

Whitsunday Voices Short Story Competition

Grades 5-6

Winner

Aidan Wright for

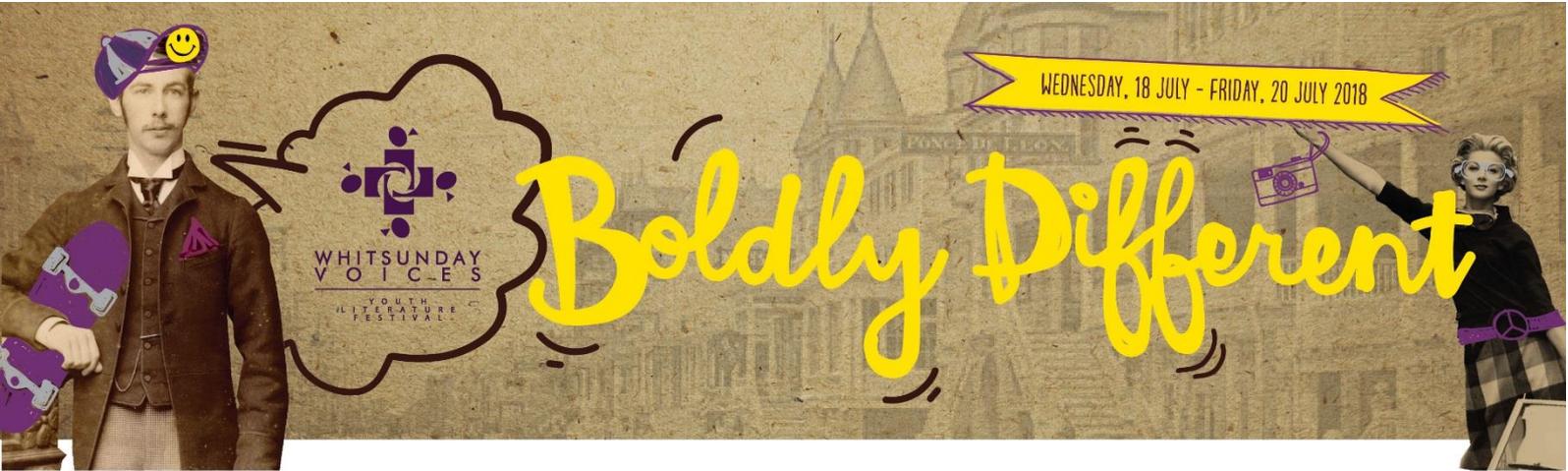
Fight for the Pastries

“Get in the car!” mum shouted. So, Jason bolted down the stairs and dived into the backseat of the car, putting his seatbelt on. Driving out, Jason saw his overweight cat, Lumpy, sprawled on the letterbox. From Jason’s point of view, that cat had never done anything interesting in his life.

“Where are we going?” Jason asked.

“On a picnic” Mum replied.

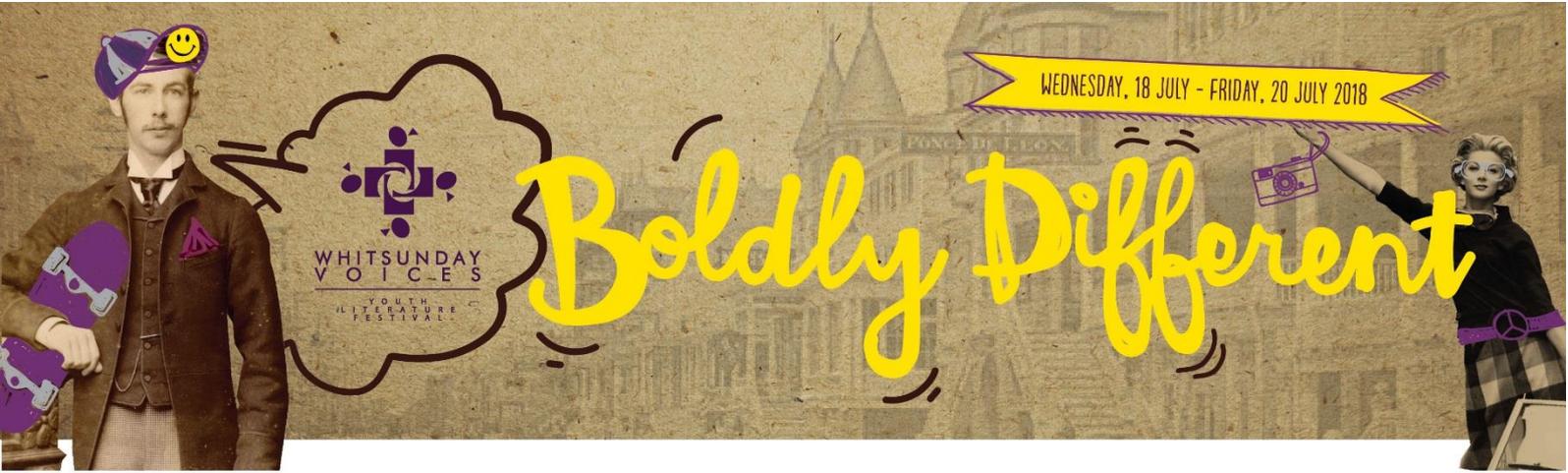
Jason could smell the mouth-watering scent of the pastries in the boot. He couldn’t wait to eat them all. As Jason and Mum arrived at the duck ponds, Mum started to set up the picnic while Jason explored the area. He saw a few ducks and a gaggle of geese sailing around in the pond. As Mum beckoned Jason to come back and enjoy the food she had prepared earlier this morning, Jason witnessed several geese march in an orderly fashion



towards the picnic. This seemed extremely abnormal because geese wouldn't march in an orderly fashion to take some food, they would run in like they were berserk!

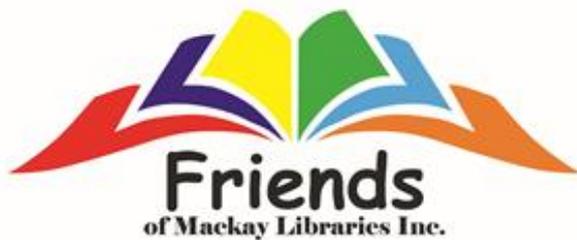
As the geese reached the picnic table, they spread out into two lines, leaving a walk way between them and then the geese bowed down as a larger goose with a bazooka marched through. After the larger goose stopped at the picnic table, Mum fled, sprinting until she dived behind a tree. Jason instinctively knew that he would also need to take cover, but he couldn't leave those scrumptious pastries behind. Since half of the geese, including the king goose with the bazooka, were hypnotized by the smell, Jason knew that this was his opportunity to dive in and rescue his pastries. As he sprinted for his pastries, there wasn't a goose to spot him, so he grabbed the basket and fled to the nearest cover. Half way to the cover, a goose had come back to its senses and started honking at him to give back the basket. Luckily, the scent of the pastries still lingered around the king goose, keeping him dreaming, except more and more geese came to their senses, honking and chasing Jason down. Since the geese were outnumbering him, he decided to let go of one of the pastries and threw it out, hoping the geese would chase the pastries and not himself. This decision was terrible because, firstly, Jason lost one of his delicacies and secondly, the pastry didn't act as a diversion, because the geese kept chasing Jason. He then threw the whole basket behind him and all the geese ran for the basket except, they didn't know how to open the lid.

Although the geese were distracted, trying to open the lid of the basket, Mum was badly hurt because as the king goose was distracted by the scent of the pastries, it accidentally fired a rocket into the ground, not far from Mum's cover. Since her cover was a tree, the explosion had a large effect on Mum's hearing and senses. Jason knew he had to help his mother, so he raced over to assist her. As there was a telephone box near Mum, Jason took a dollar from her purse and dashed over to the telephone box so that he could call the ambulance and police. On Jason's way to the telephone box, a group of geese intercepted his sprint, knocking him over onto the footpath. Jason was in major trouble now because he needed to help his mother. He kept trying to ignore the geese and get to the telephone box except the geese kept slowing him down and pulling him back. This



was bad news because soon the king goose would wake, taking the pastries and blowing the park up. Jason couldn't let this happen. His heart sank, he knew that the picnic was ruined, and the geese would take the mouth-watering pastries.

Just then, Jason heard a deep, thumping noise. Suddenly, a helicopter whooshed overhead, it's fuselage bristling with armaments. Jason was astounded to see that in the cockpit, was none other than his fat, useless cat, Lumpy, fully decked out in battle gear. The helicopter roared and started flinging flaming, cheese balls into the goose army. The flustered fowls fled, covered in gooey Gouda. The helicopter landed and Lumpy triumphantly marched out. As Mum was assisted by medics, Jason and Lumpy both enjoyed their scrumptious pastries together.



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