

## Story #1

**Background:** This is a twenty minute story I wrote while a member of a Writing group that met at Barnes and Nobles once a week. I often took the liberty to write short bursts of nonsense, hoping to shake up the expectations of the group. Created: October 12, 2003

### *The New Gift*

Once upon a time, in the vast, deep and mostly safe RedBlood Forest, a young furry boy got a razor for his 13<sup>th</sup> birthday. It had been wrapped with care by his grandmother before she's died. Now that the funeral was over, his mother made sure he could still open his birthday presents on time.

He had torn halfp way through the foil paper, succeeding in making a most horrendous sound. So much so that the family dog had run howling from the room and literally through the closed front screen door. The boys dead grandfather had warned that mangy pooch exactly one year ago today to always stay inside.

Now that the dog had run outside into the night, he'd promptly gotten eaten by the roving band of carnivorous bandits that lived in the trees. The boy felt sad for a second but now all the boy could think was how he didn't have to fill the food bowl anymore.

He turned his attention back to his half opened present. He tore off the rest of the foil wrapping. The boy turned his brand new shiny razor over and over in his hands. He flipped it over, faster and faster, to catch the glint of the light.

Pure happiness molded across his face.

He tossed the razor on the floor, jumped on it and slide across the living room floor, precariously balanced and sinking lower onto his shiny new gift. Sliding off the razors edge, he fell into a heap next to the lamp table. His feet were now numb and decided next time to wear his shoes.

He laughed and cried at the same time and no one in the room could decide which one came first. His mother stood up to make sure she didn't have to do anything more than appear as if she wanted to help him.

She looked down at the razor and realized the front wheel of his scooter was bent and she didn't know anyone who could fix it. But it was a fun moment watching her son finally get a razor for his birthday.