

The Monstrous Water Beast

by William Tirado

There were no clouds to tarnish my day. A gentle wind wafted across the rolling waves that caressed my sun burned feet. The tranquility of the day did not reveal the pounding of my heart as I eagerly fought the monster at the end of my line. It tugged and pulled my line as I squirmed in the murky water approximately thirty feet in front of me. As I jerked the rod, the oyster bed that I was standing on cut into the flimsy bottoms of my flip-flops, and my arm muscles burned as I struggled to hold onto the rod with slippery, sweaty hands. Sweat leisurely traveled down my face into my eyes as I attempted to keep the unknown monster from escaping. My mind was racing, my feet were bleeding, my hands were blistered, and my eyes were blind from sweat. Who would win? Would it escape? Would I bring it in? Would I lose the line? What was it?

An Embarrassing Moment

by Rachel Rice

Coming in the door of the classroom on the first day of school, the teenager tripped and fell with his heavy backpack on him. His professor walked into the classroom. He saw the student crying under his backpack. All of the students were laughing, so the professor told them to quiet down and help him get up.

The next day at school his friends were telling everyone what had happened and he was getting teased. He saw a flyer telling everyone that he had fallen and started crying. The teen got upset and went home.

That dark night he went to his room and started crying, again. His family came home from dinner and his mother said, "Someone's crying upstairs". Everyone immediately went upstairs to see who it was. They saw it was their son or sibling. Comforting him with hugs, they wanted to know what had happened. He told them that his friends were teasing him and making fun of him. His mom immediately called the school and told them what happened. The students were sent to the dean the next day and had to apologize. He forgave them but was still uncomfortable to be around them.

Books

by Sam Buchwalter



Some appear skinny and feel quite light
Others hefty and thick with voluminous ink
Some are leaning left or right

Wood on the shelves all filled with kinks
Novels, mysteries and horror all crammed in tight
Stories of polar bears, ice bergs, and lynx

Standing selecting a spine for the night
nugget of life to make your mind think
Choosing with skepticism fraught with delight

In the midst of a scene in the desert, you drink
The tiger's eye gives you a fright
In a dark wet jungle you sink

Oblivious to the bus, the horn, or the train
You're there, in a storm, and hear only the rain