the crow. The bird soon arrived and seemed satisfied by the toy. So she picked it.

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up in her beak and disappeared back into the woods. Lily was so  
relieved. She stood up, cuddled the real Forever to her chest, and  
headed back home.