

Flubs2Fixes Game for Thursday, April 25, 2024

How did you do?

Here's how I would edit this passage:

Ebony Kitten asked, "Is it a trick, Mama?" "Don't make a noise." Mama grrs at the human. But the human didn't go away. The human put a bowl full of gooshy stuff. Ebony Kitten couldn't help herself. She nibbled the gooshy stuff. "Don't take their food!" Mama gred again. But then Mama put her nose closer to the bowl, and licked the stuff. "Well, maybe this is okay. But be careful!!!"

Commented [ES1]: We need some punctuation here! Comma after trick, question mark instead of period after Mama, and quotation marks around the whole sentence. Ebony Kitten asked, "Is it a trick, Mama?"

Commented [ES2]: By the context, I think it's Mama who is saying this, so her kitten won't attract attention. Therefore, this should go in a separate paragraph. Each new speaker gets a separate paragraph.

Commented [ES3]: The whole story has been in past tense. This should be gred. (or if you're a real stickler, growled. Since we're seeing the story through the eyes of Ebony Kitten, I think grr is okay.)

Commented [ES4]: I'd put this in a separate paragraph, as well. And although it's not an error to start a sentence with "But" or "And" I think the sentence would be stronger without it.

Commented [ES5]: "Put" is a sneaky irregular verb. It means to place something in a particular place. Because of that, you need not only to say what was put, you need to say where it was put. So the human has to put that bowl full of gooshy stuff someplace. I'd suggest on the floor in front of Ebony, but I'd also suggest the writer use their own words and decide where they want the bowl to be placed.

Commented [ES6]: New paragraph, since we're back to Ebony Kitten.

Commented [ES7]: Typo: herself

Commented [ES8]: New paragraph, since Mama is speaking.

Commented [ES9]: This is okay, as long as it's not intended as a dialogue tag. Gred is an action verb.

Commented [ES10]: This could be deleted.

Commented [ES11]: Although in casual writing, and particularly on social media, people often use more than one punctuation mark, this is not needed, and in fact is discouraged in more formal writing. In the case of exclamation marks, fewer is better. Use only one.

Commented [ES12]: This isn't a comment about the quotation mark, but it was the only thing at the end of the paragraph that I could highlight. Since this story is about Ebony Kitten and is told from her point of view, it would be good to end this segment back with Ebony Kitten. Maybe we would see her polishing off the food in the bowl. Maybe she'd be purring. Bring the focus back to the main character. Or maybe there could be something that would make us wonder what will happen next. A page-turner type of event.

OR to give Ebony Kitten the agency here, perhaps instead of Mama giving her okay on eating the food, Ebony could keep eating, and persuade her mama that it's safe. (I prefer that last thought. The main character should have agency in her story as much as possible.)