

# The Election

By: Louise

I.

“Poppy!” Jackie yelled.

“I’m coming!” Poppy the pig shouted back. He ran down the big bumpy hill on the playground to join his friends Eli the bunny, Jackie the duck and Pumpkin the cat.

“I got them, I got them!” Poppy screamed waving four Sacrat City Music Hall tickets they had won in a writing contest. (Sacrat was the city they lived in.) Eli, Pumpkin and Jackie bolted up the hill to see Poppy.

“Sweet!” Jackie exclaimed.

They all reached in to get their tickets.

Eli said, “Hey give me one. Remember, were going all together,”

“Here,” Pumpkin handed a ticket to Eli. “These are for Friday, right?”

“Yeah, isn’t it cool?” Poppy asked.

Jackie exclaimed, "Totally! I can't believe we get to go backstage and meet the band,"

"Yeah," Everyone agreed.

"Okay, let's go up to the play set" Eli said. He whispered as they were walking up the hill, "Don't tell..." he looked around to make sure no one was watching, "Rocky," he finished.

Rocky was the mean rooster who bullied everyone and thought he was super popular, but actually they all hated him.

Rocky the rooster came up behind Poppy and swiped the ticket from Poppy's hand.

"Hey, what do you have here?" Rocky said slyly.

"Give that back Rocky," Poppy said. He jumped up and tried to catch the ticket back, but Rocky was holding it out of reach. Poppy's friends tried to help, but no one could reach.

"Give that back Rocky," Rocky laughed as he mimicked Poppy. Then Rocky really set off Poppy. He took the ticket and ripped it 5 times. He dropped it on the ground and walked away.

Poppy gasped. Jackie and Eli stared. Pumpkin shrieked. They all stood looking at the ripped-up ticket on the wet grass.

Poppy's face burned. Without warning he turned around and ran to Rocky.

“Rocky!!” Poppy screamed while grabbing his feather. “I’m tired of all your mean nasty behavior and they all are too. Being mean doesn’t make you cool and you’re not the most popular rooster. And guess what? You’re not going to be this year’s class president. Elections are coming up and I’m running against you. I don’t know who you think you are, but you’re too full of yourself. I’m not going to put up with it anymore!!!”

Everyone paused staring in awe at Poppy. Rocky bolted away from the crowd. After five seconds Jackie started clapping. Everyone joined in. They all shouted “Go Poppy!!” and “Wooohoo!!!”. They put Poppy on their shoulders and for the rest of the day, it was like Poppy was a hero. They all loved him.

That day the battle of the election started.

II.

The next day Poppy got busy. He asked Jackie to manage his campaign. He hung up flyers all over the school that said “Vote for Poppy! The Best of the Best.” Jackie helped him make them. He passed out buttons and pencils and stickers, all saying “Vote for Poppy”.

But Rocky hadn’t been so lazy either. He had made hundreds, maybe even thousands of posters, at least 25 per hallway! He handed out bunches of candy all around the school.

Everyone was anxious for election day; April 15, and it was April 14.

“Poppy!” Jackie came running across the hallway. “We have a question about the swing set! If you become class president will you push the motion to get rid of the swing set?” Jackie asked.

This had been happening all week. “Poppy will you do this?” “Poppy will you do that?” Poppy was getting tired of it, but he still answered, “No Jackie, I won’t push that motion,”

“Good,” Jackie answered. He ran through the hallway. “Oh,” Jackie stopped running and pivoted back to Poppy, “Who do you want to play at your rally?”

“How about the Stones?” Poppy said. (The Stones were a kids band inside their school.)

Jackie answered “Okay, remember we’ll have to pay them.”

“I know,” Poppy stated.

Jackie shook his head and turned around and walked away. He never liked the Stones.

The class bell chimed. BRIIIINGGG!!! Poppy ran math class with Ms. Summers.

Ms. Summers was a nice teacher. She had golden brown locks and hazel eyes. She was fair, and had the best teaching methods. Poppy loved her.

Poppy walked math class. When he got to the door, Jonny the cow came up to him and, another question!

“Poppy! Will you be a fair president?” Jonny asked Poppy as they were walking to their desk.

“Yes Jonny,” Poppy answered, “I will,”

“Good, can I get that on record?” Jonny asked.

Poppy sighed, “Sure,” He muttered under his breath, “If I win, I wish I had a co-president to help me with all these questions,”

Jonny took out his camera and filmed him saying that he would be fair.

He got more questions that day, since it was the day before election day. Poppy got so annoyed that he was tempted to answer some of them with an answer that would definitely affect how many people voted for him, but he didn't.

That night he went to bed thinking "What if I don't win? What if I did this for nothing? What if I get no votes? What if I give a horrible speech and everyone hates me for it?" Every time he thought one of these things the voice of his dead grandmother would say in her old raspy, but sweet voice "Everything is alright"

Poppy went into a deep sleep with the soft feeling that everything is alright.

### III.

"Good morning Poppy!" Poppy's mother, Petals said in a soft, voice. "Big day today, how did you sleep?"

"Great Mom, why are you waking me up this early?"

“I thought you knew, you and Rocky have to be at the school an hour early to give your speech to faculty and staff,”

“Oh, right,” Poppy got dressed and Petals drove him to school.

When he got there, he jumped out of the car and ran out on the parking lot towards the school. While he was walking, something caught his eye.

He saw Rocky getting out of his car and Rocky’s mother scolding him. Poppy’s first thought was “good for him, he deserves it,” but he listened a little more and saw what it was about.

Rocky’s mother was scolding him because she forgot her makeup and was blaming it on Rocky. Poppy felt bad for Rocky because it wasn’t his fault.

He stopped listening to the fight because his mom was calling him. He ran to her and they walked quietly to the gymnasium.

When they got there, they took a seat and waited for the teachers and Rocky. They sat together in the big, blue gymnasium waiting. A couple minutes later Rocky and his mom showed up. They all waited for the teachers and when the teachers got there Rocky and Poppy gave their speeches, but while Rocky gave his speech

Poppy couldn't help but notice the grim look on Rocky's face and feel bad.

#### IV.

"Poppy! Oh my god! Look, look, look!!!!!" Jackie came screeching down the hall with a piece of paper in his hand, so fast that a teacher stopped him and almost gave him detention.

"Jackie, I'm gonna need a little more," Poppy said.

"Okay, okay," Jackie calmed down, "So, I pulled a poll and guess what,"

"What?" Poppy said back, "I have a majority of votes?"

"No Poppy. Every single person is voting for you,"

"What!!!??" Poppy shrieked, "Even Rocky's friends?"

"Even them," Jackie answered.

"Oh my god! I have to get to the rally!"

"I'll come with you but first I have to go to the bathroom,"

Jackie ran to the bathroom and Poppy started running outside. But while he was running through the red wing, he saw Rocky in the library. He was sitting there eating ice cream, with the lights off, with no one. Like he knew he was going to lose.

Poppy truly felt bad for him. Suddenly Poppy didn't care about all the bad stuff Rocky had done over the years.

He bolted down the green stairs and out the back door where the voting polls were set up. Then he waited for the animals to start to come and vote.

When the first animal came, he whispered into her ear, "I'll give you \$1 and candy tomorrow if you vote for Rocky".

The cat looked weirdly at Poppy, but said she'd do it. Poppy said this to every other animal, until half the animals that came had voted for Rocky.

After that, he went to the rally with Jackie.

The next morning the announcements came on.

“Ladies and gentlemen, we have a big announcement. The results came in and for the first time ever, happy co-presidency to Poppy Pabble and Rocky Fisher,”

After that Rocky became compassionate to everyone and Rocky and Poppy became best friends forever.

They all lived happily ever after.