

## Mystery in the Backyard

By Samarah F.

Me and my brother Ben and my sister Lily decided to camp in the woods behind our house. It was supposed to be fun. We brought a tent, sleeping bags, and chips. Mom said we could stay as long as we didn't go too far.

At first it was awesome. The tent glowed from our flashlights and we told jokes. We heard crickets and the trees moving. It felt like a real adventure.

Then we hear a "crack."

A stick broke outside.

We all got quiet.

Ben said it was probably a squirrel, but he sounded nervous. Then the bushes moved. Something was walking around our tent. We could hear it getting closer.

Lily turned off the flashlight so it wouldn't see us.

Then we heard more sounds outside.

Ben peeked out of the tent just a tiny bit. When he came back in he looked scared.

"What did you see?" I asked.

"Eyes." He said. "Green eyes."

We thought it might be a mountain lion even though we didn't know if they lived there. The tent moved a little like something bumped it. I grabbed Lily's arm and we all scooted to the back of the tent.

Then the zipper moved from the outside.

We held onto each other.

And then we heard:

"mrrrow?"

The tent opened and a small black head came in.

It was our cat Shadow.

He walked right in and sat on our snack like nothing happened. We all started laughing because we thought we were going to be eaten.

Shadow just purred.

After that the woods didn't feel scary anymore. It felt cozy again. We kept the flashlight on and told Shadow he was the world's scariest cat.