



Free for your reading pleasure.
All stories included.

HILO'S DAD

Hilo really likes his creative, whacky Dad. Read on to see if you like him, too.





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My name is Hilo and this is my Dad.

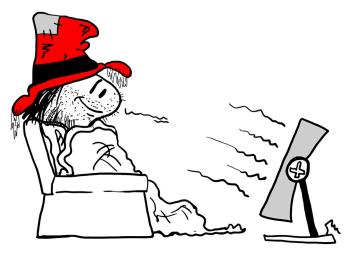




He isn't this... he isn't that. It's hard to explain, really.

Just look at his hat.

He needs an electric fan in every room he goes in. Even if the heat doesn't work and the fact that he's nearly frozen.



My favorite thing about my Dad is the metamorphical machine he made.

It changes into anything he needs. Including a drink and some shade.

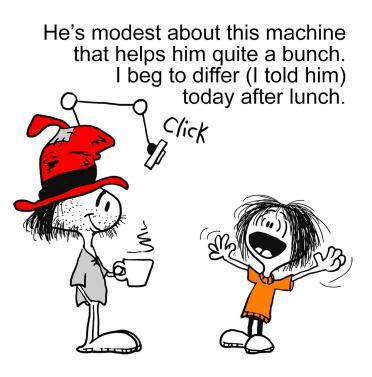


chugga = chugga

When I hear that engine CRACK and POP BANG and SPIT and SPUTTER...

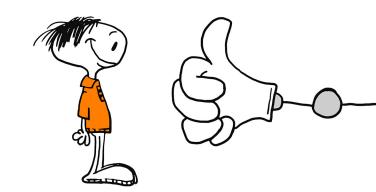
I run right out the door for excitement like no other.



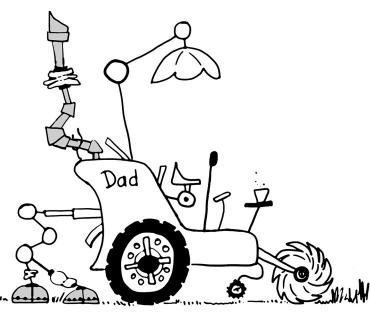


I miss those days though my Dad's still here.

It's amazing, too how his metamorphical machine gets better every year.

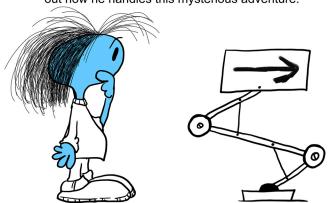


cartoon barrel





Jody Splootch finds a mysterious yet interesting series of arrows near his house. Read on to find out how he handles this mysterious adventure.



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Jody Splootch one day recent found an arrow taped to his hat.

"This is strange," he thought.

"Who would do something like that?"







"I wonder what would happen if I followed the arrow's direction?"



Which he did.

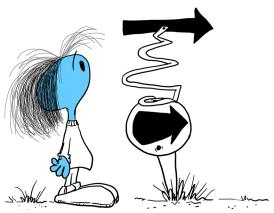
With nearly the greatest of his affection.



So he followed the arrow's intention out into the yard...

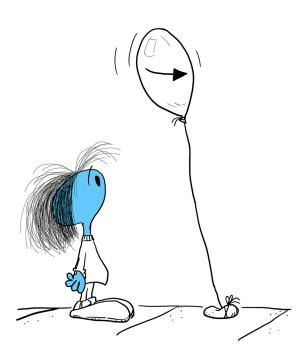
and noticed another one right away...

which wasn't very hard.

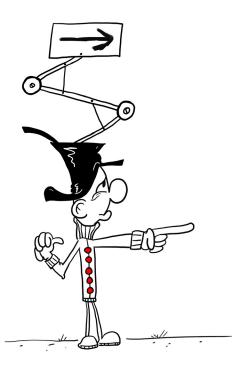


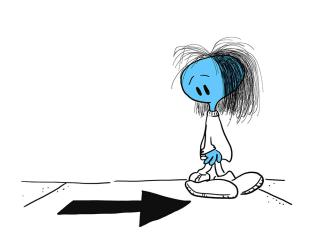
A guy in a hat stood nearby over near the street.











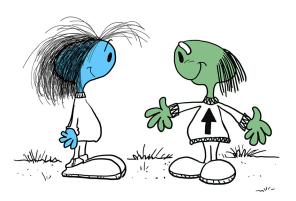
He soon started to wonder about how many more he had.



Until he ended up in his back yard...



Where right there stood his Dad.



Betty's early Holiday

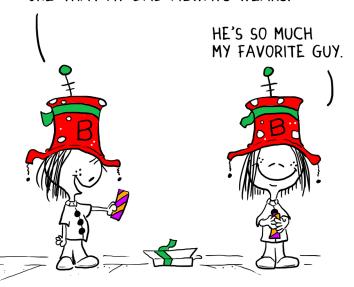
Betty's excited about the holidays so her Mom lets her open two gifts early. Read on and join in her anticipation and a surprise ending.



I DON'T KNOW WHY I PICKED THIS GIFT.
ONE I COULD OPEN THAT MOM DID SAY.
AND DAD DID STATE THAT GREAT THINGS
LIKE ME
ARRIVE IN SMALL PACKAGES EVERY DAY.



WOW! LOOK AT THIS PATTERN AND COLOR. IT REMINDS ME OF A CERTAIN TIE. ONE THAT MY DAD ALWAYS WEARS.



IT LOOKS LIKE THE BABY'S SMILE WHEN I HOLD IT JUST THIS WAY. HE'S HAPPY NEARLY ALL THE TIME. I SWEAR IT GOES ON ALL DAY.





Betty's Mom gave her another gift. The other half of the first one, for sure. "I know that you will love it," she said, "and cherish both gifts a little bit more."



She opened gift number two with much curiosity and care.

Mom and Dad's generosity was obvious.

Their encouragement filled the air.



"My goodness!" she said right away.
"It's fabulous!" she said at first look.
"It is perfectly, exactingly and obviously...
my number one favorite book!"



TO MOM AND DAD I DO TELL.
OVERJOYED I AM VERY NEARLY.
BUT I HAVE TO CONCLUDE WITHOUT
DOUBT WHEN I SAY...
HOW PERFECT IS ALL OF THIS?







It's that time of year for Blorb to scare his good friend Baggy Shirt Guy. Will this be the year he finally succeeds? Read on to find out.

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This is Blorb.

He knows how to morph and change color. He wants to scare his friend Baggy Shirt Guy in one way or another.



They go through this silly tradition at this time every year.

One reads intently while the other makes scare plans that are quite clear.

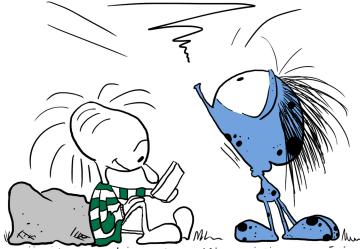


Blorb decided to start off simple. Simple as the color blue. Jump out suddenly in front of him and give him a real loud "BOO!".





a R00000







Not a reaction was heard. Not a twitch or a sound. Baggy Shirt Guy just kept on reading as he sat on the ground.



Nothing... nothing at all, thought Blorb.
Aware of his own puzzled look.
That must be most definately
with ninety nine percent probability
quite a good book.





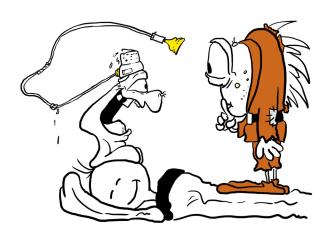


the puddle jumper

Ben sleeps right before it rains. Read on to find out what he does when the rain finally arrives. In a can outside this window lives a monster called Mr. Bluestain. He's a friendly honorary lookout. He lets Ben know when there is rain.



This is Ben the Puddle Jumper.
Right before it rains he sleeps.
His other imaginary monsters know this.
So none of them make a peep.





Ah, yes. A perfect puddle. This is where he'll start. An excellent dance of perfection. A wonderful work of art.

Lots of energy in the next one.
Clomping and stomping and fast.
If you're not paying attention
you might not see him go past...





...and ending up in a puddle as deep as his shoulder.

ELLIE



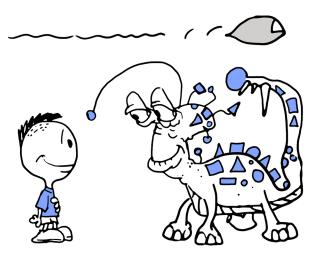
Everyone's back from summer vacation but Ellie is sad. Read on to find out why.

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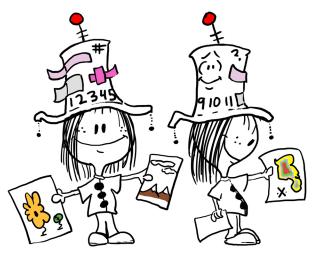
School's back in session and sad is how Ellie does feel. She thinks everyone's summer stories are more exciting than hers. Her feelings are very real.



Billy searched the summer skies for a spaceship with an alien therein. He was hoping for a new kind of pet. One with blue shapes on it's skin.



Betty was in camp all summer. She did hobbies and crafts. Flowers and clouds were her favorites. She even made a couple of maps.

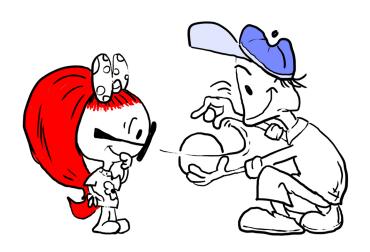


So, what did you do all summer? asked Tamilin Mary McTide. Ellie felt so emarrassed to answer that she wanted to just run and hide.





My Dad and I talked about science a lot.



Butterfly watching and reading some prose.



Hiking and writing with Mom.



She even sneezed a feather right out of her nose.



It dawned on Ellie as she finished her say that everyone's stories were different and good. And it's OK that way.

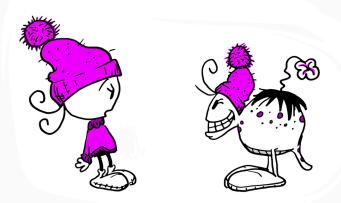


And she liked knowing that not only did she need to be fair to everyone else but she also needed to be fair to herself. And second grade is going to be a good year.





Why does a Loomp visit Lina? Put on your friendship hat and find out.



I once met a Loomp who wasn't very tall.

It also did surprise me, too to see one there at all.





The hat that sat upon her head was Knitted just like mine.

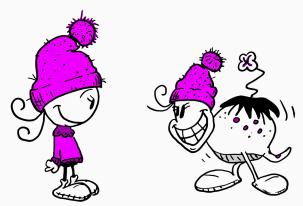
And I hoped she wouldn't eat me which for me would be just fine.





she smiled a little and said hello. friendly and very gracious.

Then I knew this civilized Loomp wasn't from the late Cretaceous.



IT'S FRIENDSHIP I SEARCH... I START RIGHT HERE.





she said with all good intentions.





FRIENDSHIP, IN MY OPINION, IS ONE OF THE GREATEST INVENTIONS.

I'LL HELP YOU LOOK WHEN MY CHORES ARE DONE. I CAN FINISH IN NOTHING FLAT.



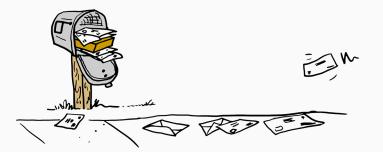


So where can we start to find some new friends?
Perhaps the lady who delivers the mail.
She was right here a minute ago.





I think she went down the lettering trail.



THAT'S OK...WE WON'T GIVE UP! WE'LL FIND YOU A BRAND NEW FRIEND!

I KNOW THAT I WILL HELP YOU...
FIND ONE BY THIS DAY'S END!



JONATHAN IS OUT WITH HIS DAD.

PERHAPS WE'LL SEE HIM ANOTHER TIME.



HE LIKES CREATING VIDEO GAMES... AND HE ALSO LIKES TO RHYME.

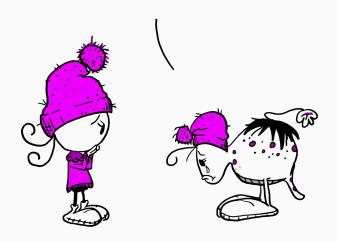


EVERYONE'S BUSY OR NOT AROUND.

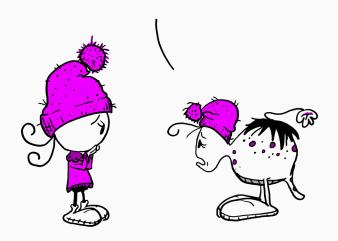
OF THIS WE BOTH CAN SEE.

MAYBE I'LL NEVER FIND ANY FRIENDS.

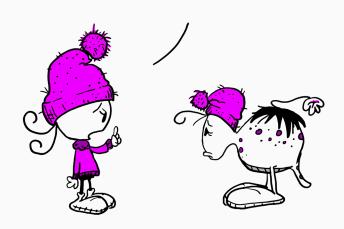
I THINK YOU MIGHT AGREE.



I APPRECIATE YOUR TIME, LINA BUT I THINK I WILL BE GOING. THERE'S NOTHING HERE I CAME FOR. AT LEAST IT IS NOT SHOWING.

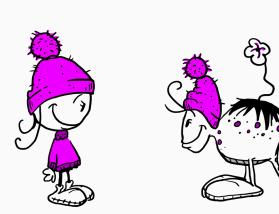


I'M VERY GLAD TO HELP YOU.
YOU'RE WELCOME BACK FOR SURE.
IT'S THE LEAST I CAN DO...
AND YOU KNOW WHAT THEY SAYTHAT'S WHAT FRIENDS ARE FOR.









DOES THIS MAKE YOU A LINALOOMP...

IF I MAY SO ASK?

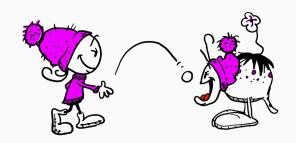


YES INDEED IT DOES, MY NEW FRIEND.

IT IS IN THIS FUN THAT I NOW BASK.



So two new friends
having figured it outplay in the yard with a ball.
It surprises them both
to this very day...
that it really wasn't hard at all.

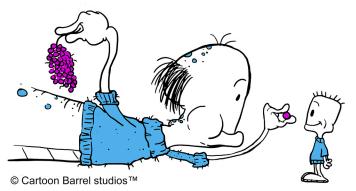




cartoon barrel

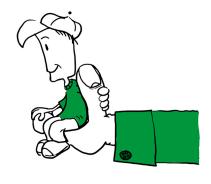


Nate is trying to imagine his Loomp character but each one shares a common trait. Read on to find out what that trait is.

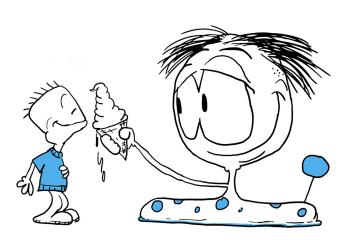


Nate knows that kids in the neighborhood have imaginary friends, so he decided to give it a try and join in the trend.





A Loomp is what these imaginary friends are called. No design is too outrageous. No-one will be appalled.

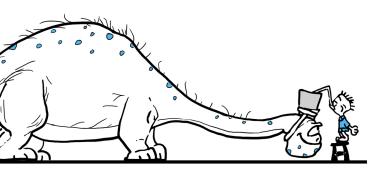


Perhaps it could look like a Quadopuss with a great big plate of lasagna.

He's very very careful and won't get any on ya'.

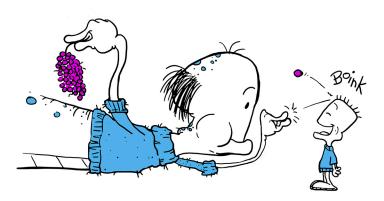


Deloris the Loompasaurus loves to deliver milk shakes. Big ones or small ones half-filled and tall ones. They're all good, for heaven's sake.

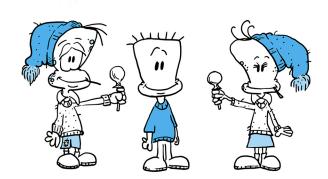


How about a semi-long grape eating Jerry DaLoomp who could eat a whole bunch in one quick Galoomp.





It occurred to Nate that his Loomps were all doing something delicious. When someone asked him to describe it He said it was simply... "Loompalicious".



Penny boy

Penny Boy loves pennies. Even at naptime when he grabs a handful then runs and hides. He thinks it's fun.



This boy loves pennies.
They bring him a lot of joy.
He has a great big jar of them.
They call him Penny Boy.



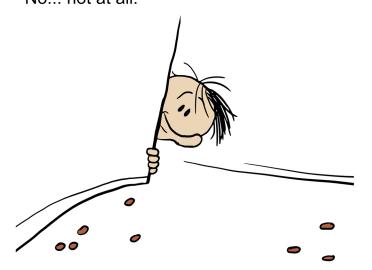
When he grabs a handful and runs... he hides because he thinks it's funny. The game must go on! Even when his nose is runny.



He's convinced that nobody will find him as he runs down the hall.

Even when he takes a peek.

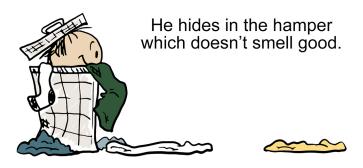
No... not at all.





He runs as fast as a dinosaur all throughout the house. But he is extremely quiet. Quiet as a mouse.





He moves to the next place as fast as he should.



Every day he stops on a dime and realizes the perfect hiding place that works every time.



So, there he goes with a smile on his face as he flies under his blanket. His favorite hiding place.



So, this is the story of Penny Boy. His naptime: the how and when. It's a tradition that won't last forever but tomorrow they'll do it again.





Rosey loves playing in the mud. Her new friend Liz doesn't. Can they still be friends? Read on to find out.



This is Rosey in the Mud.
As a little one she played therein.
Her Mother was shocked and dismayed and undoubtedly filled with chagrin.



After a while Mom didn't mind.
It really was quite harmless.
Many wonderful memories were created.
None of which were charmless.



Now Rosey talks of her mud school.

Beekman is it's name.

All matters of mud fun are encouraged.
There really is no shame.



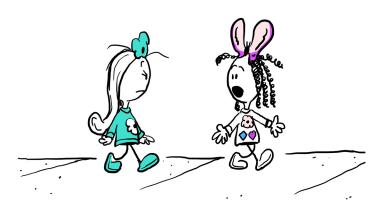
At the mud school she met Liz... who said mud wasn't her favorite thing. She liked playing with water because it always made her sing.



Liz tried to get Rosey to try water.
Saying, "You never know until you try.".
Rosey was so nervous about it
that it almost made her cry.



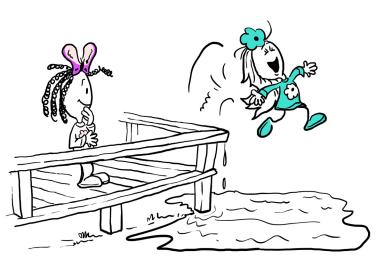
Liz was very helpful.
She told Rosey it's OK if she tries or not.
"Not like jumping in water's OK." she said.
"Whether you know why or forgot."



One day they noticed a puddle off the porch in Liz's yard. Rosey thought of it differently.



Rosey paused for a moment. Then it came to her in a flash! "I think I might like it!" she said, as she jumped in with a splash.



Mix water and dirt...
Best Friends Forever you might get.
Memories that will not fade...
and that is one sure bet.



Robby

the Rolling Robot

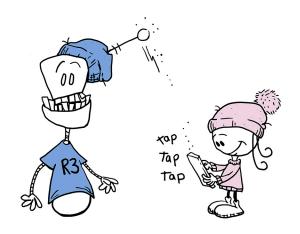


Robby the Rolling
Robot is Lina's
science project that
she brought to
school. Read on
to find out what issues
this kind robot with
artificial intelligence had
in her school.

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This is Robby the Rolling Robot. He's Lina's school science project, it's true.

She's been working on him regularly for about 6 months... plus 2.



Rolling Robby is always polished. Frequent upgrades make him ready.

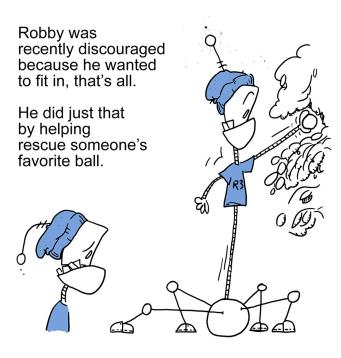
Lina brainstorms about him constantly. Enthusiastically and steady.



He does his work in school when asked and his stories are pretty good.

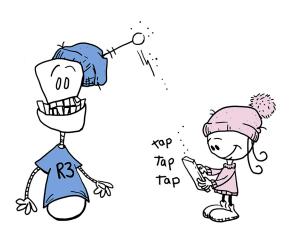
He cooperates with everyone as he knows he should.





Being empathetic, aware and creative and doing his moral best are very important for many reasons.

One of which is passing his Turing test.





Apple Blossom and Lemony Mint's Day Together

Lemony Mint and her little Fairy sister Apple Blossom are going to spend the day together in the forest looking for scents and having fun. Lemony is cautious while Apple Blossom is hyper and carefree. Is this a recipe for fun or disaster? Both, perhaps?





These two Scent Fairy sisters were to spend the day together. Lemony Mint's itinerary was set she even had plans for real bad weather.





FIRST THING I'LL SHOW YOU ARE MINT PLANTS. THEY SOOTHE YOUR MIND AND YOUR THROAT WHEN IT'S ROUGH.



REALLY?
DOES THAT
MEAN IT
HELPS WHEN
I SAY
BAD STUFF?





OK. LET'S GO NOW.
I'M SO HAPPY I
CAN JUST
SING AND
SING AND
SING!



OHHHHHH... MINT MAKES ME THINK AND APPLES GIVE ME ENERGY... LEMONY IS SO THOUGHTFUL WE'RE A TEAM WITH SYNERGY!





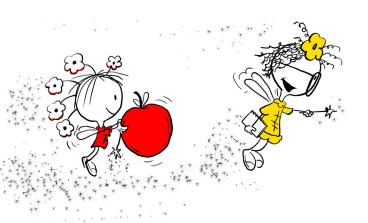


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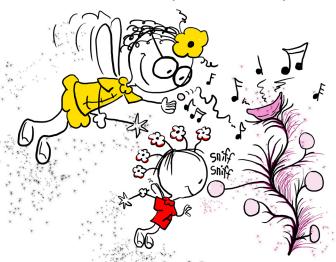




"Now we go down that path..." said Lemony. "The one near that purple and pink little tree." Apple Blossom wasn't far behind carrying an apple given to her by a Blue Singing Bee.



Their day was fun and long. So many scents did they enjoy. Why, Rob the friendly Ogre (who lived six towns over) even told them of a fairy who was a boy.





Hide and find

Palmarina's ready to deliver the first vial of her new scent of Palmerosa and Tangerine to Queen Lauralina but mischievous Sugar Plum Fairy wants to play Hide and Find with it. Palmerina better find it soon or she'll be late.





I'LL BRING IT TO MY MEETING WITH THE QUEEN. BUT FIRST I WILL SHOW IT TO MY GOOD FRIEND. SUGAR PLUM FAIRY WILL LOVE IT. I KNOW IT.



HELLO SUGAR PLUM. LOOK AT MY BRAND NEW SCENT. I WORKED ON IT FOR A LONG TIME.



YES. I WAS WONDERING WHERE YOU WENT.



HEY. HOW ABOUT WE PLAY HIDE AND FIND WITH YOUR VIAL THAT I HAVE RIGHT HERE?



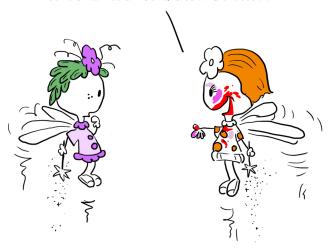
OK. BUT ONLY FOR A MINUTE. DO YOU ASSURE THAT I HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR?



1... 2... 3... 4... 5... 6... 7... 8... DO I HAVE TO WAIT SOME MORE? THIS IS SO MUCH FUN, IT'S GREAT!



I ALSO DO GUESS ABOUT MY VIAL'S LOCATION IS THAT IT'S NOT IN MY MAKEUP CASE. OR NEAR THE COMPUTER STATION.



Palmerosa thought for a moment (which was easy to do) and realized that Sugar Plum fairy is clever. But Palmerosa is pretty smart too.

So Palmerosa told Sugar Plum the funniest joke in all of the Scent Fairy world and though Sugar Plum's laughter was sweet and genuine it came from her heart like a rocket.

And Palmerosa found the vial as it fell out of Sugar Plum's pocket.



These very good friends giggled a bit as they left for the meeting

and agreed as friends do that it was clever and not cheating.

