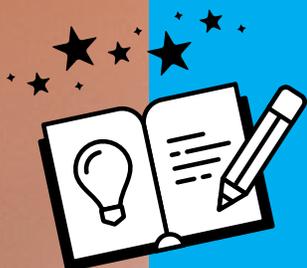


# Olive and Fred Robins Junior Short Story Contest 2018



**Olive and Fred Robins Junior Short Story Contest** is an annual programme held each October. Wellington County students in Grades 4, 5 and 6 are invited to submit original stories for the chance to win great prizes and publication of their work. **Thank you to each person who participated this year! We hope you enjoy these creative pieces as much as we do.**



**Wellington  
County Library**



# The Craziest Farm Day Ever

## By Gavin Smith

One day some time ago Bob took his new girlfriend Alex to his parents' farm in the country. Alex grew up in the city, and had never been on a farm before. He thought it would be funny to get the city girl to touch an electric fence.

After meeting his parents, Bob suggested, "How about we go take a walk, and I will show you some things on the farm." He put some gloves on and walked with her. He touched the electric fence with his gloves on, and said "If you want to see something very cool happen, you have to hold onto this wire and pull!" She grabbed onto the wire, and she was blown a few feet away! But she was holding onto Bob's hand, so he was blown away with her. They landed on a lever and the weight pushed the lever down, and the ground opened up into a gigantic hole that went all the way down to Mexico!

They popped out of the hole into a burrito restaurant and banged into the waiter. She was holding a humungous two feet tall pile of fish, beef and chicken burritos, so burritos went flying everywhere. The Mariachi Band in the restaurant grabbed their guitars and sang, "It's raining burritos, burritos. We all love burritos, burritos..."

Bob said, "Oopsy-daisy!" and saw a lever on the ground of the restaurant. He pulled the lever up. They thought they were going home, but... they ended up in Australia, and the Mexican Band fell in with them! When they slid out of the hole, they came out in the Steve Irwin Zoo snake sanctuary! There was a thick barrier of glass trapping them in with the snakes.

Alex exclaimed, "Oh no!" and the Mexican Band sang, "We are in a snake sanctuary; we are going to die. We love snakes, but we are going to die..." Alex ran at the glass and hit it with all her strength. The glass exploded and they were free - but so were the snakes! They ran with the snakes close behind them, while the Mexican Band sang, "Didn't we fall down a hole, so why can't we go down it again...?" They doubled back and went around a bend, as the snakes reached them. Then Alex saw a lever on the ground. She pulled it, and they fell in a hole, but a few snakes fell in the hole with them.

Luckily, they landed right in front of a snake charmer in Egypt. The snakes were charmed and started dancing to the snake charmer's music. The Mariachi band got jealous and sang, "We can sing better than you, we challenge you to a duel of music..." and the snake charmer replied, "duel accepted."

They forgot all about the snakes, and the snakes started to slither towards them. The Mariachi Band started to sing, "We are better than you, we are better than you, we will win this musical duel." The snakes were hypnotized by the band, but then they stop being hypnotized at the end of the song. The snake charmer started to play and the snakes start to dance to his music. 'Who won?' the Mariachi band asked. "Both of you," Alex and Bob said. "We better go," Bob said. "Bye snake charmer, we will never see you again."

Bob pulled the lever and they fell down the hole again. While they were still in the hole, the leader of the band saw a lever on the side of the tunnel. He pulled it and a new tunnel opened. The Mariachi Band went down that one, and end up back in the burrito restaurant. They sang, "We are home, we shall eat burritos, burritos!"

Bob and Alex kept going down the tunnel and ended up back at the farm. "Well, that was an adventure," Alex said. Moral of the story: never get a city girl to touch an electric fence.



# Home for Christmas

## By Heidi Smits

Noel laid in bed thinking about Christmas trees covered with twinkling ornaments, the snow sparkling in the moonlight, hot chocolate and egg nog. Normally these things would have filled her with joy, but this year Noel knew Christmas would be very different. It was 1942 in the small town in Canada where Noel and her mother lived. Her dad was away fighting in the war. Noel's mother was constantly checking the radio and looking through the papers. Noel did share in Christmas games and events, but she wasn't as happy as the other kids. There was one huge question that Noel couldn't shake from her head. Would her dad be home for Christmas? She had never spent a Christmas without him. December 25 was growing closer each day and yet there had been no news about the soldiers being able to return home. Her mother had tried everything to cheer Noel up, but all her attempts failed.

One day when Noel was getting the mail, a letter fluttered out of a package that a man was carrying out the door. The man had a long white beard, and long silver hair. He had a twinkle in his blue eyes and rosy cheeks. Noel picked up the letter and ran outside, but the man was gone. Not knowing what to do, she went to the counter where a woman was standing.

"Hello miss, a man dropped this letter. I was wondering if you could put it in his mail box?"

The woman took the letter and said, "Is your name Noel Georgeson?"

Noel was surprised and said, "Yes! How did you know?"

The woman smiled. "This letter is for you then."

She gave the letter back to a shocked Noel. Noel looked at the letter again and saw that indeed it was addressed to her! She grabbed the rest of their mail and hurried home. When she burst through the door, Noel's mom was making lunch.

"Mom!" Noel cried "I got a letter!"

"Hmm, you did?"

Noel nodded enthusiastically. Her mom took the letter and said, "How about you open it?"

Noel ran to the kitchen table. She had never gotten a letter before! She tore open the delicate paper and found a white sheet folded in half. She unfolded the paper and anxiously scanned the words.

It said:

Dear Noel,

We got the news today that we'll be sent out a week before Christmas. Though I'll try my very best to be home for Christmas, I probably won't make it home in time. Remember I love you and here is two dollars to spend on what ever you choose. Have a merry, magical Christmas.

With love

Daddy

Noel looked in the envelope and saw two crisp one-dollar bills. She had never had so much money to spend on what ever she wanted. Though it was comforting to know he was alright, realizing her dad wasn't going to be home for Christmas brought tears to her eyes.

Finally, the night of December 24 had arrived. While other kids on her street were admiring their Christmas trees, playing, or just enjoying Christmas Eve, Noel was inside, sitting in her room, looking outside at the falling snow.

Her mom came up and said, "C'mon hon. You can't stay locked up in your room for all of Christmas. Mrs. Pete said that we could come to her house for Christmas Eve."

Noel knew her mom was right and was just trying to help but, she didn't feel like going.

"I'm not feeling the best mom."

Her mom sat down beside her and said, "I know you miss your father. I miss him too but he wouldn't want us sulking on Christmas Eve."

Seeing that nothing would make Noel less miserable, she left and closed the door. Christmas Eve passed with no singing carols or roasting chestnuts or Christmas cake. Noel and her mother went to bed.

Noel awoke in the middle of the night to a strange noise. She tiptoed downstairs and saw a sight that made her smile so wide it hurt her cheeks. Her dad was standing beside a Christmas tree full of glittering ornaments! Noel ran down the stairs and hugged him.

"MERRY CHRISTMAS!", he said, squeezing her back.

Noel's mom was soon downstairs to see what all the commotion was about. When she saw her husband and daughter hugging, she joined in. And there in a small living room was the happiest Christmas Noel could have dreamed.

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