A Day in the Life of Dew



Saving Tessa

Воок 3

Written and illustrated by Deborah Deel Clayton Published by Dew Bear Enterprises, Inc. www.dewbear.com email at dewbear@mindspring.com This book is a work of fiction. Any reference to historical events, real people, or real places are used fictitiously. Other names, characters, places, and events are products of the author's imagination. Though many character names and/or personalities are based on the author's family and friends, they are used with creative license and are meant to ensure the Deel Family Legacy.

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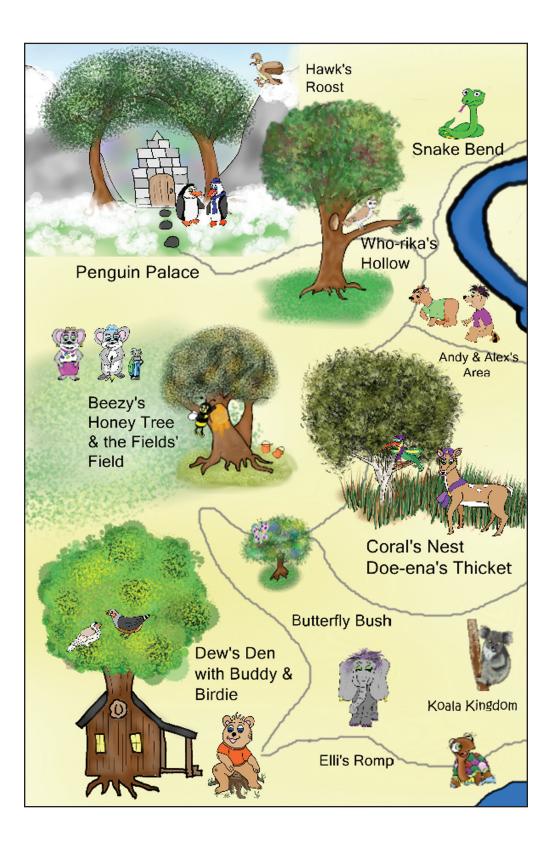
Library of Congress Control Number 2016911745 ISBN 978-1-942261-08-7 (paperback) ISBN 978-1-942261-09-4 (hardback)

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Dew Bear strongly believes in giving back to the community. A portion of the net proceeds from the sale of every Dew Bear book will be donated annually to a specific charity.

The donation for Book 3 will go to Make a Wish Foundation. Exact donation amounts will vary depending on associated costs to produce, publish, and sell the books.



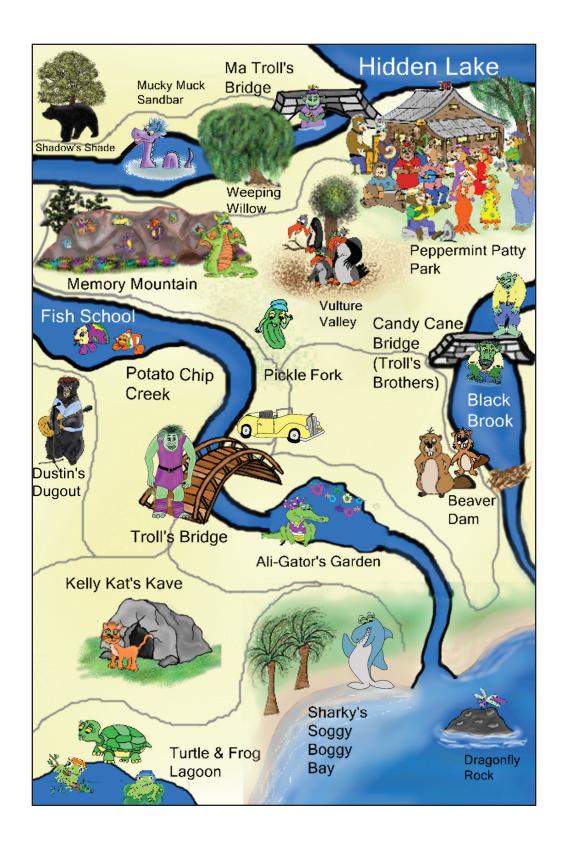


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Prelude: The Life of Dew

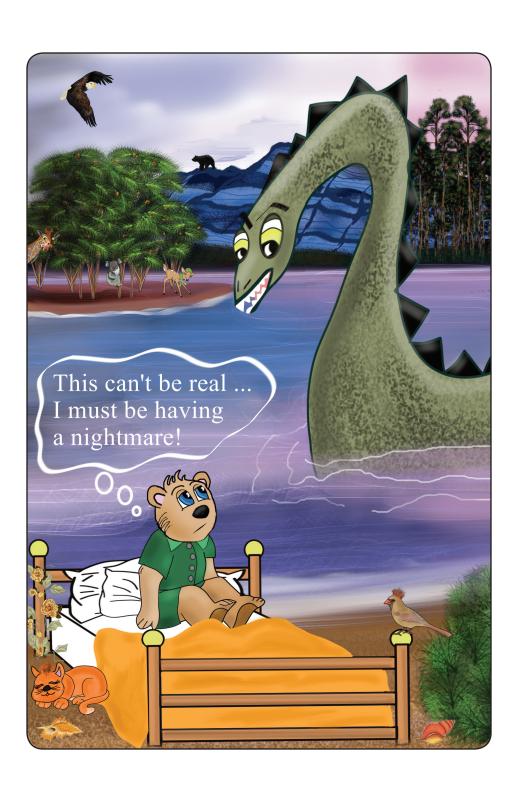
Dew Bear was born on a crisp autumn morn, when dew on the grass was real thick.

Ma and Pa Bear chose his name with great care, 'cause they knew it was a name that would stick.

As Dew Bear grew, everyone knew they could count on him through and through; For Dew Bear could do, WHATEVER he put his mind to.



But Dew Bear knew, he could count on his family and friends too!



Once upon a time...

there was a very special monster who lived in Hidden Lake, just north of Peppermint Patty Park. Her name was **Tessa**.

Almost everyone, including Dew Bear, is scared of monsters, for they are the stuff of nightmares.

Tessa was different.

Thanks to her and a few hot days of summer, Dew Bear and his friends learned the value of not judging someone by what you think they might be, but rather by who they turn out to be.



Chapter 1 - The Day Begins

The last night of July slipped away, and the first dawn of August took its place. The morning started just as you'd expect from the last full month of Summer—hot and humid.

Dew's window remained open through the night, hoping to catch even the slightest breeze. His ceiling fan worked overtime, circulating the hot, sticky air throughout his bedroom. When Dew's eyes opened to the morning light, he found himself soaked in sweat.

That didn't bother Dew. He loved the heat. Summer was his favorite time of year because the days were filled with fun things

— like swimming in Soggy Boggy Bay, eating homemade ice cream at Penguin Palace, and having picnics with his friends. Today was just such a day.

Dew hopped out of bed before the sun rose in the gap between the mountains. He brushed his teeth, combed his fur, and changed into a green t-shirt and his favorite yellow swim trunks with palm trees all over them.

In the kitchen, Dew hummed a little tune as he retrieved his picnic basket from under



the counter.
When he opened the lid, he found Holly, a small gray mouse, sleeping on the picnic tablecloth.

Dew whispered, "Holly, wake up. I need my basket today."

Holly opened her pretty yellow eyes, stretched her tiny legs, yawned, and slowly climbed out of the basket onto the counter.

"Sorry, Holly. I know it's early, but I'm meeting Sharky for a morning swim. Then we're having a picnic with Coral and Doeena," Dew said, placing some bananas, apples, and peaches in the basket.



He grabbed a big jar of sun tea from the fridge. "Would you like to join us?" Dew asked, placing the tea on the counter.



Holly shook her head no and in a very tiny voice said, "I don't know how to swim."

"I can teach you if you like," Dew said.

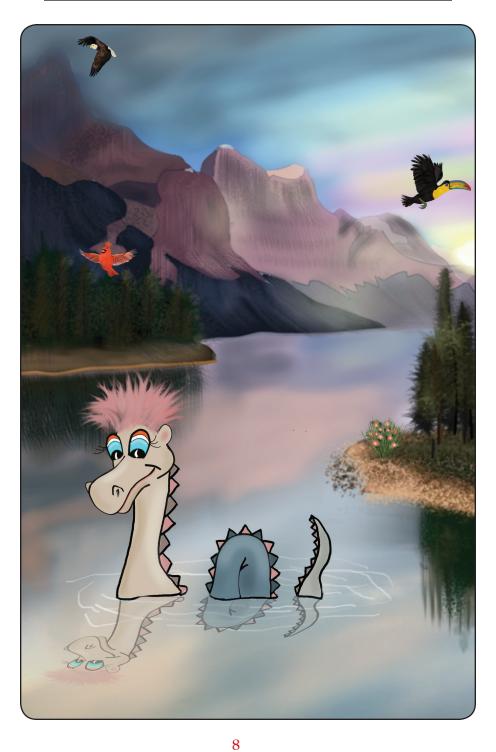
"Perhaps another day," Holly said. "I think I'd rather sleep in this morning."

Dew got a piece of bread out of the drawer and smeared a bit of honey on it. "Here, you go, Holly. My apologies for having to wake you."

Holly gratefully nibbled the bread and waved good-bye to Dew as he headed out the door.



Yes, this was going to be a fun summer day. Little did Dew know that other events were going on that would make this day—and the next couple days—even more fun.



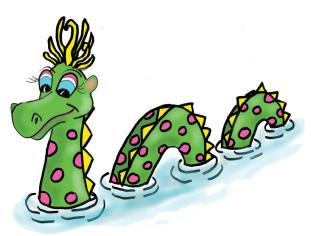
Chapter 2 - Same Time Elsewhere

The early morning sun cast colorful hues across the water of Hidden Lake, like an artist with a paintbrush and a palette of pastels—pale yellow, soft pink, and warm blue. The colors danced across the water changing shapes. They blurred with the rise and fall of tiny waves created by Tessa's wake as she crisscrossed around the lake.

Tessa changed color to match the shifting waters.

Tessa was a Loch Ness Monster. She was not your ordinary monster; not by a long shot. She was an amazing monster by monster standards.

Tessa was quite unique.
She had the ability to change her appearance anytime she wished. She



simply had to think **green** with **pink** polka dots and **yellow** braids, and she would be **green** with **pink** polka dots and **yellow** braids.



If she thought

purple with green

stripes and pink

horns, then she would

turn purple with

green stripes and

pink horns.

She was very creative with her style choices and became known all over the lake as Tessa, the Fabulous Loch Ness Monster.

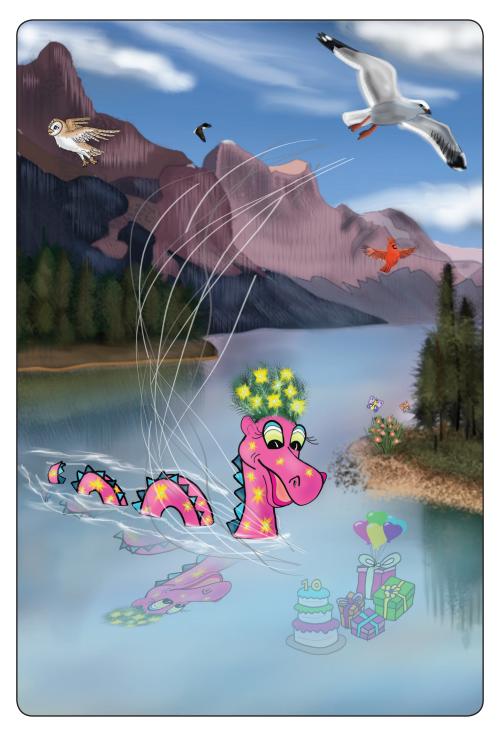
Tessa started out enjoying the colorful start of her day, chasing colors around the lake and reflecting that color in her scales. She changed colors so fast that someone watching the lake wouldn't see her. She became the same color as the water around her. The only thing that gave her away was the ripple of waves trailing behind her.

As the sun rose higher, and the sky took on a solid blue, Tessa once more changed to match the reflection in the water.

"Blue

is my true color today," she said to the wind as it swirled around her, tickling her spines.





"Whhhhhhhhhyyyyyyy?" the wind asked as it dipped and rose and dipped again.

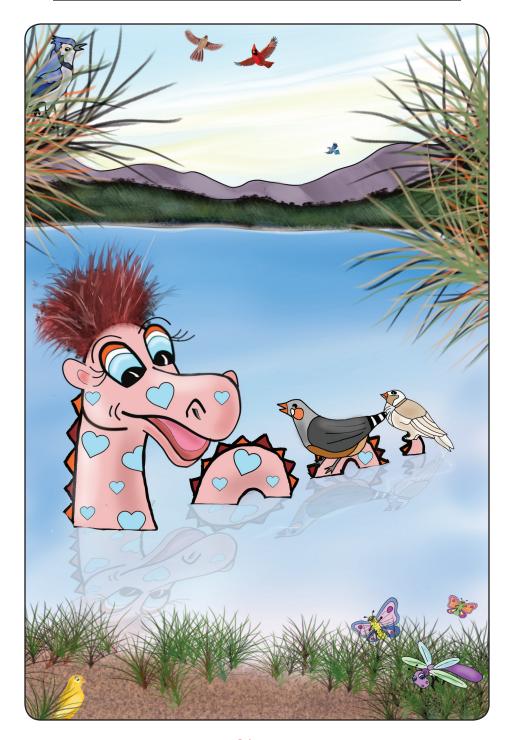
"My 10th birthday is in a couple days. Nobody has said anything about having a party," she said.

The wind moaned softly as it weaved inbetween the spines on her back. It made Tessa laugh, and she changed to **pink** and covered herself in **yellow** flowers, including her hair.

"Have you heard any rumblings of a party?" Tessa asked, trying to visualize a cake and presents just below the water's surface.

"Nooooooooooooo," the wind whistled as it messed up her flowery hair.

"That's what I thought," Tessa said, disappointed. "I only turn 10 once!" she called out as the wind took to the sky to follow Sammy the seagull—leaving Tessa to the stillness of the hot, humid morning.



Chapter 3 - Visitors

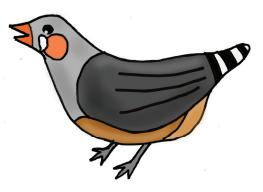
As the day progressed, Tessa's color turned a darker shade of **blue**. She had swum around the lake twice already, wondering how to ask her friends if they were throwing her a surprise party. Suddenly, two little birds landed on her humps.

She immediately changed color to a soft **pink** with light **blue** hearts. Tessa loved company, and it showed.

"Hello!" said one of the birds. "I'm Buddy, and this is Birdie."

"It's nice to meet you," Tessa said. "I've never seen you before. Do you live around here?"

"We live at the southernmost point of Memory Forest, in the tree at Dew Bear's Den," Buddy tweeted



"I swam down Black Brook as far as Soggy Boggy Bay one time," Tessa said.



"That must have been before the Beavers built the dam," Birdie chirped. "I don't think you could get past the dam now."

"Probably not," Tessa said. "So, what brings you to Hidden Lake?" she asked.

"We were visiting our mom who doesn't live far from here. We were asked to give you a message," Buddy said.

"Are you going to tell me about the birthday party?" Tessa asked, relieved that she would finally hear about her party.

"What birthday party?" Birdie asked.

"My party," Tessa said.

"When is it? Buddy asked.

"I thought you were going to tell me,"
Tessa said, showing her confusion by changing
to **orange** with **green** question marks.



"We don't know anything about a birthday party," Birdie chirped. "But we love parties. We'd be happy to come to yours."

"If you don't have a message about my birthday party, then what message do you have for me?" Tessa asked.

"Our message is from your cousin, Fig," Buddy said.

"I didn't know I have a cousin named Fig," Tessa said, turning around and heading back towards Spirit Island.



"I think you knew him as Little One. He lived in Grundgy Meadow with Lissard and Groberjeff. He just moved into Dragon Hill, and now he goes by Fig," Birdie said.

"Oh, I know who you're talking about. So, is he throwing me a birthday party?"
Tessa asked, thinking how wonderful that would be and turning a shade of **yellow**-**green** with **pink** hearts.

"He didn't say anything about your birthday or a party," Buddy chirped.

"Well, what did
Fig say?" Tessa asked,
growing frustrated with
the conversation. Her
color changed to **gray**with upside down marks
that looked sorta like
frowns—because that's
how Tessa was feeling.



"He wants to know if you'd like to visit him," Buddy said.

"I think he wants to introduce you to some of his new friends," Birdie added.

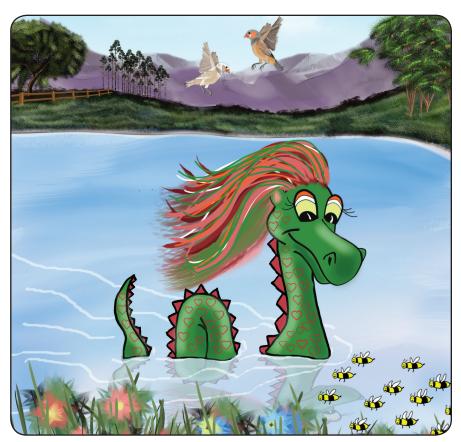


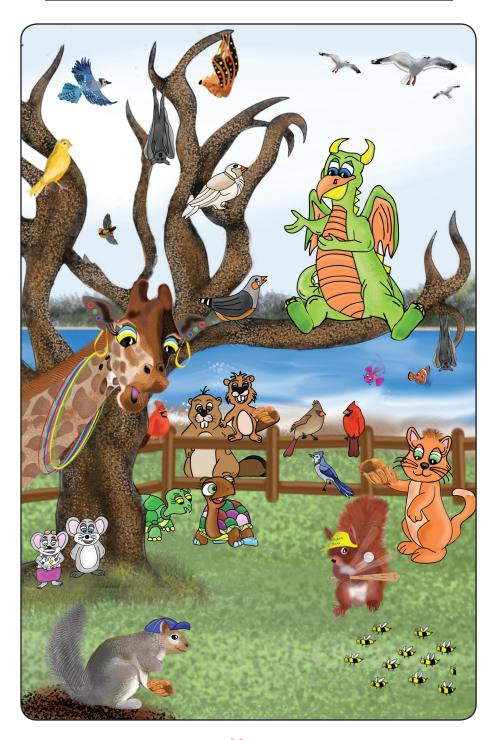
"Hmmm..." Tessa thought for a minute. Her color changed to **purple**, a color half-way between happy and sad. "Tell Fig I'll come on Saturday. That's my birthday, but it doesn't seem like

anyone around here is going to throw me a party. I might as well go enjoy myself."

"I have to say," Birdie tweeted, "our mom said you could change your appearance anytime you want, but I didn't believe her. Now that I've seen you do it a bunch of times, it really is amazing." "Thank you," Tessa said, feeling proud. She nodded her head good-bye.

As Buddy and Birdie circled back around Hidden Lake to catch a strong wind current, they watched Tessa change color to **green**. Her scales were in the shape of **red** hearts, and she had long **red-green** hair trailing behind her as she hurried home.





Thank you for reading the first 3 chapters of Saving Tessa.

If you liked what you read, please order the full copy (available in paperback or hardcover).

You can purchase on Dew Bear's website (www.dewbear.com - then click on the Shopping Tab, then click on Dew's wagon and it will take you to the shopping cart website. All books purchased through Dew's site will be signed and can be personalized. If you have specific questions or comments, feel free to call me at 919-382-0068 or e-mail me at dewbear@mindspring.com.

Books are also available on Amazon at:

https://www.amazon.com/Day-Life-Dew-Saving-Tessa/dp/194226108X/ref=sr_1_1?

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or just go to Amazon.Com and type A Day in the Life of Dew in the search bar. (Note: I cannot control the pricing set by Amazon or other sites - and, those books will not be signed as they come directly from the printer.)

Thanks again for your interest in the Dew Bear series.

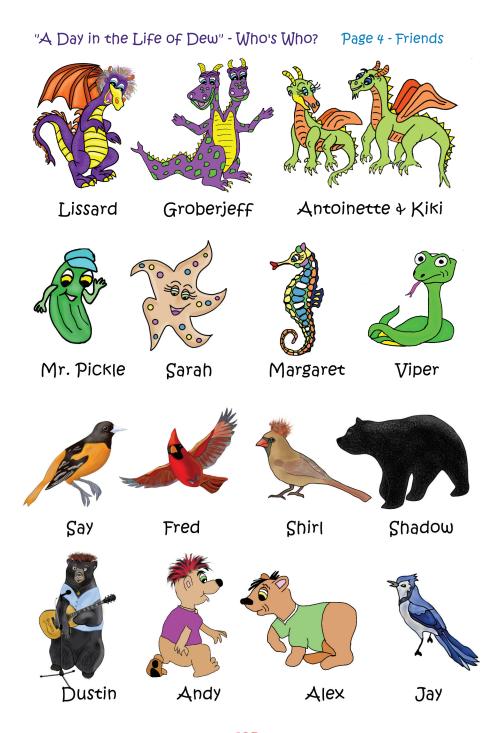
Debbie Clayton (and Dew Bear)

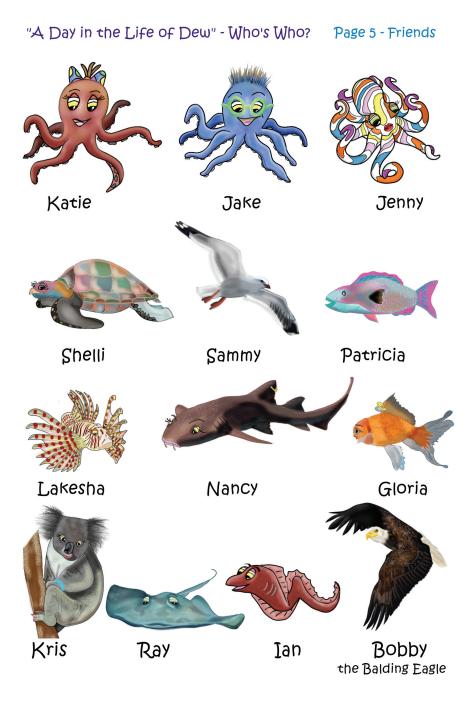




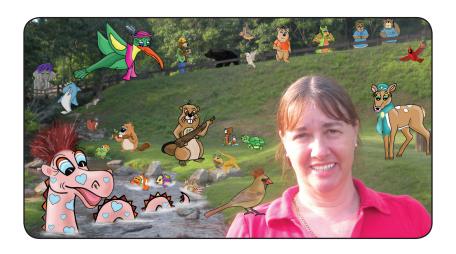












Author's Note

I have so many people to thank, I would have to write a book of names. Add a splash of their personalities next to each name, and the book would be a comedy.

I have been blessed with a loving and supportive family (natural born and extended) and many truly awesome friends. I thank each and every one of you from the bottom of my heart.

We are all just moments in another person's time. Thank you all for being part of mine.

To learn more about Dew Bear or the author, please visit Dew's website at www.dewbear.com or e-mail your thoughts or questions to dewbear@mindspring.com or join us on facebook at

www.facebook.com/Dew-Bear-Enterprises-Inc-1497926470453397/

DEBORAH DEEL CLAYTON was born in 1960 and grew up in Goffstown, New Hampshire. She now lives in Durham, North Carolina with her husband, Mike (Beezy), and has one awesome daughter, Denise Caron (Sharky).

"This third book in the Dew Bear series was inspired by my great-niece, Tessa. She truly is a fabulous and creative creature, overflowing with talents. She is a rare treasure that I am fortunate to have in my life."

"There are several important themes within this story. Some are easy to see—like that everyone has the ability to change if they really want to. Others are more subtle ... like not judging someone till you get to know them, sharing with others to make them happy, team-work, and just how wonderful making a wish can be (Make a Wish Foundation). But, the core ideals (ironically pronounced as "ahy-deels") live in all of Dew Bear's adventures—they are the value of friends and family, the importance of making memories, and the significance of love! Dew Bear's wish is that every life is filled to the honey pot brim with all three of these 'ahy-deels'!"

"Tessa really was having a 10th birthday when the original unpublished version of this story was written. However, due to the placement of this book as #3 in the series, Tessa had to wait 2 years for publication. August 3, 2016 is Tessa's 12th birthday and the official publication date."

