

## Around the World

By Bella F.

One day a girl named Lizzy, short for Elizabeth, has a stuffed teddy bear named Mr. Fluffles. Her stuffed bear was the thing that makes her happy and safe and Lizzy loved that bear so much. When she turned nine, they had a garage sale. Her mom put a basket in her room so Lizzy could pack old stuff that she didn't want but when her mother was leaving the room, she bumped into a shelf above the basket and Mr. Fluffles fell into the basket. After the garage sale, Lizzy and her mom were looking all over for the bear. Elizabeth told her mom that he was on the shelf. Her mom thought a moment and she remembered seeing a little girl that bought all of Lizzy's stuff. Her mom told Lizzy that Mr. Fluffles must have fallen into that box. Lizzy said, "Did she give you an address?" "Oh no," said her mom, "She said she was going to Japan, China, and Italy! She needed your stuff for the trip." "Mom, can you get our passports ready?" "Yes, I'm getting them right now. We can take a boat and our car. First Japan."

A couple of days later...

"Finally, we are in Japan," Mom said. "I've got a sketch of the little girl in my wallet." They get in the car and started looking out of the window. Elizabeth started screaming, "I found her! I found her! She has Mr. Fluffles! Follow them!"

To China!

They followed the car for hours. They were starving but they couldn't stop for food and lose the car. They couldn't believe that the car hadn't stopped for bathroom or even food or beverages. Lizzy knew that they had to have water bottles, baskets full of food, and maybe even diapers if they need to go to the bathroom. "There people are going to be hard to beat." Elizabeth wasn't wrong. "We should've come more prepared," said Mom. "We need to drive ahead and stop this madness. If we drive ahead, then we can stop them!" said Elizabeth. "I think we are heading to Italy so let's try our plan now!" Lizzy's mom said. Her mom started to go a little over the speed limit. Lizzy held up a sign that said, "Please stop at Taco Bell so we can ask you something." They didn't know if the driver got the message or if they ignored them, but they were hoping it will work. They were finally at Taco Bell waiting for the girl and her mom. The girl walked in with Mr. Fluffles, so Lizzy signaled to her to come over. The two parents talked while Lizzy and the girl talked. The parents were talking about how the teddy bear was Elizabeth's and that Lizzy's mom will give them the five dollars back. Lizzy was telling the girl that Mr. Fluffles was hers and they didn't mean to put it in the garage sale. She yanked the bear from the girl and then there were lots of tears. Elizabeth felt bad and gave the bear back. Her mother asked what Lizzy was doing. Lizzy said, "I don't need Mr. Fluffles because I traveled so long without him and this little girl needs him more than I do. Let's go home, Mom, NOW!"

A long time later...

“I can’t believe we went all that way for no reason!” said Mom. “We didn’t go for no reason, we gave someone a new friend. I do kind of miss Mr. Fluffles, but I’ll be okay,” said Elizabeth. The two of them were still super tired and surprised. They always wake up, hoping it’s just a dream, but they were disappointed when it wasn’t a dream. Before Lizzy knew it, it was her BIRTHDAY! She opened her present and she got something really special. A TEDDY BEAR!