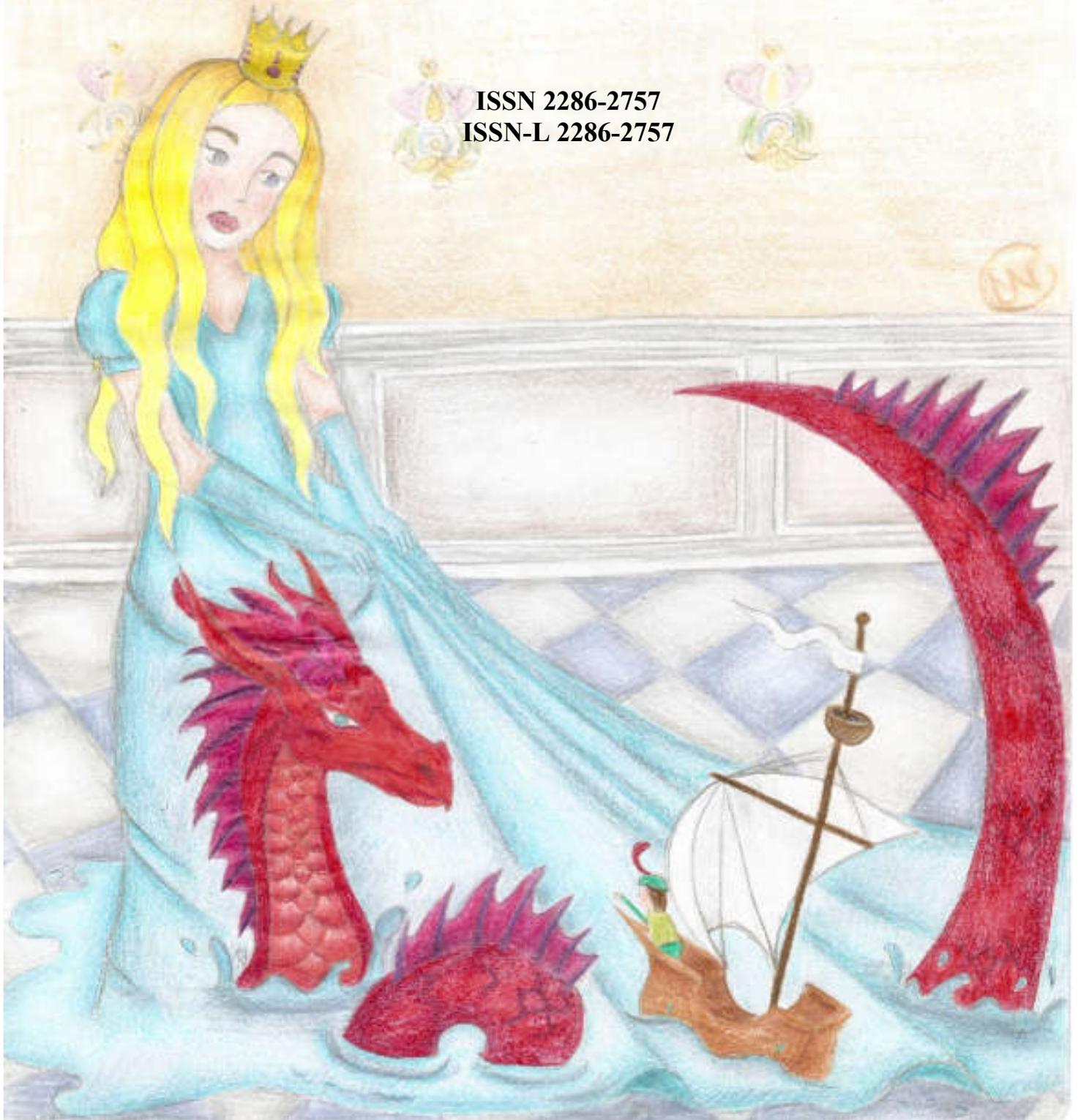


**A teen magazine: friendship through readership**  
**No. 10 – April 2019**

**DIFFERENT AND THE SAME:  
A CULTURAL APPROACH TO THE  
EUROPEAN DIMENSION**

ISSN 2286-2757  
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***E-TWINNING PROJECT:***

***ART FOR THE HEART***

***APRIL 2019***

***WRITING COMPOSITIONS***

“Don’t bend; don’t water it down; don’t try to make it logical; don’t edit your own soul according to the fashion. Rather, follow your most intense obsessions mercilessly.”

**By Franz Kafka**

“And by the way, everything in life is writable about if you have the outgoing guts to do it, and the imagination to improvise. The worst enemy to creativity is self-doubt.”

**By Sylvia Plath**

## EDITORIAL BOARD

The **eTwinning project *ART FOR THE HEART*** gave students the opportunity to put together the 10th issue of the magazine "*Different and the Same: a Cultural Approach to the European Dimension*", proving the sustainability of our partnership. Students received drawings and inspired by them, they got creative and wrote attractive stories in English. Afterwards, they created a magazine together which is posted online. Both students and teachers enjoyed working together as this was our fourth eTwinning project together.

The aims of the project are:

- ✿ to work together as a team, to collaborate with the partners;
- ✿ to achieve common goals together (the magazine);
- ✿ to improve students' writing skills in English by writing e-mails to their partners and writing the compositions for the magazine;
- ✿ to improve their intercultural skills by being tolerant towards the cultural differences between partners.

Consequently, **this eTwinning project encouraged students to read and write in English**, blending classroom and digital teaching techniques and creating student-friendly on-line tools to help students improve these skills.

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- **Rodica Camelia Radu**, Art teacher, "V. Alecsandri" National College, Galați, Romania
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**Cover drawing:** Niță Daria, "V. Alecsandri" National College, Galați, Romania

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## **CREATIVITY AND IMAGINATION**

### **1. The secret behind the picture**



Wow! Look at that picture, that looks awesome! I would love to be there! I love those colours, they look like the colours of a dream....

I think this picture is hiding something...something that isn't real... something that doesn't exist... every picture has its secrets. And I think this picture is hiding a legendary creature... an animal like a Pegasus or a Unicorn....but this creature is more than a Pegasus or a unicorn... it is a Unipeg.

Now, you must be wondering what does a Unipeg look like. Well it's nothing you would expect. It basically looks like a

horse, but it has a bigger body than a horse. Basically its body is white, but rarely can you see a rainbow one. It also has a long horn, a pink ponytail and a pair of gorgeous wings, it is true that it is a beautiful creature, but be careful, it is still a wild creature. It can heal its wounds with water, and that is so cool! It eats only pink clouds, and drinks the happiness of the children, but a Unipeg never hurts people, especially children. But if you try to hunt them...well you will end up dead, so don't try it, just don't.

An old legend says that only pure girls can tame Unipegs, nobody else can tame one!

I think that a Unipeg is hiding behind those bright colours! I dare you to catch it!

***By ANTONIA MITROF,***

***5<sup>th</sup> grade, "A. I. Cuza" National College,  
Galați, Romania***

***Drawing by BOBOC BIANCA, 9<sup>th</sup> grade,  
"V. Alecsandri" National College, Galați, Romania***

## 2. Where are you?

I am in Seoul, the capital of South Korea, with my best friend, Mary. We are in Seoul because we are exchange students here. It's been one week since we got here and we really don't know the city. Because of that, something scary, but happy in the end happened yesterday.

My friend and I were in the hotel room and we wanted to go for a walk. It was 8 pm and it was getting dark. We decided to go to the food festival that was a few minutes away. There was a lot of food there, of course and we were fascinated. We ate some traditional food there and after that, I wanted a hot chocolate, but Mary didn't want one, so she said that she would wait for me at the doughnut stand. I bought the hot chocolate, but Mary wasn't there.

I tried to call her, but unfortunately, her phone was discharged.

I couldn't find her anywhere, it was already dark and I didn't know the city really well, so I went at the hotel to see if she was there. I was scared, because I



thought that she was lost or something and she was alone, without her phone and she didn't know how to speak Korean yet.

When I got at the hotel room, a lot of people shouted "Surprise!". In that moment I remembered that it was my birthday. I was really happy because I was greeted by a lot of nice people whom I loved and because Mary was ok, of course.

In conclusion, yesterday was a scary day for me, but it ended like a perfect day.

**By ALEXANDRA ROMAN,**  
**6<sup>th</sup> grade, "A. I. Cuza" National College,**  
**Galați, Romania**

*Drawing by NIȚĂ DARIA, 8<sup>th</sup> grade,*  
*"V. Alecsandri" National College, Galați, Romania*

### 3. It happens ...

It's a cold evening. The sun has just sunk and I'm still in the street looking for a place to sleep.

I don't know where I am, what I shall eat because my memory is lost. I am just a wreck in a luxurious town.

It is getting very dark outside and I'm still in the street. Nobody wants to welcome me in their house..

I sit down for a couple of minutes and suddenly, a man comes to me and asks:

“Who are you?”

“I'm Matei and I need a place to sleep”

“Ok! Come to my house!”

“Thank you, sir!”

He gives me food and shows me to my room. I fall asleep as soon as my head hits the pillow. At midnight, that man is gone. I wake up and I follow him. I tremble with fear. In fact, I discover that the man was a fantastic creature disguised as a flamingo and he went to steal candies from a sweet shop. Oh, no! I am caught in the magic realm of fairies, flamingos and candies!



The colours are amazing and the tiny creatures start dancing around me until I feel drowsy. I fall asleep and I dream about all the candies I could eat.

In the future, I need to choose where to sleep more wisely.

**By MATEI ALEXANDRU STANCIU,  
6<sup>th</sup> grade, “A. I. Cuza” National College,  
Galați, Romania**

*Drawing by ROTARU ILINCA, 8<sup>th</sup> grade,  
“V. Alecsandri” National College, Galați, Romania*

#### 4. Adventures in the wild ...



So...first of all let me make one thing clear, going to the savannah didn't really smile to me at first but then I thought... "What's to lose? My life? HAH!" And so I went. And it was fun, at first. But then I got separated from my group. As one would expect things... didn't go so well for me... If you thought I had bad luck getting separated from my group, then meeting a rhino is the worst luck someone can have. I scouted the area for a tree to hide behind so it wouldn't see me. And so I did and stood there still as a rock as it passed on. I then went on a tall hill to scout the area around me. And the

first thing I saw was a cactus RIGHT IN MY FACE!!! "Well excuse me, I'm just trying to pass, good sir." I told the cactus as I moved to the right to avoid it. The surrounding area was gorgeous, the Sun was falling into a nearby river, and there I was between another tree and the cactus. The sky was all yellow and red and so were the clouds. It was truly amazing... Then I realised that someone was shouting my name. It was the group leader. When I came back I got scolded for wandering off.

I never went to a forest, jungle or anything of that nature ever again. Pun intended.

**By BOGDAN STRATICA,**  
*5<sup>th</sup> grade, "A. I. Cuza" National College,*  
*Galați, Romania*

*Drawing by BURLACU LORENA DENISA, 9<sup>th</sup> grade,*  
*"V. Alecsandri" National College, Galați, Romania*

## 5. Love is everywhere

In this world there are spirits and devils that can't be seen to a human eye. People tried to communicate with them using ancient rituals. But in spring humans became more careful because there would be devils that become human. The devil's only turn human in spring, but if they fall in love with a human, the devil becomes human, that's the fact both humans and devils don't know.

Lucy loved old people. She thought they were cool and chill, she admired a lot of them and she had made quite few friends. But one of her friends had passed away; she sat on the grave and cried a lot,

"I'm hungry." She thought to herself. She could hear her stomach growl. A man came and sat down with her and threw a flower on to the grave. "Sad things happen but you should not forget who you are." The man said and smiled lightly. Lucy could not believe he was so handsome and caring of other people and without thinking she said.



*Drawing by DRĂGUȚ IOANA TEODORA,  
7<sup>th</sup> grade, "V. Alecsandri" National College,  
Galați, Romania*

"I'm hungry, I don't have any money left."

Lucy and Anders were in a cafe eating food, well the man's name was Anders.

The man was eating spaghetti and meatballs and Lucy was eating the most delicious tacos. After they were done Lucy went to sit on a bench in the park and she was happy, so happy she forgot that this day was the day they would

turn human. She had the basic uniform when every devil turns human, a plain white t-shirt, jeans and red sneakers.

The next day in the morning she ran to the cafe and to the grave because she wanted to find him. He could be anywhere but she could not find him for days and weeks. And again she thought she was dumped and cried.

The day before she would turn back to a demon he decided to show up and told her that he knew she was a

devil but he couldn't stay away from her because he loved her. She never became a devil anymore, she became a pretty person with a wild personality and a bond that no one had ever seen started between humans and devils.

*By SARAH ZUNUR, 7<sup>th</sup> grade,  
Lagman School, Mjölby, Sweden*

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## **6. The beginning of spring**

It was a cold winter morning at the end of February and it was still dark outside. The sun was only up for a few hours and it was below freezing. Two friends decided to stop this and begin the spring. They had found out that if the spring would start there couldn't exist any babalons. Babalons are little black things that exist as long as there is winter. And if it were no babalons it would be no winter. So they decided that the next morning they were going to destroy the babalons. A granny in the library had said that the babalons were in a cave far from

their city and it would take a while to get there. So in the evening they planned the whole trip and how they were going to destroy them. And made a picnic for they journey.

Early in the morning they started their journey to the land far far away. They had walked for almost ten days before they got to the land. It was a dark place where there almost weren't any living things except the babalons. The babalons lived in a secret cave deep down in the mountains. And to get into the cave they had to go up the top of

the mountain and go down a stair made of stone. So they started climbing up to the top and it took two days to get to the top. When they had come to the top it was a big door that got into the mountain. To get in they had to solve a puzzle and it wasn't that hard it just took like ten minutes to solve it. But the real thing started to happen. The stair that was going to get down was broken and they had to jump like two meters. But it didn't stop them to go down it took two days more to get down to the bottom of the cave and there they were. The babalons. Now they had to be clever to destroy every babalon because if you killed one the others woke up and started to kill you instead. So

they had to do something smart. They started to build small traps with rocks and rope. They brought the swords and started to kill the babalons. They killed almost everyone except two babalons that got away so they started running after them going up the stairs and one babalon fell and got killed. But the other one was really fast they almost had haunted the babalon for one hour before they caught it. Now they only had one babalon left to kill. They took the sword and killed it. Now it was spring and they had saved the spring from winter and cold.

The end.

*By ALVAR KAJLING, 7<sup>th</sup> grade,  
Lagman School, Mjölby, Sweden*



*Drawing by MANEA MARIA, 7<sup>th</sup> grade,  
"V. Alecsandri" National College, Galați, Romania*

## **7. The Hero Warrior**

Andrew was a 17-year-old boy. He was very shy. He was in love with a girl named Ann, a girl with black eyes and long blond hair, whom he could not tell what he was feeling for her.

He also enjoyed video games. His favorite game was called "The Hero Warrior" in which the main character, the warrior, had to fight with a lot of monsters to reach a castle guarded by an evil dragon. There was a princess kidnapped and locked in that castle, which the warrior had to save. "A powerful but, unfortunately, sick king gave the whole army the order to find his missing daughter, but no one had succeeded, the emperor being more and more sad and helpless. The warrior was the only one who knew where the princess was, because he saw her fighting with some monsters near the castle guarded by the evil dragon. So, he goes to the king, receives his blessing and begins the adventure to save the princess."

Andrew was very attracted to this game, not just because it was full of action and adventure, but also because the princess in the game resembled Ann very well, whom

he was in love with. He had already reached the penultimate level, so one evening he decided to finish the game, being very excited.

So, on Thursday evening, without doing his homework for the second day, Andrew decides to continue the game. When he enters the game to play, a message from the game appears, saying: "This mission will take at least 3 hours. Are you sure you want to continue?". Andrew didn't pay attention to this message, so without reading it, he pressed "OK" and started the game. This mission was a special one. He had to get a sword, with which he could kill the dragon, and a charming necklace with which he could teleport. Andrew had to kill a lot of monsters until he reached the castle... So, when he came to the castle, when he was about to enter, something very strange happened! Suddenly, he literally "entered" the game. Andrew was that warrior, with the sword in his hand, and the necklace at his neck. Andrew could not believe what it was going on. He saw the princess locked in a metal

room, and next to it, there was a glittering key, with which Andrew realized he could open the iron door. Andrew still could not realize he was in the game, and everything seemed so real!... He went quickly to take the keys to release the princess, who turned out to be Ann. After releasing her, they saw the dragon coming toward them, very angry. Andrew wanted to give Ann's enchanting necklace for her to teleport home to the kingdom, but she refused, because she wanted to join him in the fight, to help him. So the fight started. Andrew hit the dragon twice, but for it to be down, he would have to hit him once more. Unfortunately, Andrew was very tired, staying almost powerless in front of the gigantic dragon. Ann saw him, so she decided to join the fight to help Andrew. She took the necklace

and magical sword, it teleported her behind the dragon, and it struck him extremely hard in the head. Then, the dragon died, so Andrew and Ann managed to go home to the kingdom. When he saw his daughter again, the king jumped up with joy, thanking Andrew very much. Ann also thanked Andrew for saving her and said, "I..." ...but he did not hear what she was saying because Andrew suddenly woke up in front of his computer, very tired, and already late for school.

He was very upset because he realized that everything had been just a beautiful dream.

*By GROZA COSMIN, 8<sup>th</sup> grade,  
"Sf. Cuv. Parascheva", Secondary School,  
Smârdan Galați, Romania*

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## **8. The Easter adventure**

Once upon a time there was a girl and a boy. Their names were Emma and Alex. Emma and Alex had been best friends since they were tiny babies. They loved each other, they almost felt like they were twins because they had been growing up in the

same town the same school the same neighbourhood and also, next to each other.

"Emma will you ever get ready? Hurry up!"

"Okay, Okay I'm coming!"

It was the 19th of April, the last day of school, and the day before Easter. Both Emma and Alex were very excited. They

both had dressed up as little bunnies for the Easter Festivity at school. As they were walking on their way to school, they passed by the big tree they had always passed by on their way to school. But today something was different with it. Under the tree a big golden egg was lying, with pink and purple dots on it. At first they got very confused but they went forward to the tree anyway. They both were a bit scared. Emma picked it up and looked at it. "What is thisss...ohh...ohh ahhh". Emma and Alex both slipped into the egg. Emma and Alex went down the egg with a thud.

"Where are we?"

"I have no clue."

Both Emma and Alex were very confused. They both glared at each other as if they had seen a ghost. Like Emma said, they had no clue what to do. But right in front of them stood a rabbit with a letter. Not a regular letter, It was a golden letter. It was beautiful. Alex took it from the rabbit and read it. It said that they had to free themselves from the egg before the red rabbit took the golden egg from the golden rabbit. The rabbit handed them two swords: a silver sword and a golden sword. Emma's name was on the silver one and Alex's on the golden one.

"But how will we free ourselves from the egg?" Emma said.

"We could maybe jump on the shell, and maybe it will break into pieces?"

"You're so stupid sometimes!"

Emma made a sigh. Emma and Alex were both already tired. But they got up again and started walking around in the egg. They walked and walked.

"It feels like we have been in here for days!"

"I'm starving!"

"You're always hungry Alex, we have other things to consider!"

"Sorry Emma, I'm just scared."

Suddenly, Alex saw two big silver necklaces on a golden pillar in a cave. They slowly walked towards the pillar. The pillar started to glow and sparkle. They both got very surprised! They took the necklaces and suddenly they flew up in the air. They felt even more powerful now, and so they were. The rabbit came with another letter. They now knew what they had to do to free themselves, and to help the golden rabbit to get its egg back. They had to kill the red rabbit.

"I can't kill a rabbit, I love rabbits!" Emma said.

"But we have to, how else are we getting out of here? We've got to do whatever it takes!"

“You’re right, whatever it takes!” Emma said doubtfully. “But what are we going t-“

“Shhhhh!!!!!!”

Alex stopped Emma.

“Can you hear that?”

“Hear what?”

“The bounces!”

“What bounces? I can’t hear or feel anything.”

Suddenly the red rabbit came out of the cave and made noise. Emma and Alex didn’t think at all, they already knew what to do with him. Without any doubt they both stuck the two swords into the rabbit. But strangely the rabbit didn’t die. They big evil red rabbit turned into the sweetest but big golden rabbit. They were so happy and surprised at the same time. The rabbit started to talk to them and told them that everything would be alright and what they had done today was amazing! They saw how the edges of the egg slowly faded down and they felt and also got bigger and bigger and slowly they could see the world better and better. They were free again! They felt so, so, so happy and the rabbit thanked them

with a present. They got 10 kilos of Easter candy and they got to keep the necklaces as a memory of her. She was so thankful for freeing her evil spirit and jumped away with a smile. Emma and Alex looked at each other, laughing and smiling.

“That was a pretty funny Easter adventure Emma!”

“If it was, haha!”

They walked home and celebrated Easter with their families and told them all about it.

“Happy Easter Emma!”

“Happy Easter Alex!”

And then they lived happily in their bouncy ever after!

*By ASTRID RALBERG, 7<sup>th</sup> grade,  
Lagman School, Mjölby, Sweden*



*Drawing by BULETI DARIA, 9<sup>th</sup> grade,  
“V. Alecsandri” National College, Galați, Romania*

## 9. How Easter saved me from Math

I'm in my room. I'm doing my homework. Mom has just come from work and brought a cute bonsai and she put it on the corner of my desk.

I can't solve this damn math problem. I'm terrified of what my math teacher is going to say again about me. I hear a funny noise coming from the little bonsai and puzzled, I look towards the plant. I see something glittering on a branch. Whaaat? I cannot believe my eyes. I must be dreaming: a little strange fairylike creature is sitting on a thin branch.

'Who are you? Are you for real?' I asked.

'Tinker Bell. I mend pots and kettles. I'm a friend of Peter Pan. Maybe you know him better. You?'

'I'm J, I mumbled.

'J, please help me!'

She had saved the Ugly Duckling from the tomcat and the hen that wanted to scratch and pinch the poor little baby-swan. She had to be invisible so she put on the magic black gloves. But then she couldn't take them down. The gloves were stuck to her arms.



*Drawing by ZAHARIA MARA IOANA,  
7<sup>th</sup> grade, "V. Alecsandri" National College,  
Galați, Romania*

'How can I help you? I don't know anything about magic.

'But you know a lot of magical stories, and you can help me go in and find someone that can do something about it.

'I'm sorry to inform you, but these stories aren't real.

'Well, what are you thinking about me? Am I real? Can you see me?'

'Yes, I can. I guess you are. Real.

'Is anyone there to help me?'

'The Wizard of Oz?! I answered hesitating.

‘I was sure that you had the answer to my problem. Let’s go!

‘Hmm...Err...I’m too big. Where can I go with you, tiny little fairy?

‘This won’t be a problem. I have Alice’s potion, you know the one labelled “DRINK ME” and you will shrink to my size.

‘Ok, give it to me. Cheers! I hate math.

All the things in my bedroom became bigger and bigger or I became smaller and smaller. Now Tinker was as big as me or I was as little as her.

‘Give me your hand, said Tinker, we’ll tumble through the Rabbit Hole.

She hadn’t finished her sentence and we were caught in a twirl of a cyclone. I was terrible scared, happy of not being alone. Soon, we hit the ground. My heart was beating like a drum. I looked around.

‘Where are we? Tinker, are you still here?

‘I’m here in a tree. Look up!

What a funny sky! It seemed covered with clouds made of eggs in every shade of blue: light blue eggs, dark blue eggs, turquoise eggs, whitish eggs. All around me there were odd trees full of colorful spring flowers. The grass was so green. Every blade of grass seemed painted. In the grass, the flowers were shaped as eggs, too. Red, yellow, orange, pink, purple, coral.

‘Are we in the Munchkins Land?

‘Yes, I think we are, answered Tinker Bell flying around me.

Oh, oh...something was moving under me.

‘Move away! You’re a stupid boy! Are you deaf?

I rolled over and to my surprise I saw a witch. She looked like my math teacher’s sister. Oh no! Not again! Math? I recognized her... It was the Wicked Witch of the East.

‘Sorry...I started to say.

‘Shut up!!! How do you dare to enter my land, to crush me and just say sorry. You will be punished. You are a traitor and a spy.

‘Tinker and I fell through the Rabbit Hole and somehow it mixed with the Kansas tornado and we accidentally got here. It’s not like we wanted to, I tried to explain.

‘A rabbit, a rabbit? I hate rabbits! You are a rabbit! And point her wand to me. I felt hot and cold at the same time. I looked at my hands and at my feet. They were covered in white soft fur. To my horror, I was a rabbit! What now? An earthquake? A house had fallen on the witch. Just my luck. Couldn’t Dorothy come a second sooner? What was I going to do? How could I help Tinker now?

But The Good Witch of the North came and saved the day... She gave Dorothy the magical Silver Shoes and she helped Tinker

Bell to take out the black gloves. What about me? I'm a rabbit. And just when I thought that everybody forgot about me I heard the Good Witch saying:

'You'll be the king of Munchkin Easter land. You'll be crowned by the Munchkins with the crown of Diamond Eggs, the Scepter of spring flowers and The Big Egg Diamond Gorge.

Hurray!!!!!! Not only do I escape math, but I am also a king.

My head hit the desk. I'm awake. The math problem is still in front of me.

'Muum! Can you help me?'

**By JUSTIN BUTUC,**  
**5<sup>th</sup> grade, "A. I. Cuza" National College,**  
**Galați, Romania**

## 10. Feeling good

There once was a doll named Katy, created without face and hair. She really enjoyed dancing and making people happy with her dance, but she thought she could not do it because of her flaw. Lately, there has been a rumor that there are some fairies that can fulfill any desire so Katy went to them to the enchanted forest and begged them to create a face to help her express her feelings through dance and to give happiness and liveliness to those around her. The fairies were impressed by her desire and they told her they had to think about it and tell her what they had decided in a while. Katy went to her house with hope in her soul. Meanwhile, the fairies were impressed



***Drawing by GRIGORAȘ MARIA LAVINIA,***  
***7<sup>th</sup> grade, "V. Alecsandri" National College,***  
***Galați, Romania***

by the doll's intention to make the world happier and decided to surprise her. When she arrived home, she couldn't believe what was in her room. There were garments everywhere, a necklace and various facets. As a courtesy, Katy invited them to her first

show where, through the dance and expression of her face, she has spread love and happiness everywhere.

**By ALEXANDRA OLTEANU,**  
**6<sup>th</sup> grade, "A. I. Cuza" National College,**  
**Galați, Romania**

## **11. Happiness is somewhere in your heart**

Millions of years ago, there was a girl, a very beautiful one. Her hair was shining every time she was looking at the moon, with some blue eyes like ocean and a very childish little face. Her walk was creating a way made of stars behind her. Her very brilliant, long cloak was shining brightly because of her beauty, because of her flowers...

Every night, in her delicate hands, the little girl was holding a bouquet of "smeraldo flowers". The moon was starring at her while she was walking slowly in the forest on her own.

Those flowers were taking her to a very special place called "Magic Shop". A magical land where you could find your happiness whenever you go...



**Drawing by GRIGORAȘ MARIA LAVINIA,**  
**7<sup>th</sup> grade, "V. Alecsandri" National College,**  
**Galați, Romania**

When you look at her, what do you see? a simple girl...or maybe a confused one

We don't know exactly what she was feeling. Her face did not convey any emotion because the only place where she was feeling good, when she was feeling safe, in peace, with her own thoughts was in that place. Every moment she was holding those purple flowers on her chest, she could find true happiness which made her heart bloom again .... You were looking at her and you became hypnotized because of her beauty she was showing in front of the world. The whole world was starring at her and wondering why she was holding a bouquet of flowers and standing in front of the moon looking at the sky with no expression. The girl was feeling a rare

pleasure which sketched a gentle, tiny smile on her soft face every time.

In that land, she found that self-RECONCILIATION, she found those smiles that she looked for in the last 1000 years. No one knew that place was in the depth of her heart... The girl found the love and the happiness in small things of her life, in her magical land. Her heart began to beat truly again...

What about you? Did you find your "Magic Shop"? Just find something that takes you to your own imaginary world, you'll find happiness somewhere in your heart...

**By MARIUCA TÎNJALĂ,**  
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## **12. Believe in yourself**

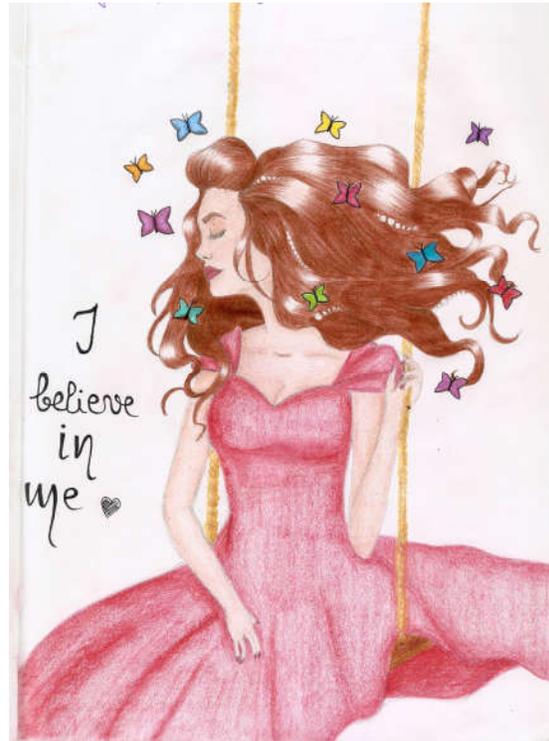
Once upon a time there was a girl who thought that life is all pink, butterflies and flowers. She lived her life happily, singing, dancing, playing all day long because her life was beautiful. She was always wearing light and joyful dresses and she believed in her lifestyle. She was unique

because nothing could make her sad. In life there are also bad things happening, but you always have to be strong to accept that there is no perfect world and no perfect people and you have to be yourself and to believe in yourself, in your power of judgment, in your power of happiness, in your strength and in

your feelings. You need to follow your heart and your dreams. I hope I can be like that girl because she seems cheerful and accomplished.

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### **13. Best friends forever**

Once upon a time there was a special girl who had no friends. She was lonely and sad. Her name is Rosie and her biggest dream was to become a bird so she could fly. Every day when she came home from school she switched to a blue bird. One day she went to school with the bird costume. All people that saw her started to laugh and pointed at her. She was sad and ran back home. When she got home, she ran to her bed and lay down and cried. Then her mum came into the room and saw that Rosie was

very sad and she asked “what happened to you?.” Rosie answered that the kids in the school had been very mean to her. Her mom said that the kids were just jealous. “Of what” said Rosie. “Of you” said her mom. So, Rosie went to school in her bird costume again. And all the kids were picking on her again, but this time she trusted herself because of her mother’s words. Among those colleagues was a girl who had admired her for her courage. Her name was Layla. Seeing that Rosie felt alone

she bought an identical suit like hers and she got dressed with it the next day. When Rosie saw Layla she was a little bit confused because she did not know why she dressed like her. Layla said “I saw your courage when you wore this costume and you made me buy one to help you”. From that moment Rosie realized that the appearance

does not matter, but the personality and the way you are. Since then Rosie and Layla have remained good friends.

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## 14. The bully

”Stop!” shouts the headmaster.

Ava stops punching Sophie and starts running. The headmaster runs after Ava and stops her.

”Come to my office now!” Says Jason.

”Ok”, says Ava with tears in her eyes.

”It is the third time this week you are in my office, you need to stop bullying.”

”I will”, says Ava.

Ava is the most popular pupil in the school, everybody wants to be friends with her, she is bullying Sophia and a lot of other pupils, but in fact she doesn't want to be like this, she is just doing it because she is afraid to show who she really is.

"Why are you doing this?"

"Ava doesn't answer Jason."

"Answer my questions please!"

Ava runs away from the school, the headmaster sighs loudly.

This spring Ava has changed school, she had to change because she was bullied but everybody thinks it was because she was the bully. They bullied her because she wasn't like the other pupils, she had different clothes and different hairstyles. When Ava changed schools she decided that she wasn't going to get bullied again, she would do whatever it took.

Next day when Ava goes to school, she sees the headmaster. She decides to talk to the headmaster, to tell him the truth. She goes to the headmaster and tells him the whole truth,

why she changed schools and why she is bullying.

"Oh, I understand", says Jason.

"I really don't want to be a bully but if I don't bully I get bullied myself."

"No you won't, in our school everyone is nice to everyone."

She tells the truth to everyone about the fact that she has been bullied and she says she is very sorry. They all understand and forgive her.

After some weeks Ava and Sophie have become best friends and they hang out every day. This was a spring she would never forget.

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## 15. True friendship always wins!

Hello my name is Naomi and I'm from New Zealand. This is a photo of me from a really long time ago. It was four years since that, it was spring. The leaves were starting to get green and I could see some flowers.

My friend was going to move to another city. She was my best and my only friend. We did everything together. Her name is Jubilee, we're texting every morning and night, we both miss each other a lot. The thing that happened was that her dad had got a new job in South Africa. So the whole family was moving. That made us both really sad. It feels better now but I'm still very sad. I think about her every day and every time I think about her I want to cry because I miss her so, so much. I think we're going to meet each other again.

The day was 6th of July and Jubilee was going to tell me that she was going to move. We were going to eat ice cream and go for a walk. The sun was shining and it was really hot outside. She said that she had something really important to say. Then she suggested sitting on a bench somewhere near the ice cream car. She looked serious so

I started to worry a little bit. I had noticed for a couple of weeks that she was behaving strangely, but I had never asked why she was upset all the time. There was one time I tried to talk to her about it, but she avoided the subject. We sat down on the bench. She was ready to tell me everything, you could see it on her face, she is an open book. When she opened her mouth and started talking it was like my whole world was crumbling and unconsciously I started crying and ran before she told me her reasons. I did not want to hear her reasons. I was mad!

I was so mad that I didn't even notice the fact that I went all the way to the other half of the city. I stopped crying a while ago so my eyes were red and my nose too. I wanted to go back but didn't know how; I didn't know those streets pretty well, so, in other words, I was lost. I was so confused, so I just started thinking about what my possibilities were: trying to remember all my moves, which was not such a good idea; calling someone, maybe Jubilee, which was wrong, because my

battery died long ago; or, maybe, finding someone who could help me. Last one always wins!:) It didn't take long until I found someone, an old lady, around 60, dressed up casually, carrying some big bags full of ice cream in her little hands. I approached her and told her everything that had happened and she told me the way back home in exchange for helping her to take the bags home. She even gave me icecream. She was such a nice lady.

I got back pretty easily, I wasn't so far away from the place we were standing and when I reached the ice cream car, I saw her standing near the bench, looking scared and worried. I came to her and while she was looking confused in my direction, I gave her one of the ice cream cones the lady had given me and we started walking and

talking again until dawn. She talked and I listened, and after I found out all the reasons why she was moving and the reasons why she had never told me about it sooner we both burst out laughing at each other for how dumb we had been for the last weeks.

Next month it is her birthday and I think I am going to buy her a gift ticket from South Africa to New Zealand. I will make sure we will see each other, sooner or later. TRUE FRIENDSHIP ALWAYS WINS!!

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## **16. My amazing dream!**

Hello, my name is Hedwig and this is the story about the amazing dream I had a few weeks ago! It was about a dream prince, I met him in the forest and there he saved me from the evil trolls. I don't know if he exists but it feels like I have met him before.

I was out for a walk in the royal garden, I saw flowers everywhere. Then, I saw my dog, Cloe who ran into the forest. I shouted at her but she didn't stop running. So I ran after her into the dark forest. I ran a very long time, but I didn't find her. When I went back home to the castle I saw

someone in the bush. I shouted “someone there?”. No answer. So I started to go again but after a few steps someone attacked me with a bag. I tried to come out but I could not. So I let the person take me. When I came out from the bag I saw a place with tiny people. When I came closer I saw that they were trolls!

I stood a long time and just stared at them. And after some minutes I stopped because I heard that they were talking about “nice with much food now”. I knew that I needed to go away but I knew that I couldn’t. At that moment the prince came and saved me. After that I woke up and didn’t remember more of that. But I hope that someday he will come and save me in real life, as well.

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## **17. The spring break**

A long time ago there was a girl called Sophi. She was 12 years old. Sophi had a spring break she will never forget. Sophi and her friends were out and exploring deep inside the forest. The break was a week

long. They had a list of things they wanted to do during the break:

1. Climb the trees in the forest near the city;
2. Go to a party;
3. Go out and hunt Easter eggs.

They found a really good tree to climb. It was really high and had big branches. The tree was very close to the river. It was a hot day and they wanted to take a bath in the river. So they made a track so they could find the tree later. All of them went home and took their swimwear and walked back to the tree. When they came back to the tree they changed into the swimwear they had with them. Some of the branches were hanging over the river. They climbed up the tree and thought they could jump down from that branch. Everybody had fun when they were out in the forest. When they didn't want to play in the river they decided to go home to Sophi's friend and they started planning a sleepover. Sophi came out with a good idea that they were going to sleep in the boathouse near the river. The other girls thought it was going to be scary but fun. But first they were going to this party at school. Everybody had a cool costume. Sophi had a costume her mother had given her. It was black, white and light blue. The party was in the big classroom on the third floor. They played music and they had a bar with drinks and snacks. At the party there were many things they could do. Different games like limbo and dance stop. They also had a treasure



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hunt in the basement. The winner will get 2kg of candy. You had to find a key to open the door with all the candy in it. And it was completely dark but you had a flashlight so you could guide your way through the dark. Outside and in the basement there were clues so you could find it a little bit easier. For example where to go or a riddle you had to solve. When Sophi went into the basement she saw a clue directly. Go right. Sophi was clever so she didn't listen and went left instead. And then she saw a way up on the big shelves. Sophi went up and

saw another way that went into the other room. In that room you needed a code to get something. On the wall it was written a number code.

It was 24, 3, 4, 67, 78, 44, 3, 1, 70. Sophi wrote every number on a paper and tried to take all the numbers below 10. When she tried it the door opened up and in the room there was a big, big candy bag. She went up on the big shelves again but accidentally fell off and hurt her arm. She thought it was broken. When she fell off she screamed so the guy outside heard her and

ran inside. He helped her out and her friends came and helped her too. The arm wasn't broken and after a while it didn't hurt anymore and they continued to have fun at the party. This was the best spring break ever. She won 2 kg of candy and she found the best tree to climb.

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## **18. No, I'm not OK**

I have always been the good kid with A in all subjects at school. I've always been the one who took care of the big house that my family owned.

It was Monday morning when the whole thing happened. In my family there are my mother, my younger sister and then me. I ate my breakfast and went to the school bus. The school is close to the town so it doesn't take more than 10 minutes to reach the school. When it was lunchtime me

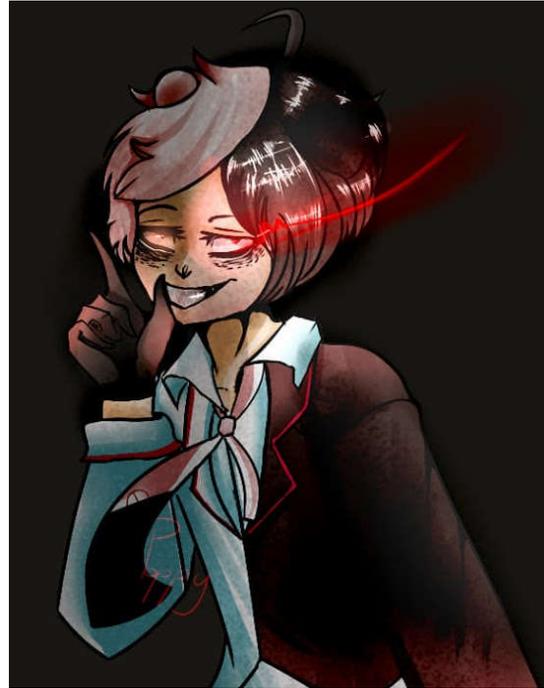
and my friends, Mary and Luna walked to the cafeteria and bought some juice and ate our homemade sandwiches. It was just an ordinary day until I went home and saw that someone had robbed our house. I shouted after my mom but no one answered. I went to the garden and saw it. What I saw made me cry and scream for help. I saw my mom on the grass. She didn't move or breathe. I called 911 and cried for help. That day changed my lifestyle. It ruined me.

I sat beside her, gave her a flower and kissed the headstone goodbye. Then I went back to my grandma. And found her dead on the floor. My sister was at school. Now I just have my sister and I'm not going to lose her.

What am I now? They asked if I was ok... NO I'M NOT OK!!!

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