

Yours Until Niagara Falls
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IZZY (as an adult)

Once upon a time there were two little girls. They were best friends. They vowed that they would stay best friends forever. And they tried. They really tried.

Scene 1

(IZZY and LINA should now be seated. LINA writes a note. IZZY opens the note. It should not be physically passed between the two. It is Monday, February, 1962. They are age 9.)

LINA

Hello, Isobel-The-New-Girl. Will you be my friend? We can sit together at lunch. Lina.

(IZZY tears paper from her notebook and scribbles and scribbles and scribbles. LINA looks at her – what is she writing? It's a school note!)

IZZY

Thank-you. Nobody has ever passed me a note in school. I would love to be your friend. Please don't call me Isobel. It's my grandmother's name. I'm not an old lady. Call me Izzy. Not Dizzy. Not Fizzy! But Izzy!

Don't look at my hair. My mother thought I would be more popular if I had curly hair so she gave me a perm last night. Now my hair smells terrible and I look like a poodle.

Do you think John Glenn is done going around the earth? Will they make an announcement? In my old school, they would give you news. I hear you can burn up when you come back down from space.

(IZZY passes the note back. LINA writes.)

LINA

Wow, Izzy. You write long notes. (So, you're "Fizzy?") You have terrible penmanship. Poodles are cute. My blue and yellow striped sweater is not. I look like an Easter egg and I don't celebrate Easter. John Glenn will not burn up but they won't tell us. They don't tell fourth graders stuff. See you at lunch.

(They return to school work. It is now Friday. IZZY writes.)

IZZY

Thanks for letting me come over every day. The boxes are gone so my mom will let people in the house. Can you come over tomorrow? I love the Bobby Rydell record you lent me. I don't know if he is a dreamboat like you said because I never think about boys as being anything but yucky and punching each other like The Three Stooges.

LINA

Ari loves The Three Stooges. It's a boy thing.

IZZY

So can you come over? I've been practicing the mashed potato dance. My mother says I look like an ostrich.

LINA

Everyone looks like an ostrich when they do that dance.

IZZY

I have records, too. My favorite is "The Wizard of Oz." Please say you'll come over. Otherwise my mother will drag me to Aunt Marie's and I'll be stuck watching "Godzilla Meets the Three Stooges" with my cousins.

LINA

You're lucky you have cousins. I don't have any.

IZZY

Take mine. Vinny and Rocky are always poking each other. I thought everyone had cousins.

LINA

Nope. Not even one. Maybe we can go to the movies. "The Parent Trap" is at the Utopia. We'll talk about it over lunch.

(Of course IZZY has to answer.)

IZZY

I love Hayley Mills! I want to be Hayley Mills. Thank-you for teaching me things like rock 'n roll and dancing. I can teach you munchkin voices.

LINA

Munchkin voices?

IZZY

From the Wizard of Oz. You'd be good at it.

LINA

I'm only good at "dippy" things. Are Munchkin voices dippy? MaryAnn calls me "teacher's pet."

IZZY

I will never ever talk to MaryAnn. When I know who she is.

LINA

But you still have to be nice. It's expected. DON'T ANSWER!

IZZY

Do you always do what's expected?

(LINA just looks at the note and gestures "enough.")