First Place Prose - Elementary School

The Rage of the Dragon By: Calista Hoeksema

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The mutated snail climbed a pineapple tree deep in the forest of the Angered Dragon. Suddenly a possessed monkey jumped up and hit him with an eyeball from his ear. The mutated snail fell to the earth and his shell cracked on the coral. The possessed monkey took the dead snail up to the fire cave and presented him as an offering to the Angered Dragon. The snail disappeared and a pile of tokens appeared in his place. The possessed monkey sighed with relief. The dragon accepted his offering of the week. The monkey gathered his tokens and flew home.

In the dragon's chambers, the dragon's captives bowed to the Angered Dragon as he prowled into the room. The captives included a mutated penguin, a possessed falcon, and a demon squirrel. These were just a few of the animals who had failed to make offerings each week. He was more violent to some. He blasted them off the face of the earth or he banished them to the desert of the possessed scorpion camels. Others who especially disgusted the dragon were brought to the chamber of the demon ax grinding wasp.

"The monkey barely made the time" the Angered Dragon bellowed. "The scorpion camels are hungry" he said and looked over to a quivering koala in the back of the cave. The koala was one out of a few animals who was not affected by the curse of the demons. The koala had not given his offering and was very afraid. "Take him away" the Angered Dragon said to the guardian flying lions. "NO!" the koala screamed. "Have mercy on me!" His pleas echoed through the cave and they heard the last scream ten times louder as he was banished to the desert.

"Anyone else?" the Angered Dragon said and yelled an evil yell as his stone heart beat wildly with anger. The whole mountain shook as the dragon laughed his horrid laugh. He went into his central chamber with a smile of pride and rage. The dragon had his robot slave get him some lava ready for bathing.

Down in the forest was a fight for life if you were a small animal. Many animals had been abandoned by their families. Possessed snails to mutated lizards were murdered left and right as the animals frantically tried to make offerings to the dragon before it was too late. Today was the last day and only one more hour of it. If you were a monkey, you would have to worry about finding an offering and trying not to become one for a bigger animal.

But the next day would be Sunday, the Day of Redemption. An angel would come down and choose a faithful animal and cure him of his demon. The angel would also help to repopulate the forest to attain it back to its natural beauty. She would do this by planting more trees, flowers, and biobuds. The biobuds

would grow into healthy forest creatures. But this Sunday was special. Every faithful animal would be healed. This special day would be called The All Time Healing.

All of the animals eagerly awaited this day. The dragon did too. He wanted regular servants just like every other great tyrant ruler. It was a wonderful day in the future. The next day at 11:30, all the possessed animals started to gather around to await the angel's presence. Even the Angered Dragon's servants came to be cured. At 12:00 all the animals covered their eyes as a blinding flash shone through all the forest.

A pale spirit floated down to the earth in the form of a red panda. "Greetings" she said to the circle of animals. "I grant you freedom from your possessors" she sang in her silky voice as she waved her magical paws. The animals each were brought up in a fluffy cloud as the transformation took place. After the renewal, the animals were brought back down. They looked and felt different. Shouts of joy were heard all throughout the circle. Nobody had a frown.

Meanwhile, the dragon waited for his servants to come back, but they never did. The demon that had tortured them had forced them to worship the dragon. The demon left, so they were free.

The dragon's rage grew twenty times and his eyes boiled a dark red. He exploded out of the cave soared over the forest, fire spewing out of his mouth. The angel saw this and flew over to where the dragon was. "This means WAR!" the Angered Dragon bellowed. "As you wish", the angel said calmly. It wasn't much of a battle because the angel just waved her shimmering paws and he was gone. He was banished onto the small moon Calbana. The only neighbors he would have were toxic gas whales.

The forest was in celebration. The jolly animals renamed their forest The Forest of Chances. Everyone could not stop cheering. It was wonderful, for now.....