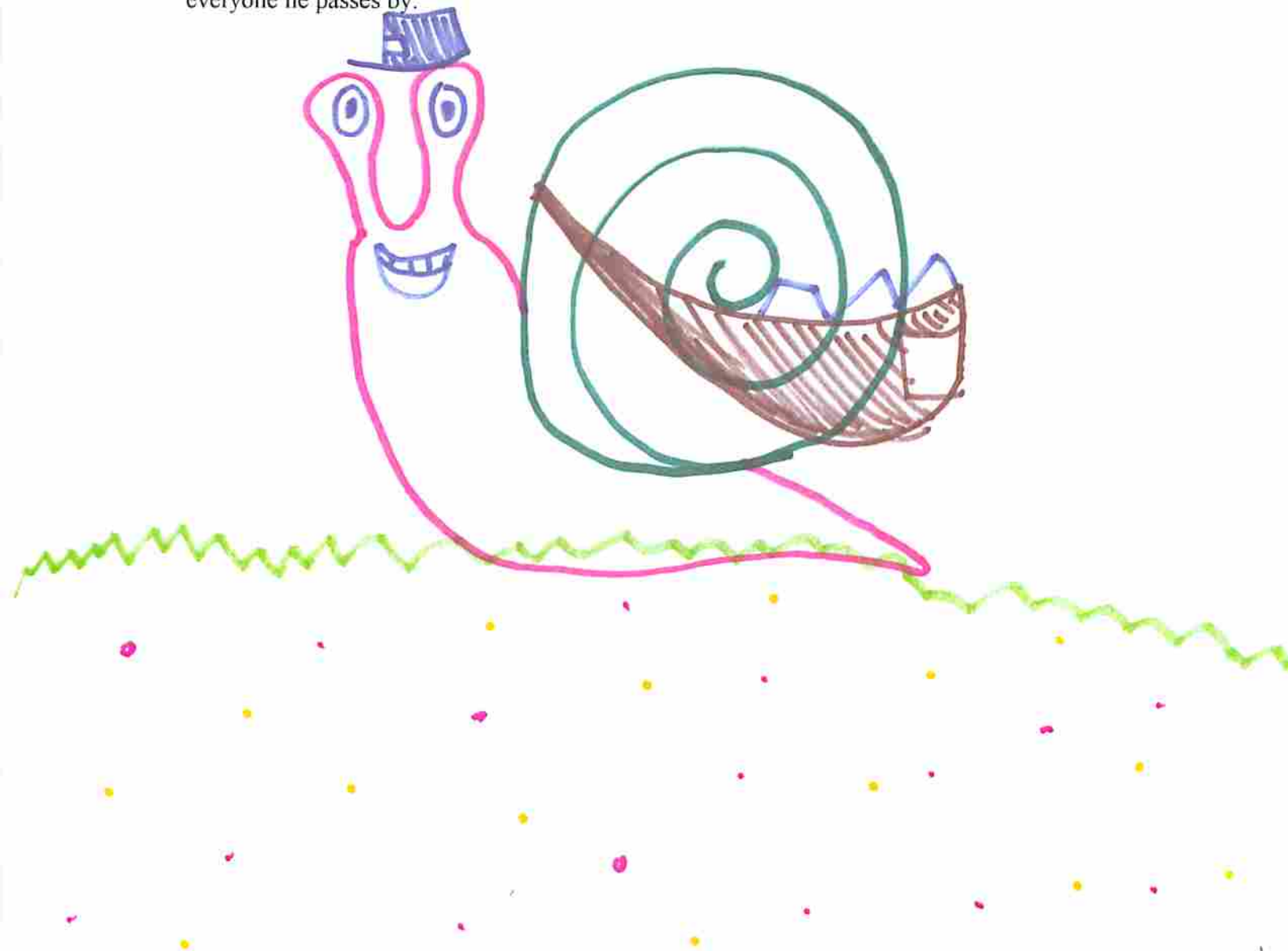


Children's Story

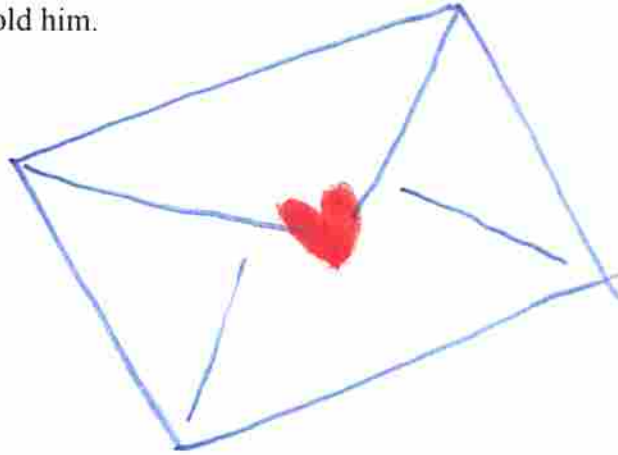
Sam the snail is a mail man who is a very hard worker. He delivers letters everyday to all the animals in Booglyville. Sam has to wake up extra earlier than all the other animals in town because he was so slow. "I should hurry if I have to deliver all these letters before dark!" He would always say. Even though Sam is very slow, everybody still loves him because he is so friendly and smiley. "Good morning!" Sam would say, to everyone he passes by.



One sunny day, Sam was half way done with his deliveries. He then saw a letter sealed with a red heart on the ground. “Hmm, I must have dropped it on the way...” but there was no name or address written on the envelope. Just then, Leonard, the lion who was the janitor at the Booglyville Elementary School came calling out to Sam.

“Sam, that’s my letter! I thought I lost it!”

”Hello Leonard, you forgot to write the address, I need that to deliver this letter for you.” Sam told him.



“Oh, no I don’t think I’m going to send this. See, I wanted to give this to kitty Kathy the waitress at *Kathy’s Café* to tell her that I like her but I don’t think she likes me.”

Leonard said sadly.

Sam wanted to deliver Leonard’s letter for him but He wouldn’t listen. Soon Leonard had to go back to working and said their goodbyes. Right as he was jogging back to the elementary school, clumsy Leonard dropped his letter again and kept on running without noticing. Sam thought to call out to him but stopped. He was going to deliver it to Kathy!

*Kathy's Café* was far far away from where Sam was right now. But he wanted to help out his good friend Leonard so much that he decided to just do it. He couldn't wait to see the big smile on Shelly's face and Leonard's face. "I should EXTRA hurry if I have to deliver all these letters before dark" Sam told himself.

Meanwhile, Leonard was back at the elementary school panicking. "Oh no, how could I lose that letter again! Where could it be? Oh I hope no one sees it!" Leonard was so worried, he forgot about cleaning the classes. He threw the broom to the ground and went off to search for his love letter to Kathy.

That whole afternoon, Leonard searched and searched for his missing love letter to Shelly. Did the wind blow it away? Did he forget it somewhere? Did he drop it again? Poor Leonard circled the whole town of Booglyville by the time it was dark out, and he still couldn't find that letter! He was so exhausted, he forgot to go back to the elementary school to finish cleaning.



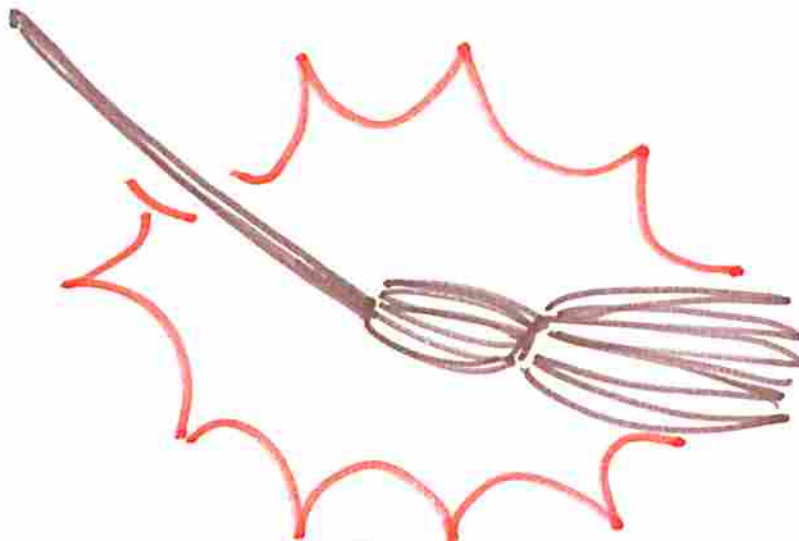
The next morning, Leonard woke up extra early to go to the elementary school to finish cleaning before anyone came. He picked up a broom and started sweeping in front of the school.

“Good morning!” a voice called out to Leonard. When he turned around, he saw that it was Sam the mail man making his extra early morning deliveries.

“Not-so-good morning...” responded Leonard. He explained to Sam how he had lost his secret love letter to Kathy again and he just has no idea where it went.

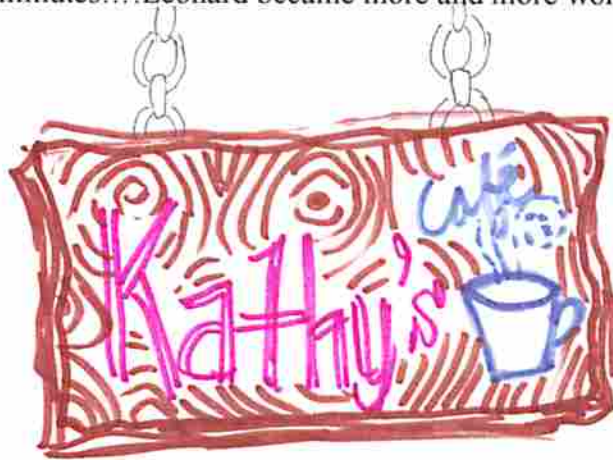
“Oh, if you`re talking about that envelope with a red heart seal on it, I delivered that to *Kathy's Café* yesterday afternoon.” Sam said proudly, but Leonard wasn`t proud of him at all. Instead, he jumped and yelled at poor little Sam who thought he was doing something good for his friend.

“Oh no Sally would never talk to me; I`m going to be so embarrassed!” Before Sam could even begin to apologize, Leonard threw the broom to the ground again, grabbed Sam and started running to *Kathy's Café*.



Leonard ran and ran as fast as he could, dragging along Sam, towards *Kathy's Café*, hoping that Sally hadn't read his letter yet. But right when they came right around the corner, Leonard stopped. "What's wrong?" Sam asked, running out of breath. Leonard was still upset and told him to go get his letter back. Sam, still catching his breath, did as he was told.

Leonard watched from the corner as Sam walked into the café. His heart was beating and he was still so worried that it was too late and Kathy had already read the letter. One minute...three minutes...Leonard became more and more worried as time passed.



After seven minutes of waiting, Sam finally came out the café with something in his hand. Leonard narrowed his little eyes to see what it was. It was a little white envelope....sealed shut....with a red heart! He got it! Leonard became so relieved.

"I'm so glad you got it back before she read it! Kathy will never know about my feelings but at least I won't have to make a fool out of myself." Leonard said. Sam smiled and handed him the letter. "Sam, but I still think you should have told me....hold on a second, this isn't my letter." Leonard looked up and saw that Sam was still smiling.

“She wouldn’t give me back the letter but she told me to give this to you.” The letter was addressed as *Dear Leonard*.

The letter read: “Dear Leonard, thank you so much for the letter. I loved it! Would you like to come to my café one of these days and we can have some coffee together.  
Sincerely, Kathy”

Leonard felt like he could fly high high up into the sky. Even though he got in trouble by the principle at Booglyville Elementary School for not finishing cleaning, he still had enough happiness to last. Ever since that, Leonard and Kathy started to write each other letters in envelopes sealed with a red heart. Now, Leonard forgave Sam, as a matter of fact, he thanks Sam.



Sam the mail man wakes up extra early this morning and starts on his deliveries for today. "I should hurry if I have to deliver all these letters before dark!" Sam takes off to save another day in Booglyville. "Good morning everyone!"

