

Name: _____

Date: _____



Classroom Cereal

Story 7

Part 4 of 5

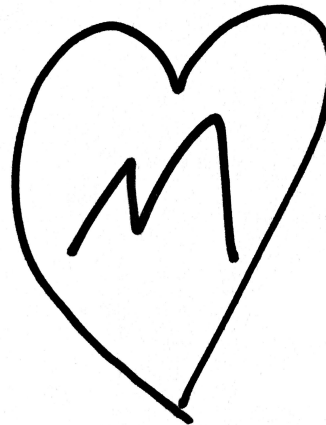
“The Skills Test”

Part 4 of 5: At the Backstop

Behind Fairview Middle School were several open fields. The main one was a soccer field, used by PE classes and Fairview High School’s soccer teams. Another was a old softball field. Fairview Middle hadn’t had a softball team in years, but the field, or part of it, still got some use. Behind home plate was a big, chain-link backstop. along with the wooden dugout benches and a few nearby trees, the area was known throughout the school as the Backstop. In warm months, it was a popular after-school hangout. The trees and wooden benches were tattooed with carvings, scribbles, and other graffiti.

After school, Malina trudged across the still-frozen field toward the Backstop, the Twain book under her arm tucked. Halfway across the field, she lifted her chin from the warmth of her coat to see a hooded figure standing at one of the trees. The figure saw her approaching and took off running in the opposite direction. Malina accelerated into a jog. “Hey!” she called. “Are you Mark Twain?!?” She confused her words in her excitement. Was it the messenger.

When Malina arrived, three things remained of the mysterious hooded figure. The first: slightly undersized footprints in the thin snow. The second: a green Marker, its cap off and its ink wet. The third: on the tree and in green marker, a newly drawn, graffiti-like letter M written inside of a heart.



Directions

1. Read the story
2. Find the five errors
3. Mark the errors using the key

Key

- Spelling error
- Add punctuation
- Capitalize letter
- Remove word
- Wrong word
- Move word
- Make letter lower case

Checklist

1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

Questions

Who do you think is the mysterious figure?

Why do you say so?