

My Special Day

To Dear Reader,

Hi my name is Makayla Reynolds and I am 13 years old. My story is about the atmosphere of a special day.

One day, it was a normal day, I woke up got dressed and walked to school.

After school I got picked up because it was very cold and windy, when I got home I asked my Nan "where is Pop" she said "He has just gone to the corner shop." When he got home I went to him and said Hi as normal. Then I saw he had this little grey thing in his hands. I asked "what is that?" and he said "I think it is a baby bird." We had no clue what kind of bird it was or what to do but he explained to us "I did not want to leave it there for a dog or a cat to come and eat it."

Then my Nan had a look at it, she said "I think it's a lorikeet." Pop remembered that across the road from my primary school there was an old man that used to feed lorikeets. We decided to take the little bird to him and ask for help. We told him that my Pop found it and we asked what do we feed it. The old man said "just give him sugar and bread in water." Then just before we left he said "hang on a minute I might have something that may help you" and he gave us a card that had written on it WIRES Bird Wildlife Rescue, we thanked him and told him "we'll give them a call".

When we got home we rang them and we explained that we found a little baby lorikeet and we asked "what do you think we should feed it?" They said "you should feed it lorikeet feed. You can buy it from a super market." We also asked "how shall we care for him?" They said "Just keep him warm and see how he goes in the next

couple of weeks. If he is not coping then give us another call and we will see what we can do." We said thank you very much for your help. After that call Nan and Pop went to the supermarket and got some lorikeet food.

I don't think I have seen anything thing like it in my life, the bird just scooped the food down. I saw this poor little bird had water coming out of its eyes and he could not even walk so we put him in a cage to protect it. We had to make a bed for it so I got a little basket and put a scarf in it I also got a sock and made it look like a nest. Then we put him in there and covered him for the night.

The little bird slept very well through the night, it woke up early and had something to eat again. It ate the food so fast, then we put it back to get some rest. A couple hours latter we got it out for a hold, it was about the size of my hand and was making the baby bird noise like normal.

A week later we went to the shop and got a bigger cage and he loved it (I decided it was a boy bird). We got him out for a hold and he had his first step, I was so excited for him. Because he had started walking we thought we would buy a perch for his cage. After we put it in at first he didn't know what to do, then he got used to it in his cage.

A week later he was getting bigger so we thought we might get him toys, I decided to get a little ball and a bell. He used to pick up the bell drop it and pick it up and then drop it again and again. He looked like he was having fun.

We started to think we haven't got a name for him yet, we came up with the name 'Duffy' because Pop found him at Duffy's Corner under a gum tree. We stuck with the name and as the days and

weeks went by *Duffy* was getting brighter and bigger. Then one day we thought now he is walking and getting bigger let's see if he can eat by himself, we put a little container with some food into the cage and waited to see what he would do with the food dish. After about five minutes he started to look at it, moving closer he went down to it and then started eating by him self. I was so happy I thought '*Duffy*' is such a smart bird, I really started liking this bird. I thought because *Duffy* is getting bigger and was eating by him self why not upsize the cage, so we did.

Then after a couple of days I got *Duffy* out for a hold and he did not make that crying sound he used to make. I was so happy he seemed to like me holding him, then I put him back in the cage.

After a couple of months *Duffy* was bigger and getting so smart, he loved to try and drink coffee but we can't let him have it because it's bad for him.

When people come over and have a coffee people say that *Duffy* is a cute bird and ask if he is that a rainbow lorikeet and I proudly say yes. They always say how beautiful he is and we agree. My Nan taught him how to dance and so he dances but he can't talk but that's okay we still love *Duffy*. He is a very loud bird and he loves it when people look him, he always wants to be held and it doesn't really bother him who holds him, he just likes to be held.

Time has gone so fast and *Duffy* has just turned 1 year old so now *Duffy* has matured. He has grown and is how he should be, he still loves people to hold him and he still loves all the attention he gets. He is a very lovely and funny bird.

Sometimes he bites but on the internet it said that it is normal for lorikeets to bite but he did not always bite. It also said that

lorikeets hang in pairs and that seems right because when I see a lorikeet outside they are always in pairs, just like doves and other birds.

Somehow this bird has become attached to me, he will not let any one touch or even come near me and if anyone touches him he will bite them very hard but I can always touch him and he won't bite me. Sometimes my Nan would say he used to love everyone, then Makayla came along and now he has paired up with her and I like that he also cares for granddaughter as much as she cares for him.

One day I saw an ad in the paper about a bird show at Mascot and Don Bourke was the judge. I asked could if I could please put *Duffy* in the bird show and Nan agreed I could. We went there and there were so many birds - big birds, small birds, tropical birds, all different birds. Nan said "now Makayla don't be too upset if you don't win anything and I said okay. We took him there and they asked if it is okay if you leave your bird here for 2 hours, we agreed and we went home.

Two hours passed and we went back and waited for the doors to open. There were a lot of people there so I went and checked on *Duffy* and he had this huge blue ribbon. I got the biggest smile on my face and my Nan and Pop were so happy. As part of his prize there was a table full of all different bird things. After that there was a presentation and then my name got called and I had some photographs taken with Don Bourke.

I hoped you liked my storey and thank you for reading it.

The end.