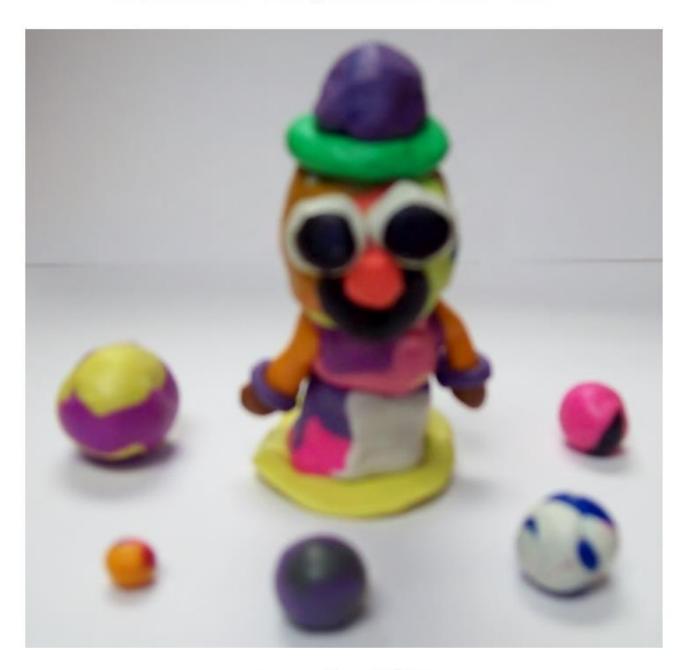
The Girl and Her Mutant Snowman



By Lylli

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One hot summer day, a girl named Trina decided to move to California. She decided to take her best friend, Larry with her. What you don't know is Larry is a mutant snowman. Trina loved to dance. She would take Larry to the ballet school, but he just didn't get the fine art.

"Why do you even like ballet?" asked Larry.

Trina rolled her eyes. "How would you know what ballet is? Your brain is made of Play- Dough!"

Larry said," Your brain is made of brain."

"My point exactly," said Trina. "Wait, I think I feel my prefrontal cortex is getting a message from my amygdala."

"What did you say?" said Larry.

"Just testing you," Trina said as she giggled.

The two friends were getting ready to leave Las Vegas when one of their other friends, Luna, came running over.

"Wait!! Don't go!" she shouted. "I have something for you!"

"What is it?" asked Larry.

"Something for you and Trina," said Luna.

"Why don't you come with us to Las Angeles?" asked Trina. "We've got plenty of room in the minivan for you, your mom, and your brother."

Luna squealed and started skipping around the minivan. "You mean me?!?! And my whole family?!?! Oh, this is so exciting! Do you really mean it?"

"Yes, you and your entire family. Meet us by the convenience store at 4:00 A.M. Then we'll talk and get comfortable with each other, and that'll take about a half hour, and then we'll go," said Trina.

"When's lunch?" asked Larry.

"We just had dinner. Now shush. We're talking right now," said Trina.

Trina and Larry each had shut the doors of the minivan and Trina had turned the car on when Luna came running once again.

"I forgot to give you your gift," she said, breathlessly.

"Oh. A tape. How thoughtful! We'll put it in the tape player, if we remember to take it to LA," said Trina. "Oh, wait. We don't have a tape player. We should go buy one!"

"And waste your travel money?" asked Luna.

"Exactly," Larry said.

The car had been turned on again when Larry said something extraordinary. "Since you're kind of tired," he began, "how about I drive?"

"No way. You're a mutant snowman that came from Jupiter and you don't have your driver's license!" yelled Trina.

The next morning, they found out that they'd slept in the car. "It's 3:30. If we're lucky, we'll make it to the convenience store before 4:00," said Trina.

When they got there, Luna and her family were already there. "We read the clock wrong. We got here at 3:00," said Bill. Bill was Luna's brother.

"We saw your car parked in the Walmart parking lot. Good thing the towing company was closed yesterday," said Luna's mom. "Luna told us that it was yours. I screamed. I had to. But then I saw the NO TOWING sign on the streetlamp. I took a breath and told Ron to calm down. And by the way, please call me Patricia. That'd be less awkward than you calling me Mrs. Robinson while everyone else was calling me Mom."

"Hi. I'm Ron," said Luna's father. "I run the Target in the next town over. My Luna told me a lot about you."

"Dad," Luna groaned.

"Let's get a snack or two for the trip, and then we'll hit the road," said Trina. "Um, will you buy it? I've got to save money."

"Sure" said Bill. "It's on me."

Larry sat in the car while everyone else went to get Cheese-it's Goldfish, Swedish fish, Kit-Kats, and Hershey's bars. When they got back, the car had disappeared. And Larry had, too. After Trina had been searching for about an hour, and Bill had collapsed, Patricia found a tiny speck in the distance. It just happened to be Trina's car. And Larry sat in the passenger seat. He seemed to be talking to someone. Bill had been able to make out some of the conversation.

"All that I heard was that Larry had to make a delivery at 8:30 AM. To 18 Rosewood Avenue. Let's walk to IHOP and then we'll walk home. We'll have a good night of sleep, and then we'll leave for Rosewood Avenue at 8:00. Larry will have the car parked in the driveway. We'll wait for him to come out and BOOM! Mission accomplished!" he said.

"Well, Bill, you sure had a lot to say. Now it's 6:30. We'd better run home if we want to be to bed by 9:00," said Trina. "We'll eat at my place, and then 2 people can sleep in the bunkbed, 2 on the floor, and one of us can sleep in the recliner," said Trina.

"Great. Now it is 6:45," said Luna.

Now they all yelled at each other, eyed one another, and they all fought until eight o' clock.

"Augh!" screamed Trina. "It's already 8:00! We've got to get home by ten o' clock or my parents will think that we already left and lock the door!"

They all had to find the nearest route to Rhenn Drive by ten o' clock. Luckily, there was a map at the corner. There was a streetlight, too, but it was out.

"Great. Now we're stuck here," said Larry.

"Ooo. When did you become the logical one, Larry? And what you just said DID NOT HELP!!!!" yelled Luna.

Larry was flattered by this somehow.

Luckily, Trina remembered a route or two from when she was in elementary school, walking home. She hadn't remembered until now that she pretended to go to tennis practice, but she really had trained herself to get a route from the school to her house. She had some landmarks in her head, and one of them was the town map.

"Turn right at the map," she murmured to herself. "Turn right when you're next to the map."

"What was that?" asked Luna. "I couldn't hear you."

"Turn right at the map! I remember some routes to Rhenn Drive from when I was in elementary school!" yelled Trina. "I can get us home by 9:30, if we hurry."

They all followed Trina and when she told them to feel for a landmark, they all did it immediately because they didn't know what Trina would do to them. However, they did know Trina really well, at least they thought they did. The nearest route was out by the pillow factory, which everyone was willing to do only if Trina agreed to buy them each a pillow. She said okay, but they had to pay her back.

"We'll pay you back if you buy me two pillows," said Bill.

Then Trina's brother, AJ, popped out into the darkness. "Hey, sis," he said. "What's up?"

"Andrew Cen Johnson! You practically scared me and me and my friends to death!" yelled Trina. "You should be ashamed of yourself!

Trina ended up spending \$250.00 at the pillow factory when they remembered that Trina's parents locked the doors at ten o' clock. Everyone set themselves into panic mode. One of them said that they would be awake all night in the cold, another reminded them that it was quarter till ten, and another said that they were all gonna die.

[&]quot;Me too," Luna repeated.

[&]quot;Me too," said Patricia.

[&]quot;Make that four of us," said Ron.

[&]quot;I'll buy myself three, then," said Trina.

[&]quot;I want three," said Patricia, Bill, Ron, and Luna. "Please?"

[&]quot;Make that four," said Luna.

[&]quot;Then I'll also have four," said everyone except Luna and Trina.

Just then, Trina remembered that they had a car parked in the Walmart parking lot. And then she remembered that Larry stole the car from the parking lot. Then Bill remembered that he was starving. "Hey, I'm gonna grab some snacks. Who's in?"

"The convenience store is half a mile away, Bill," Patricia said.
"Besides, it is 5 minutes till ten. We're never gonna make it!"

Trina said the last words of the night. "Oh, yes we will."