



**The Story Pirates Podcast**  
**Season 3**  
**Episode 9**

*[Boat horn]*

>> RACHEL: Okay. Peter, Lee, Meghan, Nimene. I'm about to beam you down onto a new planet. The beaming spot is a little too far for our communicators to reach you, so you won't be able to contact me here on the ship once you've been beamed, but as soon as you're ready to be beamed again, head back to the spot where I'm beaming you down, and we can beam you right back up. I'll be waiting here for you to be beamed, so whenever you're ready to be beamed, I can beam you and then the beaming will happen right away.

>> LEE: Uh, someone say "beamed" a few more times?

>> RACHEL: Sure. If you need to be beamed-

>> ALL: No/We're ok/Just beam us now

>> RACHEL: Ready?! Beam!

*SFX: Sci-fi teleportation beam, rainforest sounds, distant animal sounds*

>> NIMENE: Wow. This planet is beautiful. It's so green! The trees! Oh, the flowers! We should take some samples before we leave.

>> MEGHAN: And look, over there! It's... a mansion? Well, it doesn't look like mansions on earth but I know a mansion when I see one.

>> NIMENE: What is it made of? It's shimmering!

>> LEE: The door is opening. Look! There's someone coming outside. Maybe they can help us!

>> PETER: Hello! Excuse me!

>> DELPHINE: *(gasp!)* Oh. My. Goodness.

>> LEE: Hi!

>> DELPHINE: My, my, my. I've never seen anything like it.



>> MEGHAN: Excuse me, who are you? Never seen anything like what?

>> DELPHINE: Like, look at these two arms. Two legs. One head covered in... what is this stuff.

>> LEE: Ow, that's my hair?

>> DELPHINE: Hair? No it can't be.

>> LEE: What can't be?

>> DELPHINE: You're humans aren't you?

>> ALL: Yes?

>> DELPHINE: Fascinating. Absolutely.... Fascinating. You *must* follow me. Follow me, follow me, follow me!

>> NIMENE: I'm sorry, who are you?

>> DELPHINE: My name is Delphine.

>> PETER: Where are you leading us?

>> DELPHINE: Oh so many questions. Look at you. Aren't you precious? Please, come inside.

>> LEE: OK!

*SFX: Door opening and closing*

>> MEGHAN: Wow your home is beautiful.

>> DELPHINE: Oh! So sweet. So earnest. This isn't my home. Silly billy.

>> NIMENE: I thought this was too big to be your home!

>> DELPHINE: Oh. No, no. My home is much bigger than this.

>> PETER: So what is this place?!



>> DELPHINE: Why, can't you see? Use your eyes little humans. Look around you!

*SFX: Many different animal noises. Something flies right over their heads.*

>> MEGHAN: Something just flew right over my head!

>> DELPHINE: Ah, why that's a Sing Bat from the planet Gamoor.

>> ALL: Woowwww.

>> DELPHINE: Oh, my dear, dear dear, sweet little humans. This isn't a house. Why, it's a zoo!

>> ALL: Wow!!

>> DELPHINE: Yes! And you're my new exhibit.

>> ALL: Huh?

*SFX: Key locking sound.*

>> LEE: Hey! Hey, how'd we all get locked in this room?!

>> ALL: Let us out!!!

>> DELPHINE: *[through the door]* Smile, everyone! The tourists will be here any minute!!

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[THEME SONG BEGINS]

[BOAT HORN]

>>KID: I love Story Pirates!

>>KID: I like my story. (laughs)

>>KID: Don't write for other people just write for yourself.



>>KID: Alright!

>>KID: Just go for the imagination.

>>KID: This is weird.

>>KID: Yes, 100%, no 1000%.

>>KID: Sheep, get out of here, we're trying to finish a story.

>>KID: The Story Pirates.

[THEME SONG ENDS]

[BOAT HORN]

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>> LEE: Welcome back to The Story Pirates Podcast everyone.

>> MEGHAN: Where we take stories written by kids -

>> PETER: And turn them into sketch comedy and songs!

>> NIMENE: Ugh! We've gotta find a way to get out of here!

>> PETER: Yes.

>> LEE: How about we do a story in the meantime?

>> PETER: Yes!

>> LEE: Listeners, have you ever felt like your family is, well, unique? The main character in this next story feels that way all the time! For pretty good reason! Here's the author to introduce it.

>> SOPHIE: Hello, my name is Sophie and I'm 11 years old. I'm from the UK and this is my story, My Family Are Tigers.

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## MY FAMILY ARE TIGERS

>> KID: While some would say my mom works in human resources, I say she's a resourceful human. Thank you!

>> CLASS: applause

>> TEACHER: Wow, another incredible Family Tree presentation. Hearing about everyone's family is so exciting! I'M ON THE EDGE OF MY SEAT! Uh-oh, I'm *literally* on the edge of my seat. Down I go!

*SFX: crashing sounds*

>> TEACHER: I'm fine. And still excited! We have just one student left. Tabby?

>> TABBY: Who, me?

>> TEACHER: Yes, you! Please stand up in front of the entire class and share about your family in excruciating detail!

>> TABBY: Okay, here I go! Walking up to the front of the classroom. No big deal!

*SFX: chair being pushed out, footsteps.*

>> TABBY: Yikes, that's a lot of eyes on me. Is anyone else suddenly feeling warm?

>> TEACHER: Tabby, you seem nervous! Almost as if you don't want to share about your family because you have...["in a world" style] *a Big Secret*. (cough) [normal voice] Oh, excuse me. A big secret.

*MUSIC: building tension*

>> TABBY: I, well, the thing about my family is...

*SFX: Bell ringing*

>> TEACHER: Well, I guess we'll never know.

>> TABBY: Phew, saved by the bell!

>> TEACHER: Until tomorrow, when you'll present first thing in the morning!

>> TABBY: Grrrrreat.



>> TEACHER: Aren't you excited? I am! In fact, I'm going to need a few minutes to breathe into a paper bag just to calm down! Class dismissed.

*MUSIC: Gliss*

*SFX: Outdoor noises, neighborhood traffic*

>> TABBY: Usually my walk home from school is a great way to practice self care, but today I'm too nervous about my presentation. Everyone's going to hear my... *Big Secret!* I have to write this down in my super secret diary.

*SFX: Book opening, pages turning*

*MUSIC: similar to Dear Diary by Britney Spears*

>> TABBY:

DEAR DIARY  
HI MY NAME IS TABBY  
I HAVE A BIG SECRET  
MY MUM, DAD, AND BROTHER ARE TIGERS

>> TABBY: Oh wow, sing-writing really makes time fly by. I'm almost home! There's the Johnson's house.

*SFX: lawnmower*

>> TABBY: And Mr Johnson mowing his lawn. And there's our neighbor's dog, playing in the yard!

*SFX: Friendly barking*

>> TABBY: Hi, Fluffy! And here's my house...

*SFX: Jungle sounds*

*MUSIC: Danger Jungle*

>> TABBY: [not thrilled] ...which is technically more of a jungle cave than a house. [calling out] Mum, I'm home!

>> MUM: Hope you had a good day at school, my favorite human daughter!

>> TABBY: I'm your *only* human daughter.

>> MUM: (Laughter) True. I just did some cleaning, so please be sure to roll around the cave and rub your face on the walls to put your scent back all over everything.



>> TABBY: I will. But I've got a lot of homework, so I'm going to go straight to my cave corner.

>> MUM: Okay. Just be ready for dinner.

>> TABBY: OK, Mum.

*SFX: echoing footsteps*

>> TABBY: Now that I have some privacy, time to get back to my super secret diary.

*SFX: Book opening, pages turning*  
*MUSIC: similar to Dear Diary by Britney Spears*

>> TABBY:

DEAR DIARY  
HI MY NAME IS TABBY  
I HAVE A BIG SECRET  
MY MUM, DAD, AND BROTHER ARE TIGERS

*MUSIC: CRASH*

>> STRIPES: GRRRRRR! What's going on in here? I heard heartfelt singing!

>> TABBY: Stripes, get out of here! Gosh, you're such an annoying little brother!

>> STRIPES: What's this? A *diary*? Grrrrrrrab!

*SFX: Book grab, page sounds*

>> TABBY: Hey, give it back!

*MUSIC: Mocking*

>> STRIPES: Oh look at this! [mocking]

DEAR DIARY  
HI MY NAME IS TABBY

>> TABBY: Stripes, quit it. MUM!

>> MUM: Stripes, stop bothering your sister!



>> STRIPES: Ugh, fine.

>> MUM: Now apologize to her.

>> STRIPES: [begrudgingly] Sorry, Tabby.

>> MUM: Now groom her fur.

>> STRIPES: [annoyed] I know, Mum! Jeeeeez! (licking, purring sounds)

>> TABBY: [reacting to his licks] Ewww! UGH! I get that this is how we show affection, but honestly? It's a little gross.

>> MUM: I understand completely. Stripes, go ahead and give your sister a human-style hug.

>> STRIPES: Okay. Bring it in, Tabs! GRRRRRRRRR!

>> TABBY: AHHHHH! He's attacking me!

>> STRIPES: What? I'm just giving you a hug!

>> MUM: Well, this is going south. Let's call it while we're ahead and go down to dinner.

*MUSIC: Gliss!*

>> DAD: Hello, my beautiful tiger (and human) family.

>> TABBY: Hi dad! What's for dinner? I'm starving!

>> DAD: Well, you're in luck. We're having dead animals I got on the way home from work.

>> MUM/STRIPES: Delicious!/Awesome!

>> TABBY: Uh... What kind of animals?

>> DAD/MUM/STRIPES: GAZELLE!

>> TABBY: [grossed out] Blegh! No thanks.

>> DAD/MUM/STRIPES: Sure, honey / Whatever you'd like / Suit yourself. (Horrible gobbling sounds, tiger growl.)





- >> STRIPES: Mmmm, Dad! This gazelle is delicious!
- >> DAD: Glad you like it, Stripes. It's a special Tiger family recipe.
- >> STRIPES: Can you teach me?
- >> DAD: Sure! Ingredients: Gazelle. Step one: Eat the gazelle! (more horrible gobbling)
- >> TABBY: I guess I'll just grab some takeout.
- >> MUM: No time for takeout, Tabby. We have to leave for a...
- >> DAD/MUM/STRIPES: FAMILY HUNT!
- >> TABBY: [not enthusiastic] Yay.

*MUSIC: GLISS!*

*SFX: Sounds of the jungle- animal calls, birds, etc.*

- >> MUM: Alright, Tiger family! We have to hunt for tomorrow's dinner. Use your stripes to blend into the grass.
- >> TABBY: But I don't have any stripes.
- >> MUM: I know, Tabby. That's why I brought this mud. I'll just paint some stripes on here, here, and here.

*SFX: mud slathering*

- >> TABBY: I don't love this.
- >> MUM: Ta-da! You've got stripes! Now you're ready to lead Family Hunt.
- >> TABBY: What!? But I've never lead Family Hunt before.
- >> DAD: It's time you started. You're going to be 11 tomorrow, which is exciting.
- >> TABBY: I'm a human, not a tiger. I don't know how to hunt!
- >> MUM: Even tigers aren't born knowing how to hunt. We'll teach you. Just do what we say.
- >> DAD: Here come two gazelles. Everybody hide!



*SFX: Rustling of leaves and grass*

SFX: Springing sound getting louder, as if something is approaching.

>> BORED GAZELLE 1: I was like, dry grass? What am I, a *red-fronted gazelle*?

>> BORED GAZELLE 2: (bored laughter) Totallllly. Let's chill right here, where it's *totally* safe.

>> MUM: [whisper] Okay, Tabby. First, take three slow silent steps with your paws.

>> TABBY: Like this?

*SFX: three loud clompy steps*

>> MUM/DAD/STRIPES: (sounds you make when someone is blowing it, eg sucking air through your teeth) Not quite/Almost/Yikes

>> BORED GAZELLE 1: Hey, did you hear something?

>> BORED GAZELLE 2: Sounded like the clompy footsteps of someone who doesn't fit in with their family. But it was probably just the wind.

>> MUM: [still whispering] You can do this, Tabby. Just crouch down on your haunches, count to three, and pounce!

>> TABBY: Okay. I got this. I'm crouching, and, one, two, three! AHHHHHHHHH! (loud clumsy yell)

>> BORED GAZELLE 1: Okay, now I totally hear something.

>> BORED GAZELLE 2: Look, that human girl just jumped at us. Are we startled?

>> BORED GAZELLE 1: We're startled.

>> BORED GAZELLE 2: Yah, we're like, totally startled.

>> BOTH: BYEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEEE!

*SFX: Springing sound getting quieter, as if the gazelle are leaving.*

>> STRIPES: Way to ruin family hunt, Tabby.



>> TABBY: I told you I couldn't do it! I don't like Gazelles for dinner, and I hate being groomed! Let's face it, I don't belong in a tiger family!

>> DAD: Tabby, have we ever told you the story of how you came to join the Tiger family?

>> TABBY: No.

*MUSIC: Tender*

>> DAD: About 11 years ago, your Mum and I were taking one of our cat-walks through the jungle when we came upon a basket floating down the river. I fished it out with one of my giant paws, hoping it would be a basket of gazelle meat. When we looked inside, we saw the strangest looking tiger cub we'd ever seen. She had no stripes--

>> MUM: And no fur.

>> DAD: And not a single whisker! But even though she didn't look like any tiger we'd ever seen, we thought she was the most beautiful cub in the world.

>> MUM: And then she reached up and grabbed your dad's paw with her tiny, furless paw, and we knew we were going to take her home and love her forever.

>> DAD: Do you know who that little tiger cub was, Tabby?

>> TABBY: Yeah, dad. It was pretty obviously me.

>> DAD: We chose you to be a part of this family, so you'll always be a Tiger to us.

>> TABBY: Thanks. I realize now that there was no reason to keep my tiger family a secret. I love you guys, and I'm not afraid to say it.

>> MUM: Tiger family hug!

>>ALL: "Awwwwww", "bring it in!"

>> TABBY: I think I know what to do for my big family tree presentation tomorrow. But... I'm going to need your help!

>> MUM/DAD/STRIPES: Ok!

*MUSIC: Gliss*

*SFX: Bell*



>> TEACHER: Settle down, class! I know I didn't sleep a single wink last night in anticipation of our final family tree presentation. I mean, I'm truly a wreck. It's a wonder I made it to school safely! Anyway, take it away, Tabby!

>> TABBY: Thanks, Mr Cookston. I was a little nervous about sharing my family tree with the class because my family is a *little* different. But I don't want to keep them a secret any more!

>> TABBY:  
DEAR CLASSMATES  
HI MY NAME IS TABBY  
IT'S NO LONGER A BIG SECRET  
MY MUM, DAD, AND BROTHER ARE TIGERS

>> TEACHER/KIDS: [confused] Tigers?

>> TABBY: I'll show you. Mum, Dad, Stripes!

*SFX: Door opening*

>> MUM/DAD/STRIPEs: Hi / hello / you must be Tabby's lame friends

>> TEACHER/KIDS: Ohhhh, *tigers*.

>> MUM/DAD/STRIPEs/TABBY: GRRRRRRRRRRRRRRR! / grrr!

>> TEACHER/KIDS: AHHHHHHHHHH!!!!!!

>> TABBY: (giggles) The end!

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*ADLIB: Everyone talks about the story...*

>> NIMENE: There's got to be a way out of here.

>> LEE: Ugh! If only we had that big key that Delphine keeps on her belt!

>> MEGHAN: And these windows aren't even real windows! They're just tastefully rendered paintings of the outdoors. Actually, who painted these fake windows? I need a scenic painter to



paint backdrops for my next one-woman show. The painter I worked with last time mysteriously won't return my calls.

>> LEE: Urgh, what are we going to do?!

*SFX: Knocking through the wall*

>> DELPHINE: *[from outside]* Alright, my beautiful little little earthlings, get ready, cause it's showtime!

*SFX: Machinery cranking*

>> LEE: Ummm... Is it just me, or is that whole wall rising up into the ceiling?

>> NIMENE: OR, maybe, WE are actually getting smaller! Maybe we're shrinking! We're— oh, no, you're right, that wall is just rising.

>> PETER: Whoa, check out that huge glass window!

>> MEGHAN: And look, there's Delphine on the other side!

>> LEE: Why is she wearing that top hat? And that ornate red jacket? And holding a cane?

>> DELPHINE: Step right up, folks! Behold, with your own six eyes— my magnificent menagerie of EARTHLINGS! That's right, you heard it! Gawk at their gangly limbs! Watch as they slouch constantly, despite the fact that they are fully capable of sitting up straight! Witness their cleverness!

*SFX: Pounding on the glass*

>> MEGHAN: Delphine, you have to let us out of here!

>> DELPHINE: What? Sorry, I can't hear you through the glass!

>> MEGHAN: That's clearly not true, we can hear YOU just fine, so you MUST be able to hear us.

>> DELPHINE: ...see? Cleverness!



>> PETER: Whooooaaa, look at all those space people! Looking back at us!

>> NIMENE: They won't stop staring!

>> MEGHAN: They're all just out there, ogling us! We should do some poses. How's this? Maybe we should put on a show for them? The history of the human race! I'll sing. *Singing.* "First there were apes that roamed the earth..."

*SFX: Tapping against glass*

>> MEGHAN: Hey that kid tapping the glass ruined my song.

>> LEE: Hey! Kid! Quit tapping on the glass! It really bothers us!

>> RANDOM ALIEN #1: I'm not a kid! I'm four hundred and ninety-seven years old and three quarters.

>> RANDOM ALIEN #2: Glorag, honey, it's time to go home.

>> RANDOM ALIEN #1: Aw, Mom, c'mon, I wanna stare at the humans just a little bit longer!

>> RANDOM ALIEN #2: Glorag Skorplax, I will not say it twice.

>> RANDOM ALIEN #1: Ugh, fine.

*SFX: Door unlocking*

>> DELPHINE: Hey, just wanna say, you guys are doing great! They're really loving you out there.

>> NIMENE: Delphine, you've gotta let us out of here.

>> MEGHAN: Yeah, we're getting tired.

>> PETER: And hungry!

>> LEE: Peter, you're always hungry.

>> PETER: Exactly!



>> DELPHINE: Oh, well why didn't you just say so?

*SFX: Walkie-talkie beep*

>> DELPHINE: Can we get some human-sized beds and human-digestible food over here for the humans?

>> MEGHAN: Whoa, you can do that?

>> DELPHINE: Of course! Don't you understand? My little humans, you'll be taken care of here. Anything you could ever want, just say the word, and it's yours. All my life I've dreamed of having the best zoo in the universe and now, that dream has come true, thanks to you. And I didn't even have to find you! No. No, you found me. What are the chances?! And now I'll do whatever I need to do to make sure that you can stay here FOREVER.

>> PETER: Forever?!

>> DELPHINE: Yes, Peter. That's right. Forever. Wait, how long is a human's lifespan again? Is it eight, nine hundred years? You know what, doesn't matter. ANYWAY, I actually think you could be quite happy here!

>> LEE: Happy?

>> DELPHINE: Look, you might be angry now, but you'll learn to love it over time! Over a long long, luxuriated time.

>> NIMENE: No way.

>> MEGHAN: Wait. I think, maybe... Delphine is right.

>> ALL: *Gasp*

>> MEGHAN: Aren't you tired of life on the ship? Constantly sailing around, never having a place to put down roots and call home. Perhaps it's time we stop being Story Pirates, and settle down here... FOREVER!

>> SOPHIE: We'll be right back!



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MIDROLL  
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>> MEGHAN: Perhaps it's time we stop being Story Pirates, and settle down here... FOREVER!

>> DELPHINE: Oh, Meghan, that makes me so happy! Girl, do you really mean it girl human?

>> MEGHAN: Of course I do, Delphine. You know, I've secretly grown tired of sailing around in space and performing stories. Here, I can finally relax and luxuriate, the way I was always meant to. And it's all thanks to you, Delphine. You and your brilliant, perfect collection of creatures here. It would be an honor for all of us to stay here and—

>> LEE: Got it!

>> DELPHINE: Wha— Well, Hey! What just happened?!

>> LEE: I've got the key from Delphine's belt!

>> MEGHAN: Ha ha! I was simply distracting you with my monologue while Lee secretly snuck up behind you and stole the key!

>> DELPHINE: So, so you didn't really mean anything that you said?

>> MEGHAN: Of course not! I LOVE being a Story Pirate, and nothing will stop me from sailing through space with my friends, and performing kids' stories!

>> DELPHINE: Oh, You lied to me!

>> MEGHAN: Actually, my dear, THAT is what we call ACTING! Acting is just lying WITH FEELING.

>> PETER: Meghan, that was really good.

>> MEGHAN: Um, yes I know!

>> NIMENE: Now let's get out of here!





>> DELPHINE: Wait! No! You can't go! Please! Don't leave me in here!

*SFX: Door unlocking, opening, closing, re-locking!*

>> DELPHINE: But, I don't understand. None of my creatures have ever chosen to leave. Why would you want to leave this place?

>> LEE: Have you ever been inside one of these rooms while everyone stared at you?

>> DELPHINE: Well, I... um. Hrm. Actually, no. I don't think I have. Well, I, em, you know. Well I've been on the outside, and looked in. It's in terms of what? In saying- no. I guess, actually I haven't, I haven't actually been on the inside. I've I've I've, no. Actually no.

>> LEE: It's not very fun. Watch!

>> NIMENE: Come one, come all! Gather round and behold the great Delphine!

>> DELPHINE: Oh. Goodness. Oh! Wow. I'm not nervous. I'm feeling fine that all these creatures staring are at me through the glass. All those eyes gawking at me? Yuck! Is this what I've been doing this whole time? I don't like this one bit. Oh goodness. You're right, earthlings. I'm so sorry! What have I done? What have I been doing?!

>> PETER: It's okay, we forgive you. We are very forgiving.

>> DELPHINE: Oh! Human forgiveness! What a thing. I understand now. Your desire to leave this place is driven by your mission to sail through space, telling stories. You've inspired me to find a new mission for myself. I simply can't keep this up anymore.

*SFX: Walkie-talkie beep*

>> DELPHINE: Initiate the Omega Protocol.

*SFX: Machinery clanking*

>> LEE: Whoa, look! All of the doors and windows in the zoo are opening!

>> DELPHINE: Go, be free, my beautiful creatures! You're all free now! You hear me? Free, I say! Run! Fly! Crawl! Lurch!



*SFX: Various animals walking/flying/crawling away*

>> MEGHAN: You did the right thing, Delphine.

>> DELPHINE: There's just one thing left to do.

>> PETER: What's that?

>> DELPHINE: Could you let ME out of here now?

>> ALL: Oh, right/yes of course/right away/so sorry about that

*SFX: Keys jangling, door unlocking*

>> DELPHINE: Thank you. Now it's your turn to go, too. Be free, and tell your stories far and wide!

>> ALL: Bye Delphine!

>> DELPHINE: Bye!

>> LEE: Phew, I sure am glad to finally be out of that zoo.

>> NIMENE: Yeah, I really didn't like having all of those eyeballs on me.

>> PETER: Yeah, everyone paying their full undivided attention to you, watching your every move?

>> MEGHAN: You know, I didn't hate it.

>> LEE: Hey, before we all beam back onto the ship, should we do another story?

>> ALL: Yeah!

>> LEE: Listeners, do you have a favorite season? Lots of people like spring, summer and even fall. But the main character of this next story loves a different season. Here's the author to tell you more.



>> Lila: Hi, I'm Lila. I'm nine years old, I live in California. This is my story, it's called, "Winter!"  
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>> WINTER: One day there was a girl named Frost  
She loved Winter.  
It was her favorite season.  
No one else liked it so no one liked her.

One day there was a girl named Frost  
She loved Winter.  
It was her favorite season.  
No one else liked it so no one liked her.

She was even bullied for it.  
She was even bullied for it.

>> TEACH: Alright class, I have a new assignment for you. Write an opinion paper about your favorite season!

>> CLASS: Writing? No!

>> TEACH: Now class, let's go around the room and everyone say what season you will write about. We'll start with you, Frost.

>> FROST: I'll write about my favorite season, Winter!

>> CLASS: (Laughing)

>> WINTER: From then on everyone, even the nice kids,  
Made fun of her.  
From then on everyone, even the nice kids,  
Made fun of her.  
And bullied her.  
For ever.  
And hated her.  
And hated her.

>> TEACH: Welcome parents and students to tonight's school open house. I'll start by reading one of the opinion papers from our class.



>> KID: Hey teach, don't read Frost's paper, it's about the worst season!

>> WINTER: Then all of the sudden  
Frost got a burst of confidence  
Then all of the sudden  
Frost got a burst of confidence  
From her anger

So she pulled up a chair and shouted at the top of her lungs  
So she pulled up a chair and shouted at the top of her lungs

>> FROST: Read my opinion paper! Just, read it.

>>TEACH: Uhhhhhh okay, Frost. If you insist.

>>WINTER: Skiing, snowboarding, sledding.  
Snowball fights.  
Etcetera.  
Reading it made people realize,  
How awesome winter is.

Skiing, snowboarding, sledding.  
Snowball fights.  
Etcetera.  
Reading it made people realize,  
How awesome winter is.  
And how much fun you can have during it.  
And how much fun you can have during it.

One day there was a girl named Frost  
She loved Winter.  
It was her favorite season.

>> Megan: And now, Lee speaks to the author.

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>> Lila: Hi.

>> Lee: Hi is this Lila?



- >> Lila: Yes.
- >> Lee: Hi Lila. It's Lee from story pirates.
- >> Lila: Hi.
- >> Lee: So Lila, you wrote the story "winter".
- >> Lila: Yeah.
- >> Lee: And why did you choose for your story to be about winter?
- >> Lila: Um, I'm actually a really good skier. I love skiing. And you can only ski in the winter.
- >> Lee: Oh, so how long have you been skiing for?
- >> Lila: I think I started when I was four?
- >> Lee: And now you're like, nine.
- >> Lila: Yeah.
- >> Lee: So you've been doing it for awhile.
- >> Lila: Yeah, but I only get like a fourth of the year to do it, so.
- >> Lee: Yeah, so you don't get to practice like, all year round.
- >> Lee: For someone that has never skied before, how would you recommend it? What would you tell them to try to convince them to try it.
- >> Lila: It's like really fun and it feels really good to have the wind in their face. When you're going down a hill really fast. It kind of takes like three minutes to get your gear off.
- >> Lee: Like your goggles and your skis and then your boots. It's like a lot to take on and off.
- >> Lila: Yeah. You wear, their like overalls, and then theres thick pants connected to it. And then over the overalls you put on a thick jacket. And then you can wear gloves. Oh yeah, your boots. That is very hard to get on and off. And um, then there is a helmet, goggles. Oh yeah, you have to wear these really thick socks.
- >> Lee: And once you get it all on, is it worth it?



- >> Lila: Yes. 100- No 1000%.
- >> Lee: (Laughing) okay. So in your story, the main character frost writes an opinion paper. Have you ever had an opinion that was unpopular?
- >> Lila: So yeah, technically. Cause I have a friend that's a snowboarder and I'm a skier and she like really does not like skiing at all period. So yeah, like for her skiing is like an unpopular opinion of mine.
- >> Lee: How does that make you feel? That she has a different opinion than you and really doesn't agree with you?
- >> Lila: Um, It's just an opinion. So both of them have like an equal right to be true.
- >> Lee: Opinions are not a fact. Right? Even though we both know skiing's better than snowboarding.
- >> Lila: Well that's not true to some people.
- >> Lee: You're right. I was just testing you.
- >> Lila: Once, I was in a skiing class, and there was this person we saw. It was like, 30 degrees or something outside. And there was this dude snowboarding these jumps, and he didn't even have a shirt on.
- >> Lee: No way, really?!
- >> Lila: Yeah I'm not joking! And my teacher went up to him and was like "Aren't you cold?" and he was like "Nah dude, I'm living the life."
- >> Lee: That's so funny. You know what I call that? I say, it's not cool to be cold man!
- >> Lila: Heh.
- >> Lee: You can use that if you want.
- >> Lila: It really isn't though.
- >> Lee: It really isn't. Lila, this has been so fun to talk to you.
- >> Lila: It's been fun to talk to you too.
- >> Lee: Thank you so much for letting us perform your story.



>> Lila: It's an honor.

>> Lee: The honor is all mine. Alright, bye. Lila.

>> Lila: Bye!

>> LEE: Thanks for listening to this week's episode and a big thanks to today's authors, Lila and Sophie. Before we go, here's today's Story Spark.

Kids, write us a story about the discovery of a hidden city. Tell us who discovers it, and why it was hidden! What is the city like and what do the creatures that live there do? Most of all, what happens now that city isn't hidden anymore?

Grownups, as always, submit stories at [storypirates.com](http://storypirates.com).

The Story Pirates Podcast is a production of Gimlet Media. Executive Producers Lee Overtree and Benjamin Salka. This episode was produced by Lee Overtree, Sam Bair, MR Daniel, Peter McNerney, Andrew Miller, Jonathon Roberts, Chad Chenail and Martha Marion. Recording, Sound design & mixing by Sam Bair at The Relic Room in New York City. Our theme song written by Bobby Lord and produced by Brendan O'Grady. Our staff writer is Mike Cabellon. Contributing writers are Alexis Simpson, Peter McNerney, Meghan O'Neil and Lee Overtree.

Special Guest Lake Bell!

This episode features performances by: PJ Adzima, Andrew Butler, Dewey Caddell, Maddie Fischer, Alex Golden, Gaby Hornig, Al King, Mahayla Laurence, April Lavalle, Peter McNerney, Jack Mitchell, Emily Olcott, Meghan O'Neill, Lee Overtree, Sam Reiff-Pasarew, Joanna Simmons, Emily Verla, Jamie Watson, Rachel Wenitsky, Nimene Wureh, and Matt Zambrano.

Winter was written by Alan Schmuckler and produced by Brendan O'Grady with vocal arrangements and direction by Jack Mitchell.

'Dear Diary' from My Family Are Tigers was written by Jack Mitchell and arranged and produced by Eric Gersen.

Additional recording at Westlake Studios in LA

[CREDITS MUSIC ENDS]

*Boat Horn*



BUTTON

>> LEE: You know, this is a funny coincidence because of that story 'My Family Are tigers,' but I actually SPEAK tiger. Yeah! I took a course in college! It's actually pretty easy to learn if you already know house cat. So, here's a short lesson on how to speak Tiger. Here's 'hello' in Tiger.

[HUGE TIGER ROAR]

>> LEE: Here's 'can you tell me where the bathroom is:

[TINY KITTY MEW]

>> LEE: Here's 'is there any pie left?'

[HUGE TIGER ROAR]

>> LEE: Here's 'Welcome to my home. Can I take your jacket?'

[HUGE TIGER ROAR]

>> LEE: Here's PETER PUT THAT DOWN, THAT'S NOT YOUR SNACK!

[HUGE TIGER ROAR]

>> LEE: And here's 'Thanks for being my friend.'

[HUGE TIGER ROAR]

>> LEE: Oh ha ha, sorry, that was actually 'Please allow me more personal space.' 'Thanks for Being my friend is actually.

[TINY KITTY MEW AND PURR]