

Charli M.

## The Red Road

### Chapter One

It was a dark and stormy night and there was a young teenager walking on the side of the road. Vincent had just turned 14 years old. He saw something red and it looked like blood in the middle of the road, and he saw a sack next to the blood. He took the sack, but he didn't look inside it yet. He saw this person running away; things were very suspicious. That night he could not go to sleep because the sack was creeping him out...

The next day he was too creeped out by **the bloody road**, so he asked his mom if she could drive him to school. He walked outside and saw Mrs. Pumpernickel opening her creaky old door, heading out to pick up the mail. She said "Hello!" Vincent said, "Hi Mrs. Pumpernickel." When he arrived at school he was really scared. He was able to focus enough to finish his schoolwork and at the end of the day he was on his way home. Once he got home, he stared at the sack for a while. Then he just went to sleep without any dinner or water...

The next morning, he felt a little bit braver, maybe staring at the sack made him feel a little better. So, this time he was brave enough to walk to school on his own. Again Mrs. Pumpernickel opened her creaky old door and said, "Hi, how are you today?" Vincent said, "Great how are you?" "Oh, I'm good," said Mrs. Pumpernickel, grabbing the mail. He walked next to **the bloody road** but for some reason there was more blood on the road. He just turned away and kept walking to school. He came home and told himself, "I can do this, I can do this." He was getting ready to open the sack "321" ...

He opened it and yelled "WHAT!" There were only paint brushes! He went outside for a little walk to get some fresh air and when he looked up he saw Mrs. Pumpernickel's door and it looked brand new, painted red! He said "OH!" He realized that the person he saw running away was just painting her door in the middle of the road, that explained why there were cones in the middle of the road too! Things made so much more sense! He missed a night of sleep for no reason. He also figured that maybe the person was probably just running off to go to the bathroom.

[Helping Mrs. Pumpernickel](#)

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## Chapter two

(One month later)

Vincent had been thinking about Mrs. Pumpernickel's door, and he felt like he needed to help her with the rest of her house, and it was perfect timing because it's almost summer. So, once he got home from his walk, he started preparing all the things that he needed to fix Mrs. Pumpernickel's house. He got glue, paint, a rake, a leaf blower, soap, a bucket of water, and a ladder. He asked Mrs. Pumpernickel if he could clean her house. Mrs. Pumpernickel said, "Sure." Things were going right as planned...

School finally ended for summer! So, Vincent told his mom that he was going to Mrs. Pumpernickel's house. His mom said, "OKAY but dinner is almost ready!" First he started raking the leaves but shortly after he started dinner was ready, so he told Mrs. Pumpernickel that he would come back first thing in the morning. Later that evening when he was home for dinner, he said "MMMM this lasagna is good!" He told his mom that he was going to get some supplies for tomorrow and then go to sleep. He got some paint pallets for the paint tomorrow and then he went to sleep...

He woke up and went outside to go finish raking the leaves. Then he heard Mrs. Pumpernickel coming out the door. She asked him if he wanted a loaf of bread to show her appreciation and he said "Sure!" He said, "MMMM this is delicious!" After he finished eating, he told Mrs. Pumpernickel that he had to get back to work. Vincent said, "Okay now I must re-paint the walls." He asked Mrs. Pumpernickel if she would like him to paint any design on the walls and she said she would like butterflies on the walls. He got to work but somehow it was already time for dinner! He told Mrs. Pumpernickel "Bye I'll come back straight in the morning." He ran home and said, "Hey mom, I'm going to eat quickly because I'm so tired." And then he went straight to sleep ...

He woke up and got back to work and he finished painting. Then he finished leaf blowing on the top of the roof. He told Mrs. Pumpernickel about what happened with the red paint, and she started laughing! Then he finished polishing the front door and just finished scrubbing the walls and ground. "Done Mrs. Pumpernickel I'm done. Mrs. Pumpernickel?" "Oh No!!!" ...

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## The Fall

### Chapter Three

(One day later)

“Mom, what happened to Mrs. Pumpernickel?” Vincent asked. “I don’t know sweetie, she went to the hospital” his mom said. “She went to the hospital!? Can I go visit her in the hospital?” he asked. “Sure sweetie” said his mom. They arrived at the hospital. Vincent went to the hospital room to check on her; Mrs. Pumpernickel seemed okay. The doctors said she just fell and couldn’t get back up. Mrs. Pumpernickel told Vincent that she would come back to her house in one week, and they just need to do some extra tests for her. He thought of something awesome to surprise her with. He rushed back home and went straight to sleep so he had enough energy in the morning...

Vincent woke up and immediately started to come up with ideas for her surprise. He knew a lot of things Mrs. Pumpernickel liked, so he was confident he could come up with something she would like. He was planning to make her a prize box with everything she liked. He planned to give her a butterfly painting, a music box with a butterfly on it, a fidget toy, and cool painting supplies because she loved painting pictures. It cost \$36.51 but it was worth it. He also asked his mom if they could bake a treat for Mrs. Pumpernickel and she agreed to help him bake a chocolate fondue brownie, her very favorite dessert. Then they put the gifts in a cool “get better” gift bag. They went to the hospital, and she ate her chocolate fondue brownie and then she opened the gift bag. She loved it and was so happy for the visit. Once Vincent and his mom arrived home, Vincent went straight to sleep...

Mrs. Pumpernickel was discharged from the hospital two days earlier than she was originally told. She was feeling better than ever. Vincent missed her so much; she was so nice, and he missed having her around to talk to. He asked his mom if Mrs. Pumpernickel could come over to eat dinner at their house and she said, “sure but you need to ask her first.” He invited Mrs. Pumpernickel for dinner and she said “sure I would love to join you for dinner”. The next day he went over to Mrs. Pumpernickels' house and watched Mrs. Pumpernickel paint on the canvas, while they were watching T.V. He was so thankful that she recovered so well, and he is looking forward to many days of spending time with her in the future.

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