



WE'RE EXCITED TO SHARE OUR 2ND YA ZINE WITH YOU. THIS SUMMER OUR SUMMER LEARNING CHALLENGE THEME WAS "ALL TOGETHER NOW" - WE DECIDED TO USE THIS THEME TO CENTER OUR ZINE AROUND.

I HOPE YOU ENJOY THESE AMAZING SUBMISSIONS FROM OUR TEENS. THANK YOU FOR READING OUR ZINE!

MONIKA, YOUTH SERVICES LIBRARIAN

MY NAME IS KRISTA HOWELL AND I AM A TEEN SERVICES ASSISTANT AT THE MAIN LIBRARY IN ROCK HILL, MYSELF AND MY COLLEAGUES ARE SO PLEASED TO PRESENT THE 2ND EDITION OF THE YAZINE. THIS IS SUCH A UNIQUE WAY OF BEING ABLE TO SHOWCASE THE CREATIVITY OF OUR LOCAL TEENS.

THIS EDITION INCLUDES SAMPLES OF COLLABORATIVE STORYTELLING. THIS WAS STARTED IN THE TEEN AREA AT THE MAIN LIBRARY - WE LEFT OUT PAPER WITH ONE SENTENCE WRITTEN ON THE TOP, AND ANY TEEN WHO STOPPED BY COULD ADD WHATEVER THEY WANTED TO IT. SOME DID A SENTENCE, AND SOME WROTE MULTIPLE SENTENCES, BUT NONE OF THESE STORIES ARE WRITTEN BY JUST ONE PERSON!

> OUR TEENS AS MUCH AS WE DO! KRISTA, TEEN SERVICES ASSISTANT









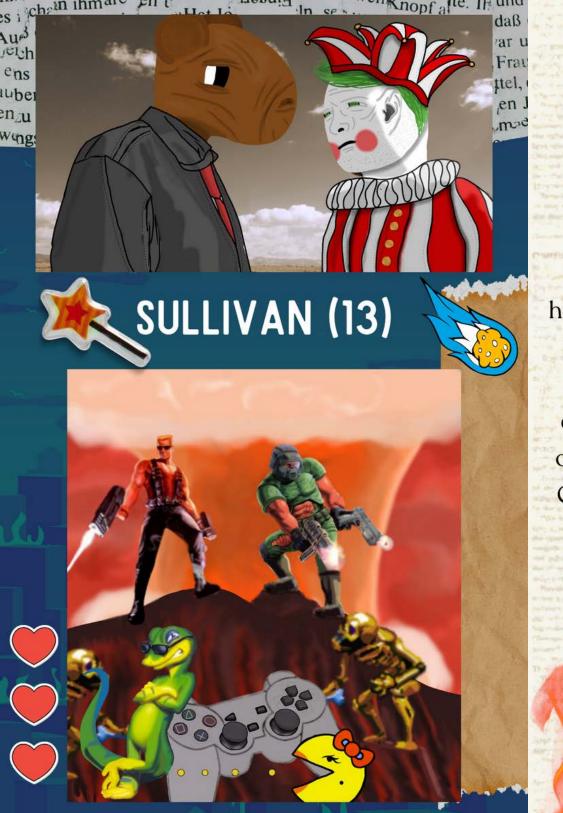
## COLLABORATIVE STORY

THE HOUSE ON THE HILL STOOD LONELY AND DERELICT....

ALMOST AS IF IT WANTED TO BE ISOLATED FROM THE REST OF THE WORLD. THE GHOST WANDERED THE DANK AND LONELY HALLS SEEKING THE DARKNESS OF THE FOREST BEYOND THE HILLS. IT NEEDED SOULS TO FEED ON - THE SOULS OF THE RATS THAT INHABITED THE HOUSE WERE NOT ENOUGH, HE NEEDED HERS. THE ONE WHO MADE HIM, CURSED HIM, SO THAT HE MAY NEVER LEAVE THE SHADOWS IN THE HOUSE.



BUT THERE WAS ONE EXCEPTION - THEY HAD TO TAKE ITS FORM IN A HUMAN BODY.





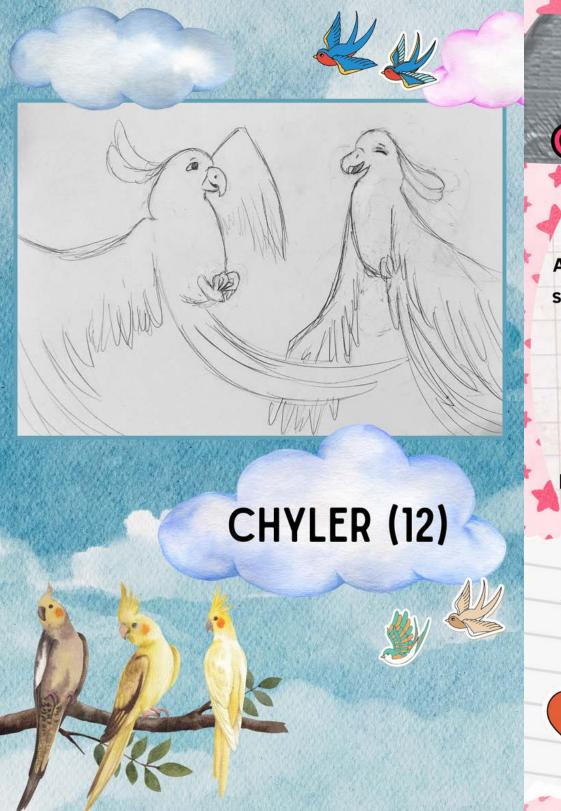
## It had been the happiest day of his life.....

When he turned around and saw someone had abilities like his - the power to change the story you are reading right now.

Lightning struck the building and fire was everywhere. He said his life is over, but then out of nowhere came YCL, the best library in Charlotte. "OMG" I said and then everything went absolutely silent and dark.

All you could hear was my shallow voice.







As our eyes met across the busy cafe tables, I was struck with the feeling that I already knew her.....

That's when it hit me, those beautiful, hazel like eyes sparkling in the light along the beach as our toes get covered in sand and water. This was the person I had been having dreams about my whole life. Should I speak to her? What would I say? I looked around, then took off my apron, walking up to her, fidgeting nervously. "Hello".

I open my eyes and there she was, as beautiful as ever. Her sky blue eyes and her ebony skin. The warm fluttering sensation in my heart, the rhythm of music my heart was making; I knew what this was. She looks up at me with her beautiful blue

eyes, "Can I help you?" she says.

"Oh no I was just uh..." I studdered.









and the world went black.....

Next I awoke in a world of magic that you could only dream of; is this real?

Nope, it was definitely real. I first go to the town, to ask questions about this wondrous and whimsical place. As I walk into the town, the people turn to stare at me. Are they even human?

As I get closer, I see their faces have no features -

As I get closer, I see their faces have no features their faces were completely blank!

I approach a young woman (at least what I assumed to be a young woman, seeing as how they have no features) "Excuse me", I manage as politely as possible. She turned around and blankly stared at me. "Do you know where I am?" I said, trying to sound confident. If I tried to sound confident enough, at least maybe it would seem believable. She made a surprised cry and said "You're not one of us!", she says, seeming shocked.



She grabbed my wrist and pulled me in between two buildings - a bakery and a dress store.

"Who are you?", she demands.

"Umm Kori Li?" I hesitate.

"You are female, correct?" she asked as her long, dark hair blew in the wind.

"Last time I checked, yes."

"Come" she says, pulling me along. "Edward!" she hisses to the shadows in an ally.

A boy a bit older than me emerges from the shadows but he's wearing a mask like the blank faces of the inhabitants.

"I found her! She's like you!"



The boy removes his mask and his dark hair blows in his face. He's handsome.

"It's you, you're the one from the story!" he says, surprised.

"Me, oh no, no I don't...."

"You haven't heard that our world is in danger" the girl says as Edward's smile fades.

"Our world is in danger?" he asks aggressively. "How could we let this happen?" he shouted.









## CAMP IN GEORGIA: BRINGING MILITARY KIDS TOGETHER

for the past two summers. I have had the opportunity to attend a camp in Georgia that brings military kids together to communicate and bond with one another. The camp, which lasts for six or seven days, provides a unique opportunity for us to connect with other military children who share similar experiences and challenges. "We're all part of one big family." I remember one of my fellow campers saying. The weather at the camp can vary greatly, with some days bringing rain and thunderstorms while others are burning hot. "I remember one day it was so hot we all jumped in the lake to cool off." I recalled from last year. The activities at the camp are diverse and engaging, ranging from canoeing and raft racing to archery and shotgun shooting. In the evenings, we gather around the campfire to make s'mores and participate in mini games that focus on teamwork. Sports such as basketball and volleyball are also popular, as well as fishing and hiking.

The camp provides a safe and supportive environment for us military kids to come together and share our experiences. "I never knew there were so many kids like me." I remember thinking, reflecting on the sense of community I found at the camp. Through the various activities and challenges, we learn to communicate effectively and work together as a team. "We all have each other's backs," another camper added laughing. The bonds formed at the camp can last a lifetime, providing us with a

sense of belonging and understanding.

In addition to the physical activities, the camp also offers opportunities for personal growth and development. We are encouraged to share our stories and experiences with one another, providing a supportive space for us to express our emotions and feelings. "It's like a weight has been lifted off my shoulders," I remember feeling after sharing my story with my peers. The counselors at the camp are trained to provide guidance and support to us children, helping us navigate any challenges we may face.

In conclusion, the camp in Georgia has been a successful endeavor for me for the past two summers, bringing military kids together to communicate and bond with one another. Through the diverse range of activities and challenges, we learn valuable skills and form lasting friendships. "I can't wait to come back next year," I said as I hugged my new friends goodbye. The camp provides a unique opportunity for military kids like me to connect with others who share similar experiences and challenges.

**AMIYA (16)** 



