

Camp Arthur

Written By: Basak Serin

“First Day of Camp”

Section 1

Welcome to Camp Lakeside. Camp Lakeside is a fun and interesting camp that is located just outside of the city of Butterscotch. Camp helps kids develop leadership skills and lifelong skills, promotes independence, teaches teamwork, improves one’s knowledge, provides a break from the screen, builds self-esteem, and most importantly of all, encourages them to cherish friendships and to be respectful to all.

Camp Lakeside has two cabins (one for girls and one for boys); the mess hall is where the cats eat food and engage in fun indoor activities; and a bedroom and office for the camp leader.

The girls’ cabin is purple, and the boys’ cabin is orange. Camp Lakeside is located near rivers, lakes, and ponds. The trees are green and beautiful. The soil is brown, and the grass is green.

The camp leader, Arthur, is not your typical camp leader. He is the camp counselor and owner of Camp Lakeside. Arthur is a large, orange tabby male cat with orange eyes. He is an older, mature cat. He is stern, strict, short-tempered, and smart, but he is also caring and sweet-hearted. He used to teach at the police academy before becoming a camp counselor. He wears a red bow tie and sometimes a light pink or light blue baseball cap.

This summer, there will only be five campers: Geo, River, Buttons, Dawn, and Midnight. These cats are about to witness some awesome things and learn a lot about camp.

The camp bus arrives at the camp site. The three brothers, Geo, River, and Buttons are the first ones to get off.

Geo is a small, dark gray tabby male cat with medium-green eyes. He is the youngest of his brothers, River and Buttons. He is talkative, nice, sweet, thankful, and loves food. He is very excited about camping. He is adventurous. He wears a teal bow tie. He loves to have fun, and he is goofy. He has a lilac-colored backpack.

River is a dark gray tabby male cat with lime green eyes. He wears a navy-colored bow tie. He is stern, pessimistic, intelligent, sarcastic, brave, and sometimes kind. He wants to learn more from camp. He has a dark blue backpack. His brothers are Geo and Buttons.

Buttons is a dark gray tabby male cat with yellow-green eyes. He wears an orange bow tie. He is funny, smart, adventurous, and makes a lot of jokes. He also wants to learn a lot from camp. His brothers are Geo and River. He has a yellow backpack.

Here come the brother and sister cats, Dawn and Midnight.

Dawn is a black female cat with light green eyes. She wears a pink, star-shaped necklace. She has a purple backpack. She is quiet, a hard worker, nice, smart, and cute. Her brother is Midnight. She wants to make friends and cares about friendship.

Midnight is a black male cat with green eyes. He wears a purple, moon-shaped necklace. He has a white backpack. He is serious, nice, smart, reasonable, reliable, helpful, and has excellent math skills. His sister is Dawn.

As soon as the five cats come off the bus, they try to look for their camp leader, Arthur.

“Wow! Nature is so beautiful!” said Geo. “I can’t wait for our summer adventures to begin!”

“Same here, Geo,” said Buttons as they all walked into the campgrounds further down the way.

The crew sees Arthur. He walks over to them and welcomes them all.

“Welcome to Camp Lakeside!! I am your camp leader, Arthur. I am also the owner of this camp.” Arthur told his campers.

“Hello!” Geo, River, Buttons, Dawn, and Midnight shouted cheerfully.

“Wait, there are only five of you?” asked Arthur. The cats all nodded. “Okay. Let’s begin by introducing ourselves.” Arthur said as he looked over his notes.

“My name is Geo! I love camping! I wish to learn a lot and eat a lot of food! Yum!” Geo hollered.

“Great,” Arthur said. “Next?” he asked.

“My name is River. I want to dominate camp! Maybe someday I will become a camp counselor!” River said it with a strong laugh.

“My name is Buttons. I love to eat and read books. I love learning about the great outdoors.” Buttons spoke calmly.

“Sweet!” Arthur said. “Now for you two?” he said as he pointed his paw in the direction of Dawn and Midnight.

“My name is Dawn. I just want to make friends and learn about life skills.” Dawn said.

“Excellent!” said Arthur.

“Midnight’s the name. Don’t feel the fame, but I got this! I have awesome mathematics skills that I think will be useful for camp. I also have a compass. North, east, west, south—I know it all!” Midnight said as he showed off his compass.

“Thank you all for introducing yourselves,” Arthur said. “It’s time for me to show you all your cabins. The boys will have the orange cabin, and the girls will get the purple cabin. Each cabin has four beds and a bathroom with a shower.” Arthur said as he led the campers to the cabins.

He thinks to himself for a bit. “So, Geo, River, Buttons, and Midnight will sleep in the boys’ cabin. Wait, since Dawn is the only girl here, she will get the girls’ cabin all to herself. Lucky Dawn!” Arthur said.

The cats all unpack their stuff and head outside for the camp meeting.

“Welcome all! Camp Lakeside is all about fun, adventure, and knowledge!” Arthur told the campers. He has a clipboard in his paws and a black ink pen. He has a list of activities that the campers are going to do today.

Geo, River, Buttons, Dawn, and Midnight all cheered.

“How do you cats feel about art? You know, drawing or painting whatever you see in the forest.” Arthur told them.

“I love art,” Buttons said.

“Let’s see. What else is on my list? Water balloon fight? You guys think that will be great?” Arthur asked.

The cats all agreed.

“Remember, kids, have fun! It’s not a competition!” said Arthur.

“First, let’s have some lunch. I would like you all to know that I am the only staff member here. I clean, cook, and manage the entire camp! I work alone.” Arthur said.

“Wow, unbelievable, considering he is old!” River said about Arthur.

“What?!” Arthur shouted. He grunts and moves on.

“Hey, Mr. Arthur? Can we order a pizza?” asked Geo.

“No! We are having mac and cheese in the mess hall!” Arthur shouted.

As soon as the cats have had their meal, they go play a water balloon fight. The cats are split into two teams: Team Chocolate and Team Vanilla.

River, Dawn, and Buttons are on Team Chocolate, whereas Geo and Midnight are on Team Vanilla. Whichever team wins the game gets pizza for dinner!

“Okay. Get set. Ready? Go!” Arthur hollered.

The cats played the game. River is competitive and ambitious, and he doesn't want anything to get in his way. Geo just wants to have fun.

“We will win!” River cheered.

“It is just a game; who cares who wins?” Buttons told River.

“Like you would know better,” River told Buttons with a sarcastic tone.

The cats all score a tie. “It's a tie!” said Arthur. “Which means we all get pizza!”

Everyone cheered. They all go for a walk in the forest.

“Now it's time to walk in the forest and get our creative juices flowing. We are going to paint a picture like professional artists! Am I right, kids?” Arthur exclaimed. “Just get your imagination on a roll and get creative!”

Midnight gets tired all of a sudden. Midnight panted. “I am so tired,” he said. “I haven't walked this much since I worked as a postman.”

Dawn gets an idea of what to paint. She loves friendship. So, she paints Arthur, Geo, River, Buttons, Midnight, and herself all happy and smiling. They are all holding hands. The painting also writes friendship in colorful, capital letters. The rainbow is very colorful, and the sun is very sunny, bright, and yellow.

Arthur and the campers all stop somewhere and paint a picture. The boys could not think of anything to draw or paint. Dawn is the first one to finish. She also put a powerful message of friendship into her painting. It says, "Friendship is important to all. Friends support each other and listen to each other. A friend is what everyone's heart needs, and friendship is the best gift of all."

"Mr. Arthur! I am done! I hope you all like it!" Dawn said as she showed her painting to everyone.

Arthur took a look at Dawn's painting. He smiled. "This is beautiful! I am going to hang this in the dining room! Way to go, Dawn!" Arthur told her.

"That's great, Dawn!" Geo shouted.

"Thanks!" Dawn said.

Everyone applauded, and they all headed back to the camp site.

Section 2

The cats go back to the camp. Arthur shares some important messages with them.

"Do not wander off by yourselves, unsupervised. Do not go hiking or walk away from the campsite without my permission! Got it?! Beware of bears, spiders, snakes, wolves, coyotes, and harmful humans," Arthur informed the cats. "They are dangerous, and it is important to know how to avoid them and to know what to do when we see them."

“We will!” the cats all shouted.

“If those dangerous animals and people come near us, I am going to let my fist talk!” said River angrily.

Arthur had a worried look on his face. “Anyways,” he said. “Watch out for poisonous plants and trees, please! So, watch out for poison ivy, poison oak, and more. Here are books about that.” Arthur told the cats as he passed out the books to them.

They all thanked Arthur.

The campers go to the mess hall to grab a quick snack.

“I am so hungry,” said Buttons. “River, you look tired today.” Buttons told River in laughter.

“Oh, why don’t you stick a cupcake in it?” River said as he shoved a cupcake into Buttons’ mouth.

“Yummy, but so sugary, and you know what happens when I eat so much sugar?” Buttons said it with a mouth full of cupcake.

“No. What?” asked Midnight with a worried face.

Buttons’ stomach was growling. “I blow!” said Buttons. Buttons burped loudly and passed loud, smelly gas.

Everyone coughed. “Ew!” said Dawn.

“Hey,” said Geo. “Let’s wander off into the woods? I am ready to learn!”

“We are in!” said the cats altogether. Arthur is taking a nap in his cabin and does not know that his campers have left the campsite.

“Wow! So awesome!” Geo exclaimed as they entered the woods.

“Meh,” said River. “Could go for pizza now.”

“Trees are important for us and the environment. Nearly two hundred sixty pounds of oxygen are produced annually by one tree! Trees give us oxygen.” said Midnight.

“Nerd! Boring!” River told Midnight.

“Not boring at all,” Dawn told River. “There are different types of spiders. Big and small. Colorful. There are poisonous ones and not-so-poisonous ones. For example, the brown spider is very venomous, and one must be vigilant for other kinds of spiders as well.” Dawn said.

“Ugh! What a dork!” said River.

“Oh! Whatever!” said Dawn.

After some time has passed, River is bitten by a spider after not caring about how dangerous spiders can be and becoming fond of them by trying to pet it. He yelled very loudly.

“Ouch!! Ow! That hurts!” River screamed. He cried for help!

“What happened?” asked Geo as he and the rest of the cats rushed over.

“I got bitten by a spider. I think it was a brown spider or a recluse spider. I don’t freaking know! Help!” River screamed.

The cats want to call for help, but they are afraid that camp counselor Arthur will be mad at them. So they must quickly think of ideas.

“Someone help us! River got bitten by a spider!” Dawn yelled.

Taner, an orange male fox, came up to the cats with his yellow scooter. “Hello. My name is Taner. What happened? Did I smell trouble? I am here to help!” said the park ranger and the head of the state park, named Taner.

“River over here got bitten by a spider! We believe it’s poisonous! River tried to pet one because they are “cute”.” Buttons told Taner as he pointed to River.

“I see,” Taner said. “It’s okay, River. I will solve this problem. He got bitten by a brown spider. I have the medication to help heal him. This shouldn’t take long. You’ll be better in about fifteen minutes.” Taner said as he helped River.

River is starting to feel better! “Thank you!” he told Taner.

“You are welcome!” Taner said.

“I was right to inform you about how poisonous spiders can be!” Dawn told River.

River rolled his eyes.

“Really?” Taner said as he turned his head. “You should really listen to your friends. They may have lots of important facts to say! I hoped you had learned today’s lesson, River.” Taner told River.

“Yeah, I guess,” said River, unamused.

“Come one, let’s get you kids back to the campsite,” Taner told the campers.

“Okay, fine! Fun’s over!” said Geo.

“Aw, don’t worry, Geo, the summer’s not over yet!” Taner told Geo. “You’ll have more fun for the next few months with your friends!”

“I guess you are right, Taner! Thanks!” said Geo.

The cats and the park ranger, Taner, go back to Camp Lakeside.

Arthur talks in his sleep and says, “Unicorns, rainbows, cotton candy, ice cream, cookies! Campers. Campers?!” Arthur was stressed and anxiously leaped out of bed.

He checked each cabin. No one’s there. He checked the mess hall. No one’s there.

“Oh no!” Arthur cried. “Where are they?! How come they never listen to me?!” he asked himself.

Arthur exhales heavily, and he is worried. In less than two minutes, the cats and the park ranger show up. Arthur sees them all.

Arthur’s facial expression shows of frustration. “Where have you guys been?! Didn’t I tell you all to listen to me and not to wander off by yourselves?!” Arthur shouted angrily.

“I am sorry, Arthur; it was my fault. I dragged my friends into this. Be mad at me. Not them.” Geo said.

“Oh, you are not going to like this: River got bitten by a brown, venomous spider after petting one.” Midnight told Arthur.

“What?!” Arthur shouted as he was shocked to know that. “You guys need to be more careful!”

“I told him!” Dawn said as she looked at River.

Taner laughs. “It’s okay, Arthur! I rescued the crew! They are all safe now!” he said.

“Well, thanks, Taner.” Arthur told him.

“Anytime! Bye! Take care!” Taner told them as he took off.

“Kids,” Arthur sighs. “I don’t want anything bad to happen to you all. Just listen to me.” he said.

“Aw! He cares about us!” said Geo.

“Okay, we got it!” The campers shouted.

“Good,” said Arthur. “I am glad to hear that. Let’s have some dinner. It’s pizza time!”

The campers and Arthur go to the mess hall and eat dinner together. The pizza tasted really good. The kitties drank some water and orange juice. They all had a good time, but the night has not finished yet!

“It’s time for s’mores!!!” Geo yelled.

“Yes!” Everyone yelled.

S’mores are treats made of two graham cracker pieces layered with toasted marshmallow and chocolate. They are really yummy. The campers get to choose between white, milk, and dark chocolate!

“I’ll get white chocolate,” River said.

“Dark chocolate for me!” Midnight shouted.

“Milk chocolate,” Dawn said.

“Same as Dawn’s preference!” said Geo.

“I’ll go with white chocolate,” Buttons said.

Arthur laughed. “Dark chocolate! It’s the healthiest kind of chocolate.” he said.

They all make their s’mores by the bonfire. The cats are all happy!

“I can’t wait for new adventures to come!” Geo shouted excitedly. They all eat their s’mores and tell stories to each other.

Geo, River, Buttons, Dawn, and Midnight all cheered, even camp counselor Arthur cheered!

New camp adventures await Geo, River, Buttons, Dawn, Midnight, and camp leader Arthur.

Bailey the Cat

By: Basak Serin

“Bailey’s Life”

Section 1

Bailey. Bailey is a white and black cat with green eyes. He is a male cat. He wears a silver bow tie. He lives alone in a small apartment in the city of Pearl. He doesn’t have a car. He works as a library assistant at the public library. Bailey believes his job is fun, relaxing, and quiet; however, his mean, strict boss, Angie, ruins it for him. He walks to work every day, as the library is just across the street from his apartment building.

Bailey has dreams of becoming a musician. He records and raps his music in his small bedroom. His best friend and music producer is a cat named Lathan.

Lathan. Lathan is a black male cat with yellow-green eyes. He is cool and stern. He loves making music and teaching Bailey about producing music. Bailey is his best friend. He wears a gold bow tie. He lives across from Bailey’s apartment.

“Hi! I am Bailey!” Bailey told his audience. “I work as a library assistant at the public library! I also make music. My whole apartment is black and white! My favorite colors are black and white. Yeah, like me. I make music to overcome my freaking stress and my past and present issues. Yeah, I face my challenges daily. Let’s start the day!” Bailey concluded.

Bailey wrote and produced a few songs with the help of his friend, Lathan.

Lathan came by Bailey’s apartment for a while before Bailey went to work. They greeted each other. Lathan read his song.

“Hear my name”

By: Bailey

Hear my name

Say my name

These people be taking advantage of my kindness

Screw the stress

Lower the computer brightness

Don't be mindless

I am always righteous

Hear my name

Say my name

It takes hard work to get to fame

Don't hate the player hate the game

I am great; I proclaim

Famous; that's what I have become

Hear my name

Say my name

“Dang, Bailey! I like it! Show me other music you have written!” Lathan told Bailey as he held the lyric sheet in his paws. Lathan was excited.

“Thank you! Not now, Lathan, as soon as I get back home from work!” Bailey said.

Lathan agreed and left the apartment. Bailey got ready for work.

Section 2

Bailey works as a library assistant at the Tango Public Library. He helps the library by putting books back on the shelves; he organizes the books by genre and alphabetical order; and he sometimes fixes the computers. He helps register new users and issue their library cards. He sorts and reshelves returned books and other materials.

His boss, Angie, makes working there a burden. Angie is a calico cat with long fur. She has light green eyes. She wears a copper-colored bow tie. She has an eartip. She is strict, overbearing, and harsh. She tends to shout and laugh evilly sometimes. Angie doesn't like Bailey or any of her employees, for that matter. She works as the head librarian. She is an older adult cat. She has a sadistic nature.

The reason behind Angie's sadistic nature is because of her rough life. She was impoverished when she grew up. She had been bullied by her classmates and teachers from preschool until high school. Even the neighbors bullied her. Also, she stayed in both foster homes and detention for a few years. She didn't do anything bad, only slander. However, she does not know that Bailey also suffered from the same exact events.

"Oh, hello, Bailey," Angie said as Bailey entered the library. "Get to work."

"Nice to see you, too," Bailey said. He frowned.

Bailey gets to work by reshelving the returned books. He does a good job and works very hard.

Angie comes by laughing. "What are you doing? You are supposed to reshelve them like this!" she said sarcastically.

"I was doing just that correctly," he said as he tried to reshelve the books in their proper places.

She laughed. "Whatever, I can do better," she said.

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