



JUL - OCT 2025

YOUNG CHRISTIAN WRITER

Winning
Poetry
Cartoons

New Writing
Competition -
Win Prizes

Young Writer
Interview

SHORT STORY:
GIANT CAT

A magazine of NZ Christian Writers

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YOUNG CHRISTIAN WRITER MAGAZINE

Young Christian Writer is our student magazine published three times a year by NZ Christian Writers.

WRITING SUBMISSIONS:

Send us your writing to be published in our November 2025-February 2026 magazine

Email Kathryn:

ycwmag@nzchristianwriters.org

Submissions need to be a maximum of 500 words and emailed as a Word Document attachment.

Next deadline is 10 October 2025.

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Welcome to our Jul-Oct 2025 edition of *Young Christian Writer* magazine. This brand-new edition features awesome articles, creative competitions and wonderful words to inspire your gift in writing. As you may know, *Young Christian Writer* magazine is published three times a year. Our primary goal is to give young writers encouragement and inspiration, plus a space to share their own writing with our members.

Have you ever thought there's a book within you waiting to be written? It can all begin with some inspiration and a desire to share a story. Your words can inspire, bring life and change the world around you. Right now, a writing revival is happening! Never before have so many Christians been called to write and release books through their words and stories. New writers are being published; having been prepared their whole lives for such a time as this. Every week new books are published to bring hope and healing. You too can be that writer!

Thanks again to Kathryn Paul who does an amazing job as our magazine editor, plus Mavis McCombie who has kindly contributed her artwork to this magazine's front cover. Thank you, Kathryn and Mavis!

PRESIDENT'S

NOTE:



Write on, from Justin

EDITOR'S NOTE:



*With love in Jesus Christ,
from Kathryn*

No one is too young to be a writer. As soon as you can tell a story, either true or from your imagination – you're a writer. Now you just have to get the story from your head into readable text.

To be published means you've made your piece of writing available in text format somewhere for the public to read or be heard. There are many ways to do this. First, ask yourself, *Who are the people I'm writing for?* Think about their age, language, culture and what they like to read. Next you need to figure out where you will find your readers. How will your readers find you?

Choosing to have a writing career means learning how to get published and receive payment for your work. For fun, do a job search on TradeMe or Seek, for all of New Zealand, use the keyword 'writer' and see what writing-related paid jobs pop up. One that won't pop up is 'book author' because that's self-employed income. Although there are many books being published in New Zealand, only a small percentage of book authors are earning a living from it. It's not impossible, but it is a challenge.

It's important to keep writing, learning, training and practising. To be the best at something you have to put in the time. Pray to God for Him to help you and write regularly. He will help you become the best you can be.



Featuring Young Writer, Taylor Foster

1. Hi Taylor, how long have you been a 'young Christian writer'?

I've been a member of New Zealand Christian Writers since 2022 and have been contributing to *Young Christian Writer* on and off since then. I have been writing for a long time. I remember, when I was young, maybe 11 or 12, wanting to write stories with my family and share them together. Then, as I got older, I wrote other stories as part of school. But, it was probably in 2020/2021 with a great English teacher in my

correspondence school that I really got into writing and thought I can actually do this. Writing about God and with him as my inspiration just flowed naturally out of it all.

2. Can you share with us some of your writing achievements?

I have been blessed to place in and win many of the NZ Christian Writers competitions in their main magazine since 2022. I have also featured in the *Young Christian Writer* magazine with some of my stories. My most recent win was in the latest *Young Christian Writer's* competition; a short story with a message/theme based on the fruits of the spirit. Also, my children's stories have featured in the New Zealand Christian magazine *Māori Postal Aotearoa*.

I have quite a few first drafts of things on my computer including a picture book text and an early reader/middle grade story/manuscript about time travel. I also have many half-written stories and ideas.

3. What is your favourite genre in which you like to write?

I enjoy writing so many different genres. Fantasy was one of the first ones I loved to write. I love creating whole worlds, characters with depth and interesting plot lines. Also, I enjoy writing children's stories, short stories with key messages, historical, devotionals and Christian/faith-based stories.

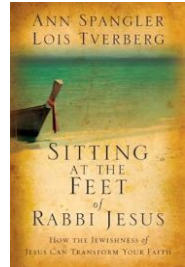
One genre that I write in frequently is personal musings/reflections about God. I don't really know what genre this is yet as it isn't poetry or stories. They can be born out of experiences in my day or just ideas from my mind. I love creating lyrical phrases, expressing deep emotions and wondering what God would say about it all.

4. What are some of your writing aspirations for the future?

I would love to produce my own books, including a children's fiction series about time travel and history, picture books (I have many different ideas in this category!) and maybe an early reader/chapter book series too. One day I hope to write my personal story of my life and Jesus, and the things I've gone through. Also, maybe putting together some of these musings/reflections into a little book would be amazing too. I feel like I have so many ideas, aspirations and hopes and sometimes don't know what to do with it all! But, I know that it will all come together one day even if it's daunting now.

5. Who are some of your favourite Christian authors?

I've really enjoyed reading some of Max Lucado's books about God and Lois Tverberg's non-fiction book *Sitting at the Feet of Rabbi Jesus*. Jonathan Renshaw is a brilliant writer, creating the self-published fantasy novel *Dawn of Wonder*. I also enjoyed the *DragonKeeper Chronicles Series* by Donita K Paul (a fantasy series for young adults).



6. Tell us a bit more about your journey as a Christian writer.

I have had a big journey. Sometimes I don't really know where to begin. I was at a normal school until I was 15 where I dabbled with writing just as a school thing or for fun. Then, after some difficulty at school and losing my way trying to fit in, I transitioned to home-schooling. During this time, I came back to Jesus. And, he was right there waiting, arms open wide. He took me on a deep healing journey of the broken parts inside of me. While I was with Te Kura (the correspondence school I was part of) an English teacher set up a creative writing online group. I remember being terrified of joining up, but my mum encouraged me that I could do it. So, I joined up. It was a wonderful group where the teacher gently encouraged me every week. It was here that I started writing properly and the journey I was walking with Jesus started eking into my writing. I am still so thankful for that teacher and that beginning.

Since then and since leaving school, I have continued to write. I write whatever ideas interest me or when inspiration takes hold. Sometimes it's a struggle and I don't think anything I write is good or I've got no ideas and other times it's a delight.

7. What have been some of your favourite books growing up?

Growing up I loved the *Geronimo Stilton Series* and any good picture books. But, I'll let you know, I am still a massive reader and fan of middle grade novels today! It is really the main genre I read! I love *Anne of Green Gables* by L M Montgomery, *The Land of Stories Series* by Chris Colfer, *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* by Jeff Kinney, *The Dragonfly Pool* and *The Star of Kazan* by Eva Ibbotson, *Winnie the Pooh* by A A Milne and Katherine Rundell's novels. I am a big fan of children's classic books. I just can never get over the heart-warming, community based, peaceful feeling they have. And, also a special mention to Herge's *Tintin* graphic novels.

8. Is there anything else you'd like to share to encourage our *Young Christian Writer* magazine readers?

You are enough. You are wonderful, beautiful and loved by God. No matter what you write, if you think it's good or not, if you feel successful or not, God is proud of you and every single thing that you write. You have wonderful things to tell and to share, never be ashamed of them.

Also, don't forget to enjoy yourself and have fun! Write whatever you love. Don't be too hard on yourself or beat yourself up if you don't think things are perfect. You are worthy regardless of what you write. And, never forget, no matter what, Jesus loves you and is very, very proud of you.

Childlike by Taylor Foster

When I call God Papa, my whole world leaps for joy. I see that child gripping onto their Papa's hand as they walk down the street. I see them running while Papa laughs with his head tossed back, shoulders rolling up and down. They play games together, eat ice creams, swim in the sea. They're reading together, watching movies together, running across fields together. I also see them crying; Papa holding onto the child tight as it weeps for something it doesn't understand. He steadies the child as it takes slow steps into somewhere new, gripping onto Papa for support.

Papa is the only safe place. The only place who knows you well. The only place where love and friendship meet. And Papa is not stern. He isn't strict or mean. He's not angry or impatient. He is kind; he is fun. He's the wild kind who wants to push you in the swing, wants to share a chocolate bar with you. He's the kind who will make you a daisy chain, watch bugs with you, colour in with you. We're all just children in his holy sight.

So, let us not grow old. Let us not grow slow or ancient. Let us not leave behind the childlikeness of our youth. Let us not forget what it feels like to be wild. Let's not become stern and heavy. Let us not grow up; disappear behind a façade of wisdom and age. Let's carry this child-heart for all eternity. Papa is waiting, Papa is ready. He loves your childlikeness.

Papa is ready on the living room dance floor, boogieing to the groove. He's ready on the snow hill with the sled. He's picking flowers and is at the beach with his bucket and shovel. Papa is laughing at all your jokes. He's ready to join the march with the baton stick and he's already drawn out the hopscotch. Papa's made a mud pie, one's just in the oven. He has gumboots on, ready to jump in the puddles.

The sight is one to behold; one of profound beauty and innocence. And when the child joins him, it is complete. For Papa God is young, never too old for us. Let us never be too old for our Papa.

Poetry Competition Results

The instructions for the poetry competition in the Mar-June 2025 YCW magazine were:

- Write a poem about a Bible person or a Bible event. This can be any style of poetry. For example, it could be rhyming or a haiku or limerick, etc.
- Give your poem a title.

Congratulations to all who entered. Nine poems were received and they all scored high marks.

Poems were judged on the following:

1. Rhythm pattern
2. Flow
3. Rhyming if applicable
4. Presentation/layout for the type of poetry used
5. Creativity
6. Christian theme
7. Title
8. Followed all competition instructions
9. Effect on reader – drama, emotion, humour etc
10. Managed to convey the Bible message, story or character

Here are the results:

Senior Division: **First place** - Keziah Alexander,
Second place – Kalasia Ifopo

Junior Division: **First place** – Tavita Ifopo,
Second place – Isamina Ifopo.

Zacchaeus was a Little Man ⁸

Based off Luke 19:1-10

by Keziah Alexander

Age 16, from Napier

**SENIORS:
First Place**

Zacchaeus was a little man
And little was he liked
The crowds threw boos and jeers at him
When into town he hiked

For when Zack collected taxes
(Which the Jewish people spurned)
He'd charge a little extra
Getting rich through coins they'd earned

Now Jesus came to Jericho
One dry and dusty day
Zacchaeus joined the thronging crowd
To see him pass their way

"I've heard great things about this man
Are they true?" Zacchaeus thought
So he leapt up high to get a peep
Alas, he was too short

The people wouldn't move for him
They hedged their shoulders tight
So Zacky climbed a sycamore
—He couldn't miss this sight

There, perched amid the branches
Zacky hoped he wouldn't fall
But now his view was clear; the crowd
Could never grow this tall

The Teacher's form strode into view
And Zack's heart skipped a beat
As Jesus strode along and stopped
Beneath his dangling feet.

"I must eat at your house today
Zack, hurry and come down!"
Amazed that Jesus knew his name
Zack scrambled to the ground

Joy lit his heart—how great a man
Had asked to dine with *him!*
But then his neighbour grumbled, "Sir!
You must forsake this whim!"

"See, this man collects our taxes,
And he cheats us every time
I am sorry, but the fact is
You can't go with him to dine.

"You might ask any one of us
To take you home for dinner
At least, Lord, don't degrade yourself
With that money-snitching sinner."

Zack's gaze dropped to his sandals
For his neighbour spoke the truth
And any member of the crowd
Could testify with proof

Of his guilt—and yet his heart cried out
He wanted life anew!
That's why he'd climbed the tree, but now—
Oh, what would Jesus do?

But Jesus only smiled and said,
Eyes locked on Zacky's face
"No, *Zack* is hosting lunch today,
I'm eating at *his* place."

Jesus looked at him and winked
Zack felt his heart at rest
He said, "Pray, Jesus, come with me,
I'll serve you up the best."

So when the evening meal was done
And the dishes cleared from table
Zack climbed a chair to see the room
Speaking loud as he was able

"Behold O Lord, I halve my goods
With the poor whose coins I've hoarded
And four times over I repay
Each man whom I defrauded.

"I won this wealth through greedy gain
Thinking money thwarted strife
But now I give because no coin
Can buy Eternal Life."

Jesus smiled and stood and said
"Behold a great Salvation
Today has come upon this house
Be filled with jubilation!

For to ransom many sinners
God has sent a spotless Lamb
To seek and save the lost
Like this Son of Abraham."

A Plot, a Queen and God in Between

by Kalasia Ifopo

Age 16, from Tasman

SENIORS:
Second Place

There was a time in the world's greatest Book,
When a rich, powerful king said, 'Look!
My wife is the best, officials, I'll show you!'
But the queen refused; it was something she
wouldn't do.

King Xerxes was mad, as mad as can be,
'She will be punished – you will see!'
Queen Vashti was banished (sent away),
The king was happy, after that day.

But soon he began to regret it,
To please him it took them an effort.
Till someone suggested a thought –
'Why don't you order to be brought,

Girls from near and far and wide,
For you to choose and become your bride?'
So it happened and many came,
Not one of those girls was the same.

One of them far excelled the others,
One who had no mother, no brothers.
Esther was this pretty girl's name,
She had a big part to play in this game.

And when at last the king set his eyes on her,
(This was after her six-month treatment of
myrrh),
He was so attracted by her beauty,
That he went ahead and did his duty.

He placed the royal crown upon her head,
Now it's Queen Esther, not Vashti, instead!
And so the king threw a banquet all round,
He proclaimed a holiday throughout the town.

Now there are two men in this story not
mentioned yet –
Mordecai, who raised Esther, and Haman, who
was set,
On a plot to wipe out the race of Jews.
If this was nowadays, it's be on the news!

This wicked Haman set a terrible law,
After a certain date, Jews would be no more.
But he had reckoned without Esther.
Maybe God just wanted to test her!

Then Mordecai to Esther said:
'You must do something – soon we'll be dead!
Perhaps you have come to this royal position,'
(This next is from the Bible, with no
omission),

'For such a time as this?'
What a thought to reminisce!
'I'll see the king,' said Esther, 'At least I'll
try,'
(To see him without permission – she could
die!)

But she didn't need to worry though.
The king saw her and asked to bestow,
Any gift upon her that she could think.
'Will you come to my rooms to eat and drink?'

Was Esther's reply to his generous offer.
Now nothing in the world was going to stop
her!

Esther also gave Haman a place;
Boy! the pride showed plainly on his face!

It was the third time the king asked her,
That she told him what her requests were.
'Grant me my life – this is my petition,'
(These words should be in any edition).

'And spare my people – this is my request.'
King Xerxes was furious – and distressed.
'Who is this man?' the king demanded,
'Show him to me,' he commanded.

'This vile Haman!' Esther exclaimed,
There it was – the wicked had been named!
Now the story doesn't actually end here,
But suffice to say there was no more to fear.

The king ordered Haman to be hung,
And throughout the city songs were sung.
For God had saved His people once more,
Through Esther who started off so poor,
But was raised to the highest place on earth,
And gave that position all she was worth.
So the wicked perish and the righteous
survive,
Because in God's great and true Book, all
good things thrive.

The Darkest Day

by Tavita Ifopo

Age 10, from Tasman

10

**JUNIORS:
First Place**

The sky darkens as
the last breath of Christ Jesus
softly fades away

A Miracle

by lasamina Ifopo

Age 8, from Tasman

**JUNIORS:
Second Place**

The Sea of Galilee shimmers in the sun
Jesus teaches the crowd in the cool breeze
Time passes by quickly
Soon they will need food
Jesus says, "Is there any food to be eaten?"
No, nowhere to be found
One small boy has some food
Five barley loaves and two fishes
Given to Jesus
Jesus blesses the food
He shares it between five thousand
That was a miracle

Noah and the Ark

by Samuel Broughton

Age 15, from Christchurch



**Highly
Commended**

Noah was righteous and true,
He did what God told him to do,
He built a big ark,
despite smart remarks,
and survived the flood, Ya-hoo!

Water into Wine

by Penina Ifopo

Age 15, from Tasman



**Highly
Commended**

Jesus' first miracle was turning water into wine,
You can read it for yourself in John 2 verse nine.
Jesus, his mother and disciples were invited to a wedding,
When the wine was all gone, Jesus' mother approached him, pleading.
"They have no more wine." (Meaning, what can you do?)
Perhaps she knew he could perform a miracle or two.
He replied "Woman, why involve me? My time has not yet come."
But maybe he thought to himself "I'll see what can be done."
His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you."
Nearby stood large jars; Jesus told them to fill a few.
The servants filled the ceremonial jars with water to the brim.
Jesus said, "Draw some out and for the master and take it to him."
The master tasted the water that had been turned into wine,
He thought it was of the best quality and tasted just fine.
The master called the bridegroom and said in surprise,
"You've saved the best till last! That was very wise!"
Jesus' first miraculous sign was performed in Galilee,
With many more to follow that others were to see.

Simon Peter: A Disciple Journey¹²

by Taylor Foster

Age 21, from Tauranga

Highly
Commended

Simon

The man with “fisherman” as his trade,
Works with his brother just to be paid.
His wife’s mother is fading away,
From a deathly illness.

The man who heard the Christ on the shore,
Yelled for joy as his nets tore.
Overwhelmed with fish, he threw down his oar
To become a fisher of men.

The man who witnessed the “Little Girl” rise,
Shook his head as the bread multiplied.
The one who felt tears come to his eyes,
As the lame man walked.

Peter

The man who knew Jesus as The Son
So, walked on water toward that One.
But as he sunk, water engulfed his lungs
When Jesus reached and saved him.

The man who said for Jesus he’d die
Then denied he knew Him just to get by.
Who sobbed as dawn overcame the sky
As Jesus was led to his death.

The man who returned to fishing again
To try and avoid the weight of his shame
The one who received true grace that day
When Jesus appeared on the shore

Simon Peter

The man who’d heard the words “follow me”
And learnt on the way what they really did mean.
The one who Jesus would never let be
Hidden from His sight,
For He loved him with all His might
And drew him close to Him with His light,
For His disciples are His delight.



13 NON-FICTION WRITING COMPETITION

PRIZES: \$50 FIRST PLACE
\$30 SECOND PLACE

Instructions:

- Describe a hobby or pastime you enjoy doing, showing what materials, tools and expertise or training you need.
- Describe how God can use this skill for you to help others.
- Optional: Include one photo that helps illustrate your article.
- Minimum three paragraphs. (A paragraph needs to be more than one sentence.) Maximum 500 words.
- Give your article an attention-grabbing title.
- Include your name, age and area where you live.

Send your non-fiction article in a word document attachment to: ycwmag@nzchristianwriters.org with 'YCW Non-Fiction Competition' in the subject line.

Competition closes 15 September 2025

Anyone up to age 25 can enter. There is no minimum age. If necessary, we will split the competition into two age groups; senior and junior. More than one entry per person is permitted. There is no entry fee. Non-subscribers are welcome to enter, but we recommend subscribing for the *free digital copy* to ensure you receive a copy of the magazine.

Competition results and winning entries will be published in the next issue of *Young Christian Writer* magazine.

ARTIST'S BIO:

Samuel Broughton: Cartoonist

Samuel is a 15-year-old Christian cartoonist, writer, artist, and filmmaker from Christchurch, New Zealand. Samuel really enjoys writing and drawing. He first began writing books when he was five years old. One of his first ever books was about an ant who lived inside a bowling ball!



Samuel tramping in the Nina valley, Lewis Pass National Park.

Over the past few years Samuel has written a series of eight graphic novels. It is a humorous action and adventure series about a farmer called Fred who has a dog called Honkis.

As well as writing adventure graphic novels, Samuel also enjoys writing non-fiction books. Recently he began writing a new non-fiction book called "A Bit About Christianity." The purpose of the book is to tell others about Jesus and the gospel. Samuel enjoys reading his Bible regularly, and he is involved at his high school's Christian group.

Samuel is also a keen amateur filmmaker, and he has scripted, directed, and edited multiple short films, entering some in film competitions.

Some of Samuel's hobbies include tramping, football, running, piano playing, and athletics.

His favorite food is lasagna!

If you would like to contact Samuel, here is his email: fruitnom@icloud.com





Matching Game from Galatians 5:22-23

Match the fruit of the Holy Spirit with the correct behaviour by drawing a line across.

LOVE

JOY

PEACE

KINDNESS

GOODNESS

FAITHFULNESS

GENTLENESS

PATIENCE

SELF-CONTROL

Proverbs 13:3

The one who guards his mouth [thinking before he speaks] protects his life; The one who opens his lips wide [and chatters without thinking] comes to ruin.

She relaxes, undisturbed by the storm.

A family gives clothes to a family who lost their belongings in a fire.

The girl feels like saying hurtful words to her sister, but she controls her tongue.

Jesus gave His life for us on the cross.

A boy forgives a friend, he doesn't take revenge but instead is good to him.

The boy smiles while waiting for Mum to move along the supermarket line.

She held the kitten without squeezing it.

A student faithfully follows the teacher's work instructions while the teacher is out.

A father sheds happy tears welcoming his soldier-son home from war..

The Life Book

A Free Gift for you and your Friends

Article by Kathryn Paul



Did you know you can obtain free copies of *The Life Book* to give away to your friends?

At the recent NZCW Retreat in Whitianga, attendee Ron Peterson who is the 'top of the South Coordinator for Gideons NZ', blessed everyone with free copies of *The Life Book*.

The Life Book is a tool to reach young people. It's available in New Zealand for free to churches who have youth groups. Christian teenagers are welcome to pass copies on to their friends as a form of outreach.

The Life Book contains the *Gospel of John* presented in such a way as to attract students. Books are supplied free in boxes of 100 copies, delivered at no cost and there's no limit. Pastors and Youth Pastors can order directly from the website <https://thelifebook.nz>.

If you have any questions, please contact Ron Peterson at ron.petersonnz@gmail.com.

Write a Book Hands-Free

by Kathryn Paul



Did you know you can type a book without using your hands? You can do this using the dictation feature on your device.

Recently I received a *Steve Laube Agency Blog* called '*How to Write a Novel Faster Using Dictation Software*'. Here's the link if you would like to read this helpful blog: [How to Write a Novel Faster Using Dictation Software With Misty M. Beller –](#)

I read the blog and then I tried to learn how to get my iPhone to do the typing for me. After a few Google searches on 'how to' and some helpful YouTube hints, I learned how to enable 'Voice Control' on my iPhone. (Go to 'Settings' then 'Accessibility' then 'Voice Control'. In 'Voice Control' my iPhone took me through a helpful tutorial and showed me the voice commands. After that I opened the Pages App on my iPhone and in a new page I said, 'Dictation Mode'. Then it began to type everything I said into the document.

It takes practise to remember the commands, but it will become easier and faster. I tell it to insert the punctuation and also when I want a new line. Dictation doesn't always understand my words or spell them correctly. For example, I said "cat-paw" and it inserted 'cat poor'. So, when I edited my work later it gave me a few laughs. '*The rough driving around the bends in the road*' became '*The roof driving around the bins in the road*'. But I'm so happy I've written the first draft of a story, just by talking. I've shared my story on the next page.

If you know someone who wants to write but typing is an obstacle, or having the time to write is difficult, please share this article with him or her. I'm excited to have a helpful answer to this question.

Giant Cat (Part One)

by Kathryn Paul

A Short Story written using
dictation. (See previous article.)

Angel-Cat was black and white and had a snotty nose because she needed medicine, called antibiotics. But instead, her owner Peggy, who didn't have much money to pay the veterinarian, prayed and hoped that Angel-Cat would get better on her own.

Peggy checked on Google to see what else she could do for Angel-Cat and discovered that beef liver is high in vitamin C, so Peggy went to the store and found tins of beef liver to feed her.

The vitamin C in the beef liver did seem to help Angel-Cat but it was taking a long time for her nose to stop running.

Peggy walked her dog called Sunshine up the forest track where they lived and Angel-Cat with her snotty nose followed behind. Suddenly Angel-Cat started to grow bigger and bigger until she was bigger than Peggy. Peggy stopped and stared in amazement.

Unfortunately, Angel-Cat's snot boogers were now a lot bigger. She sneezed and a big blob of snot booger hit Peggy and knocked her down. The wet, gooey snot covered Peggy and glued her to the ground.

What is happening? Thought Peggy. She tried to fight her way out of the mucus. Sunshine, who was a clever, black and white border collie, came to

Peggy's rescue. Sunshine managed to lick some of the mucus off Peggy and Peggy crawled out from under the giant booger.

Angel-Cat, being a very loving friendly cat, decided that she needed to smooch up to Peggy. But because she was so big she knocked Peggy down again.

"What is going on with you?" Peggy asked Angel-Cat, staring up at the cat's huge head. "Is this super-growth contagious? Is Sunshine going to become super big as well?"

"What about me? What else is growing bigger around here? What is going on?"

They walked to the top of the hill and Peggy called her other cat called Moonwalker. Moonwalker, still her normal size, came out from under a shed. Moonwalker and Angel-Cat weren't close friends. They tolerated each other but wouldn't get too close. So, you can imagine Moonwalker's shock when she saw Angel-Cat's back was as high as Peggy's head.

Moonwalker's eyes widened, she stared and she froze. Then she ran to hide, back under the shed.

A herd of horses were grazing in the paddock beside the shed. When the horses noticed the giant Angel-Cat they began to get nervous. *Was this a mountain lion about to eat them for lunch? Was this a new kind of horse?* They were very uncertain and moved closer together, snorting, heads high and alert.

"What am I going to do?" Peggy wondered. "Can Google help me with this? I've never heard of this happening before. Normally Angel-Cat sleeps at night inside on my bed,

but now she won't fit. She will have to sleep outside tonight. Maybe this will have worn off by the morning and she will be back to her normal size. I will put her to bed in the sheep yards and come back in the morning."

The next morning when Peggy came outside, to her dismay, Angel-Cat was nowhere to be seen. She looked on her phone at the local Facebook community page to see if anyone had reported finding a lost cat.

"Uh-oh," said Peggy. There were certainly reports about Angel-Cat but not that she was found as a small lost cat. Instead, many locals were complaining of the havoc that a giant cat had been causing in the local community.

Peggy rolled her eyes. "Now what am I going to do? I can pretend the cat is not mine. But that's not the right thing to do. I have a feeling I'm not going to be popular when they find out she's mine. But still, I love Angel-Cat. I must find out how to help her and get her back to her normal size."

Peggy thought hard. "I have no choice. I'd better phone the veterinarian and see what he or she has to say. That's the best place to start."

Then Peggy had an idea, "I guess I could use my horse float and see if I can catch Angel-Cat and put her in it. That will keep her safe and stop her from terrorising the neighbourhood. Yes, that's what I will do."

Peggy hooked up her horse float to her ute and towed the horse float along the road, hoping to find Angel-Cat. The community page said Angel-Cat had been hanging around the local takeaway store. Peggy guessed

it was due to the lovely smells wafting from the building.

Sure enough, when Peggy arrived at the store she spotted Angel-Cat across the road in the playground. She was sitting next to the children's swings but there were no children in the playground. The neighbourhood were too scared to enter the park with Angel-Cat there. Angel-Cat looked sad and lonely.

Peggy parked next to the swings and stepped out of her car. As soon as Angel-Cat saw Peggy she gave a loud, snuffly meow and came to her. Peggy opened the door of the float and coaxed Angel-Cat inside. Peggy had put a big bowl of cat biscuits inside the float. Angel-Cat was hungry and she ate happily while Peggy quietly shut the back door of the float.

As soon as Angel-Cat was safely trapped inside, people started appearing from everywhere. Many rushed over to Peggy, asking questions.

"What is going on?" They said. "Is that your cat? Why is she so big?"

"I'm not sure what's happened to her," said Peggy, "but I'm going to talk to the vet and find out."

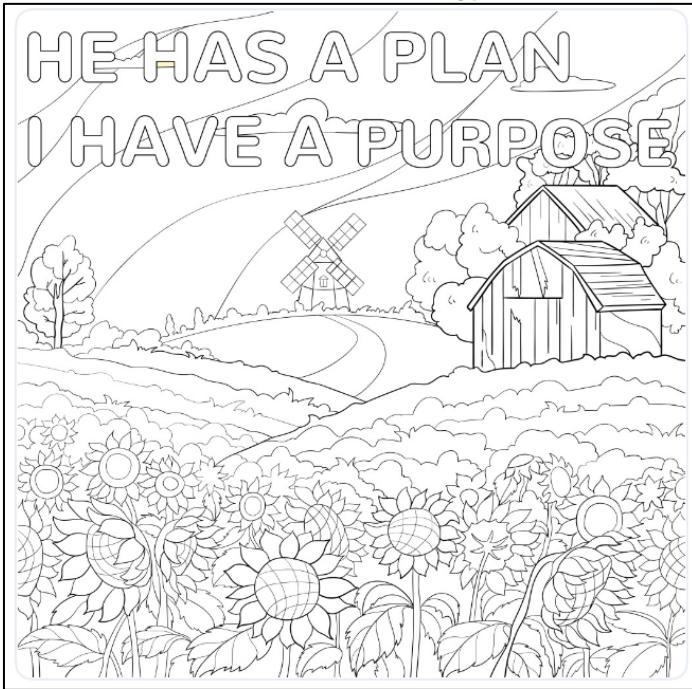
Suddenly a reporter with a camera appeared in front of her taking photos. "This is a most unusual story," he said. "This will make the headlines."

Peggy eye rolled and sighed. "Yes, I suppose it will. I'll call the vet. I hope we can solve this giant problem!"

My cat says
HI



(Read part two in the next YCW issue!)



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