KYOSA KITTY AND THE POWER OF HOPE By

Karen Harlow

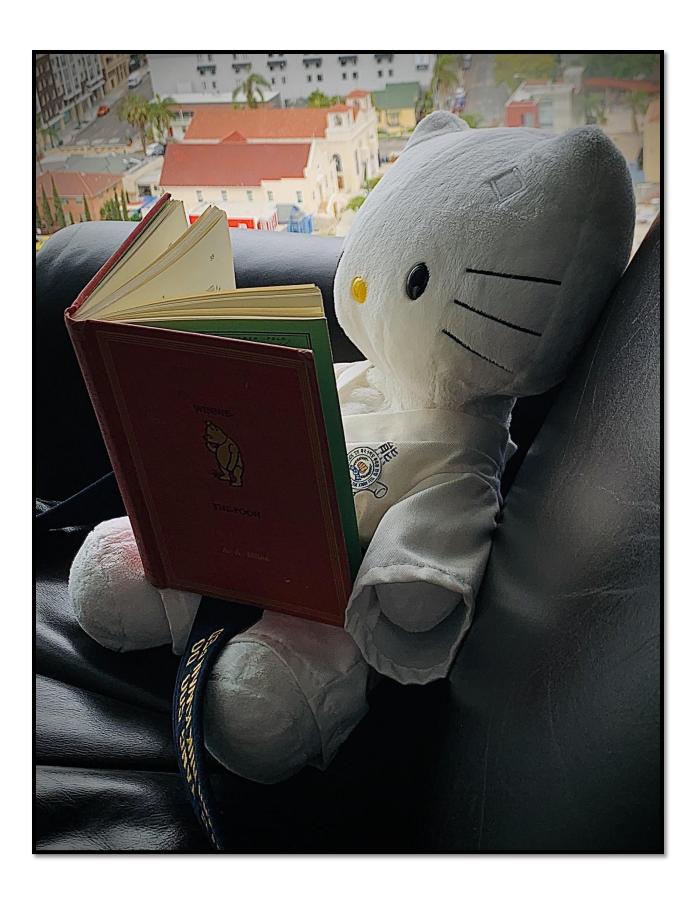


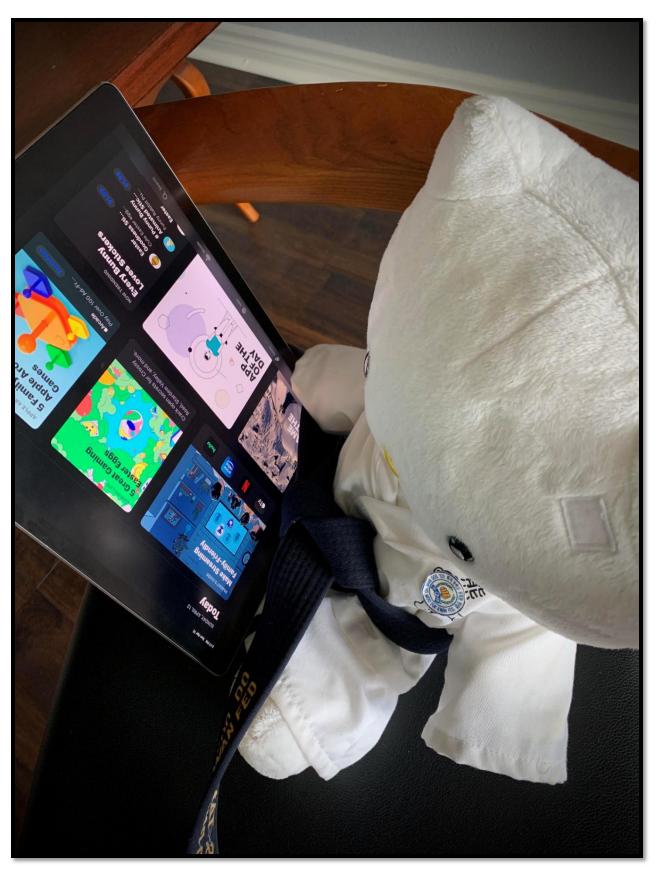
Way up high in a tall building in a big city, Kyosa Kitty looked out the window and made a wish.

"I wish I had a friend."

It was early spring, when the world had not yet begun to warm. Puffy clouds cast shadows on the quiet below.

The virus had changed everything. Nobody went to school. Kyosa Kitty studied at home.





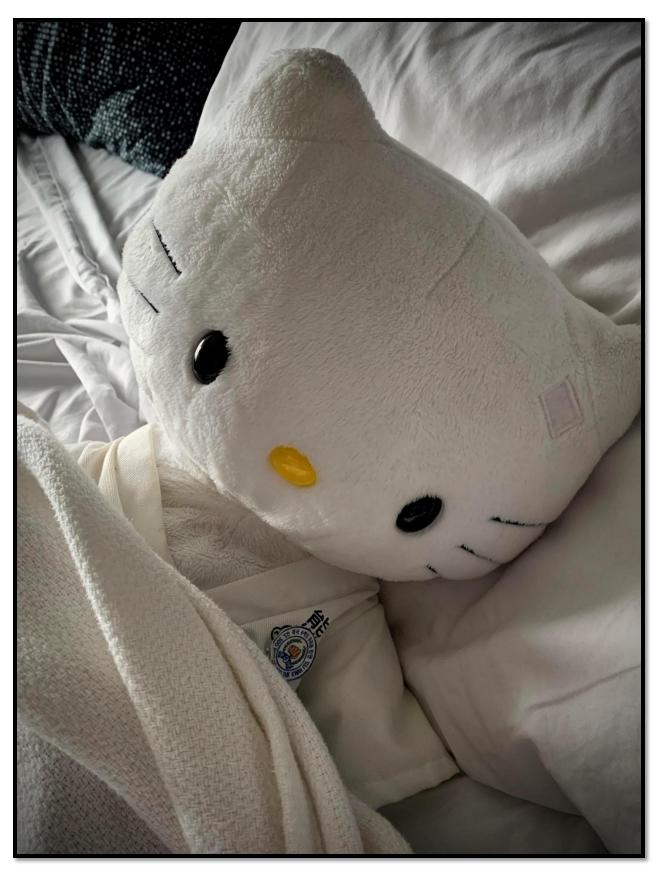
She played games.



What else could she do?



She listened to music.



"I won't be afraid," she said.

Kyosa Kitty tried to be brave. She tried to think of good things. She looked everywhere for signs of hope.

She saw a family of bears in a window on the street far below. She spied other bears in other windows far away, spreading joy.

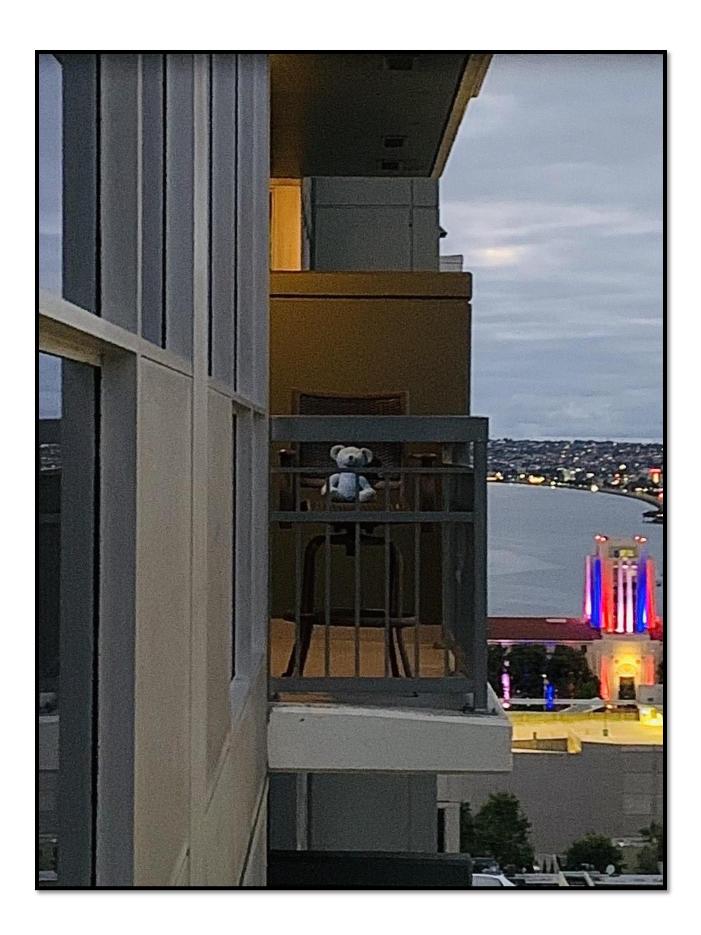


Kyosa Kitty sighed.

"They have each other and I am all by myself."

One night, at exactly eight o'clock, Kyosa Kitty heard clapping and whistling, and the banging of pots and pans. Building lights flashed on and off. The entire city was cheering on all of the heroic workers caring for the sick. She went to the balcony and joined in the celebration.

And then, right there on the balcony next door, she saw a little bear.



The little bear called out.

"Hello!"

Kyosa Kitty waved back to the little bear.

The joy of that moment lifted her spirits. The little bear felt it too. They were not alone after all.

"Hello, friend," she said to the little bear.

Kyosa Kitty's heart warmed on that chilly day.



That was the power of hope.

The End.