

# Pets' Mews



*The NewsPaper for Instagramming Plushies, Pets, and their People*

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Hello My Friends,  
Happy Summer Time or Winter Time, of course, to you! We have an extra summery edition for June, July, and August. We hope you have a great time and we will see you in the autumn.

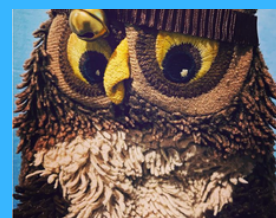
Big hugs, Topsy xxx



### READ PETS' MEWS IN RUSSIAN



### READ PETS' MEWS IN GERMAN



# Summer Reading

by @spybatmissions



Hello friends! Hopefully, you will have some extra time for reading this summer. Maybe your humans even get some time off from work or school, and can join you? My assistant and I have put together a list of different kinds of books for this issue's book review spot, and we hope that you might like one or two of them!

## Get a good laugh with **The Rosie Project** by Graeme Simsion (2013)

Don Tillman is a successful research scientist at a university in Australia. He lives a happy life according to his carefully calculated habits, but there is something missing. Don wants to find a partner. But he has some very strict criteria that need to be fulfilled for a relationship to work, and therefore he decides to use science to find the perfect wife. But suddenly, Rosie appears in Don's life. She is nothing like the woman he is looking for and really turns his life upside down. This is a warm and funny book that had us laugh out loud several times, both times we read it. Don doesn't see or experience the world as most people do, and that is very refreshing and also puts things in new perspectives.



## Feel happy and cosy with **A Woman Like Her** by Marc Levy (2018)



Sanji travels from India to New York for business. He is quite successful, but as the custom is, he has to visit his aunt and uncle (who don't have a clue how successful he actually is) before he can move on to his fancy hotel and meetings. But things don't go as planned. Sanji can't say no when his uncle needs help with his job, which is running one of the last hand-operated elevators in the city. Through this job, Sanji meets all the people who live in the apartment building. One of them, Chloe, especially catches his attention. And after they meet, nothing will ever be the same again in the building.

This is a lovely romantic comedy, taken to the next level by avoiding classical stereotypes. Instead, it gives plenty of room for diversity prejudices to be challenged. The characters are wonderful, and we would really love to be able to visit them all at Fifth Avenue number 12.



## Travel back in time with **Dangerous Women** by Hope Adams (2021)

In 1841, the ship *Rajah* sets sail and travels the seas from London to Australia. On board the ship are, besides the crew, 180 convicted female criminals, and Kezia, the woman who has been hired to lead the convicted women's work during the journey. Life on board is not easy. It's dark below deck, difficult to keep things clean, the food is not good, and the weather makes everything unpredictably dangerous. But that's not the only thing that is dangerous. One night, one of the women is found stabbed. How will it be possible to find out who is innocent, among all these guilty women?

This story is based on an actual voyage of a convict ship, and it is told from several different characters' perspectives. You really get close to the women, and you are transported right onto the ship, into the dark lower decks where they just try to get by, and try to prove their innocence, before they arrive in Australia to start their new lives.



## Step into another world with **The Fifth Season** by N.K. Jemisin (2015)

On this planet, there is only one continent, called Stillness. Here, a fifth season occurs every few centuries. This season brings destruction through catastrophic climate change. The society on Stillness has divided its inhabitants into groups called comms, according to the individuals' skills, ethnicity, and species. The main character, Essun, is an orogene, which is very dangerous to be. Essun has kept this a secret, since orogenes are sent off to harsh controlled training, lynched, or killed. When the book starts, the fifth season has come to Stillness again. Essun's husband has found out that she is an orogene, and has kidnapped their child and run away. Now Essun must try to find them, before the husband realizes that their child is an orogene too. And in the midst of all this is the threat of the end of the world.

This sci-fi dystopia transports us to a completely different world, that Jemisin has managed to bring to great life in the book. Themes like racism, elitism, climate changes, loyalty, friendship, and love are present, making us think about the importance of acceptance, peace, and democracy in our world and time.

## Get chills going down your spine with **The Guest List** by Lucy Foley (2019)

The perfect celebrity couple Jules and Will are finally getting married. The wedding will be exclusive, held on a small island off the coast of Ireland. Friends and family are present, but so is also a dangerous past, creeping up on the guests. Suddenly, a dead body is found. At the same time, a storm hits the island, and no one can get back to the mainland. Jealousy, old fights, and secrets surface, and everyone on the island seems to have a motive for the murder.

This book is a great thriller, filled with surprising plot twists that slowly leads to a very clever solution. The book goes back and forth in time and the chapters alternate narrators between the characters. Get ready for a page-turner you can't put down until you know exactly what happened and why!





## Do some self-improvement with **How to Think Like a Cat** by Stéphane Garnier (2017)

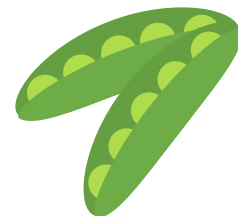
Are your humans too worried, busy, stressed, or insecure sometimes? Let's help them feel better the plushie way, by teaching them how to be more like a cat! This book will tell them how to know their worth, be more observant, feel like they're enough, be proud, and to say no when it's necessary, among many other things. Garnier has been studying his own cat for a long time, and has written this manual to a better human life according to how he sees his cat live through its days. There are concrete tips, philosophical discussions, and also quotes from the cat itself. At the end, there is a quiz that will tell your humans how much like a cat they already are. Can you guess it?

This might all sound silly, but Garnier makes some really good points. It might not be possible for our humans to lie in the sun sleeping all day, like many cats do, but humans really can find little things to change in their lives to make them feel better, by being more like a cat.





# The Hydroponics Experiment: Part 2



by [@gasbrick](#)

Dear allotment gardeners and big city farmers, we want to tell you about our indoor garden! Please read part 1 if you haven't already which is in issue 65 and which you can download by clicking [here](#).

## 03.Feb.2022 week 4

We have a pea pod, the cucumbers are taking shape and the first tomato flowers are showing up. The lettuce is completely harvested.



## 17.Feb.2022 week 6

The peas are getting fatter, the cucumbers bigger and the tomatoes have overtaken everything and are threatening to become a jungle.



**18.Mar.2022 Week 10**

The tomatoes have displaced the peas and are thriving.

The cucumbers have not yet given up the fight, but also do not have the strength to develop.



**07.April.2022 Week 13**

We have finally given up on the cucumbers.

Instead, the tomatoes have begun to colour, and we were able to harvest the first fruits of both varieties.



**15th April 2022**, after 14 weeks it was harvest time!



### What have we learned?

- One seed per pot is enough, tomatoes and cucumbers do not get along, tomatoes take over the reigns in the living room garden.
- Taste-wise, the fruits were convincing.
- For the next construction, we will adjust the selection of vegetables and not use all 12 slots.
- Anyone who enjoys growing their own plants, but has no garden or balcony available, will certainly have his joy in a hydroponic system.

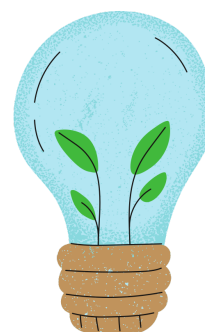
**Info:** We have complained to Yoocaa, unfortunately our system does not light reliably in 16 hours day / 8 hours night rhythm.

The support is very friendly, and we will receive a replacement unit under warranty.

### April 24, 2022

We start from the beginning.

Stay curious...





# A quote to change your mode

By @ausruheulen



*"Writing about writer's block is better than not writing at all."*

Charles Bukowski

Ever since the war came over Ukraine, I've had writer's block. None of the recent Pet's Mews deadlines I've been able to meet. It's not that I can't think of topics anymore. Rather, it's that every idea that pops into my head seems trite against the background of what our Ukrainian plushie friends are currently suffering. Before the war, I had prepared an article about fears, but did not want to publish it now. Given the new reality, I must honestly ask myself, what do I really know about fear. The fears we endure in peacetime are often just figments of our imagination. Fear of failure, fear of loss, fear of rejection .... aren't they all just conspiracy theories we make about ourselves?

I also failed to mentally pre-structure this article here, nor did I find a beginning. So, I did what professional writers advise you to do. I just started writing anything without thinking and without evaluating it. The reason why I like to pre-structure articles is that I want to make sure that the reader can finish reading the text with a gain of knowledge or at least a new thought. So, a writer must develop the text towards that insight point. But in my mind, it's like a blank sheet of paper. So, what deeper insight does this nothingness hold?



Have I ever been in such a situation, having to write something but not being able to? I haven't. But my human has. She was still a student at the time and was faced with the task of writing a short story about anything she likes within two weeks. During those two weeks, her best friend's brother died of aortic aneurysm. He watched a music video, rolled his eyes, and was dead. He was still a schoolchild at that time. My human loved this boy like her own brother.

At that time, her mind was also blank. And yet, the deadline was approaching. So, she started squeezing something out her brain. The only thought she found in there was the thought of her best friend's brother. She called him Oshmo in the story she tried to create, an acronym from the song title "One Shining Moment" by Diana Ross. Because that's what he was, his soft and pure and friendly nature reflected in his face, and he could outshine a crowd. But then writer's block set in again and the story was submitted half-finished.

Surprisingly, the literary lecturer was understanding. For him, it was even natural that the story could not be finished. "You haven't processed this experience yet. Every experience wants to teach us something. But you have not yet found the deeper truth that lies in it."

But until today, the story has not been completed. What meaning can be found in the death of a child?

I think it is the same with war. No matter the context, war is always meaningless and in the 21st century a long-outdated means. War is a failure of the human spirit and those who start a war have forfeited the meaning of their lives.

So, isn't it normal to be at a loss for words in the face of this reality? I know that many plushies, pets and people feel the same and maybe that is not going to change even after years.

I struggle with finding an ending. I cannot offer the readers a twist or deeper insight. I only did what Charles Bukowski advised me to do, writing about my writer's block. And as inelegantly as I started to write the text, I end it as well.



## Summertime Crafting

by [@cookiemreport](#)

Oooo Summertime and the living is easy! Me love Summer. Me can eat Icecream Cookie Sandwiches. And also hang around the beach or at the pool... Me loves it. Now crafting in Summer can be a bit tricky cuz paint no will dry (too hot), glue stays sticky (too hot) and ofcourse you are too hot to do anything! Still me have found some fun things to do while it warm that no need glue or paint.



## Drawing & colouring

The best thing is just pull out that old sketch- or colouring book and start colouring. The best things to use when it warm outside are pencils. Cuz crayons can melt and velvet tips can smooch all over. A little waterpaint though can be useful too. Think up some fun stuff to draw. Like me did few years ago for me map of Cookie Island. Also fun is pull out the big chalk sticks and draw on the street! Draw rainbows or hopscotch courses and play outside!

## Make popsicles

Maybe it more cooking than crafting, but me do like to make me own popsicles. All you need is a tray for icecubes or cupcakes (yes!). Make lemonade and pour it into he mold. Put in a lollypop stick or a liquorice straw and put it in the freezer. It helps to revenge the hot and it is delicious. Also... you can go out with your human and buy some popsicles or gelato. It nommy too.





## Summer Crafting with Cookie M Report

### Build sandcastles

Now when you go to the beach be sure you bring some furrendsto build a sandcastle with. You can use your paws of course but also bring a shovel, tiny rake and a bucket. It makes it so much easier. Well... it no matter how big the sandcastle will get, as long as you have fun with it! Look for seashells and other stuff on the beach to decorate the castle.

### Seashell crafts

Did you know you can do a lot of cool stuff with seashells? Bring them home and glue them (on a cooler moment) on a picture frame or a little jewellery box. Of course shells already have beautiful colours. But if you like it you can spray paint them too. Or just add a touch of glitter to them, to make them sparkle.

Well me hope you will have a wonderfur Summer! Stay cool, stay hydrated, revenge the hot with water balloon fights and pool parties and have fun crafting!



# Good Mews

## July means it's Camp Hoopla Hooray! Find out more here.

**CAMP HOOPLA HOORAY**

This is an annual event that happens for 4 days during the summer. This is also our annual fundraiser for Texas Lions Camp. Let's send more children for 2022.

**DONATE**

**TEXAS LIONS CAMP**

Texas Lions Camp is a non-profit that exists to provide, without charge for children with physical disabilities, diabetes and down syndrome from the State of Texas, regardless of race, religion or national origin.

**LEARN MORE ABOUT TEXAS LIONS CAMP**

**\$1231**  
2021 FUNDS RAISED

**1**  
CHILDREN

## Plushie Aid & the Plushie Help Network

The Plushie Help Network does fundraisers to collect money to help plushie friends in Ukraine directly, by either sending them money or packages with things they need.

♥Plushie Aid ♥

runs a fundraiser that collects money for the non-profit organization Hope for Ukraine. This is done by direct donations or by paying for things bought at the Plushie Aid Market.

PLEASE NOTE that the fundraisers are different, so take an extra look before you donate! Links to the fundraisers can be found in @plushiehelpnetwork's and @plushieaid's profiles respectively.

Whatever money you can give is priceless, no matter the amount, and it will be of great help for people and plushies in Ukraine, whichever way you choose to donate! And if you can't donate, sharing this is a great help too. Thank you!

**HOPE FOR UKRAINE**  
**PlushieAid**

**Raises money for Charity with the:**

**HOPE FOR UKRAINE**  
**PlushieAid Market**

**This is their GoFundMe:**

**PlushieAid For Peace**  
\$19,049 raised of \$20,000 goal • 377 donors

**Plushie Help Network**

**Raises money for Ukrainian Plushies.**

**This is their GoFundMe:**

**Plushie Help Network**  
\$10,599 raised of \$10,000 goal • 164 donors