

Reflection in the Mirror

Grade 3-4

Into the mirror she ponders as she stretches her long limbs. She sits, sleek hair, dark as midnight, and stares out of eyes with golden flecks at the reflection in front of her. She squints her eyes and tilts her head as she wonders who it is that stares back at her. She daydreams of playing on warm summer days, riding a bike, and swimming in the lake, evenings of hide and seek in the woods. Of going on vacation to the beach and building sandcastles in the sand beneath a clear blue sky as she listens to the waves gently brushing the shore. So many different things she could do! A new pair of jeans that fit just right, a summer dress in a flower print of blue or perhaps green, with earrings to match. All these things she daydreams about.

Within the mirror she can see herself climbing up on the school bus, wondering what new adventure she'll find. At school, something catches her eye as she walks along the hallway. A dust ball floats on the breeze. She chases it, starting and stopping quickly, pouncing at the last minute, trying to capture it, and failing. It floats down the stairs and she follows, grabbing and snatching until she snags it, getting peculiar looks from her friends and teachers as they pass. But, she goes on about her day without a care.

When she arrives home, she runs inside and talks about her day. As she talks, she wonders what tomorrow will bring. She sees in the mirror her other self, answering the phone to talk and giggle with a friend. Or maybe dinner with her family in a restaurant. She could order a nice fish dinner, her pink tongue licking her lips. These thoughts are making her hungry. She closes her eyes and imagines playing chase in the field with her brothers and sisters, picnicking under a shade tree as they laugh and torment each other. She smiles at these thoughts as she stretches and walks away.

With one last glance at the mirror, she says goodbye to the reflection she sees. “Oh,” she thinks,
“if only I was a human, instead of a cat names Dorie. Meow, Meow!”