

Second Place Prose – Elementary School

“Darkside”

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CHAPTER 1

Ziska had been lectured many times about not having contact with humans, she was a demon girl. Many of the people she knew had experiences with humans and they hadn't gone very well. But she was a curious trouble maker, and she had unfortunately run into the police while looking at a human village. Ziska was currently being chased by police officers down the streets of the village with her cat, Demon in her arms. Suddenly, she felt something wrap around her waist and she was yanked into a window, a police officer had done it. Ziska was terrified of what the police would do to her.

But then, he just pulled up his hat that said OFFICER and whispered, “Hey, my name’s Larwing, c’mon, get into my basement to hide.”

Ziska was shocked, “Y-you’re an officer though, aren’t you?”

“No, I’m not. It’s a disguise, just get in the basement.” Larwing said, walking down the stairs.

Ziska followed him. She usually regretted being such a trouble maker.

Larwing shoved her into his basement. “Do whatever you want just don’t be noisy,” he said, walking away.

Ziska flopped on the little bed and sighed. She pulled the blankets over herself and fell asleep.

CHAPTER 2

Larwing happily sipped his hot cocoa, he now had a demon girl and a cat in his basement, but he didn’t mind that much, they probably wouldn’t be in his basement very long anyway. He walked into the basement and set the other mug of cocoa on the little table.

The girl blinked her eyes open, “Oh, good morning, or well...” She glanced at the clock, “I only slept for about an hour,” she said.

“What’s your name anyway?” Larwing asked, sucking a marshmallow out of his cocoa with a straw.

“Oh, I’m Ziska. And my cat’s name is Demon... Uh, I named her when I was 2 years old.”

“Alright then,” Larwing said, “Enjoy your cocoa.” He walked upstairs and watched TV for a little bit.

A bit later, Ziska walked upstairs with the cocoa mug in her hand, “Uh, thanks for helping me.” She said, sipping her cocoa.

Larwing glanced over at her, "Yeah, sure," he said.

Ziska smiled and came to watch TV with him. Demon hopped onto the back of the couch and settled there looking like a loaf of bread.

CHAPTER 3

"I should probably get home soon..." Ziska said.

Larwing shrugged, "Yeah you probably should." He said. "Ya want me to help you get there?"

Ziska smiled at him, "Sure."

"We'll probably need to go at night." Larwing said, "We'll be harder to see and not many people will be awake," he added.

Ziska nodded.

"We'll have to wait a few hours" Larwing said, adding more marshmallows into his cocoa.

After they watched TV for a bit, Larwing went to make some mac and cheese for dinner and Ziska made them little friendship necklaces using things she found in the house. After they ate dinner, it was time to leave.

"C'mon, Ziska, we should get going now."

They went out onto the porch and hurried on their way.

"I'm gonna check ahead, alright?" Larwing said, hurrying forward. Suddenly, Ziska saw a light in the distance, it was coming her way.

CHAPTER 4

Larwing hurried back to where Ziska was waiting for him, to see she was cornered.

"Leave her alone," Larwing stated.

"What are you thinking kid, go home, you shouldn't be messing with police," an officer said.

"I'm thinking you should leave her alone; she's just going home. She's harmless," continued Larwing, "She stayed in my house overnight, and she's my friend now, too. C'mon Ziska, we should get going." He walked off; Ziska hurried over.

The policemen just had puzzled looks on their faces.

"I live this way," Ziska said, making a turn.

They walked into the forest. They were nearing Ziska's home. Larwing knew he would probably get in trouble at home, and back at her home Ziska might get in trouble, but at least they were ok.

"We're almost there," Ziska said.

They continued walking and soon they reached the entrance to Ziska's home.

"Here we are!" Ziska said, "Thanks Larwing." She wrapped her arms around him, and Larwing let himself hug her back.

“You know,” he said, “I guess I fell to the darkside, but it’s not that bad.”

Ziska smiled and she and her cat hurried inside, and Larwing returned to his own home. He felt like he did something good, even if other people didn’t think he had, Larwing knew they were wrong.