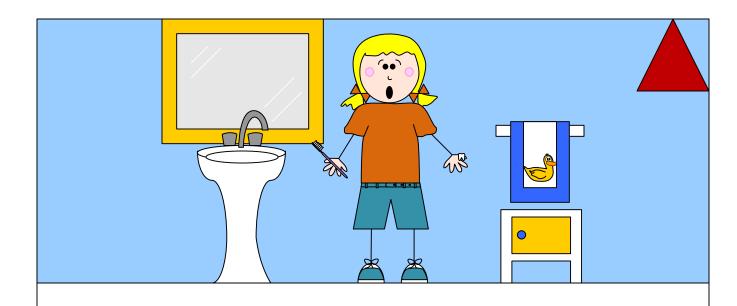


## Rotting Teeth

## Written and Illustrated by Jennifer Cheatham

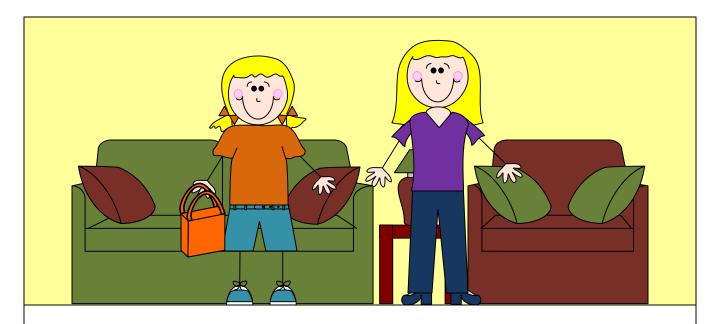
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"Mom, Mom!" yelled Sue as she ran inside her house. "Mom, come see what I got at school!"

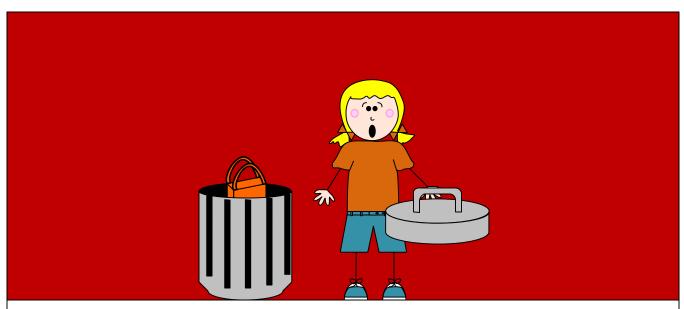
"What?" Mom asked as she walked into the room to see Sue.

"I got this bag of candy at the holiday party at school!" said Sue. "I can't wait to eat it all!"

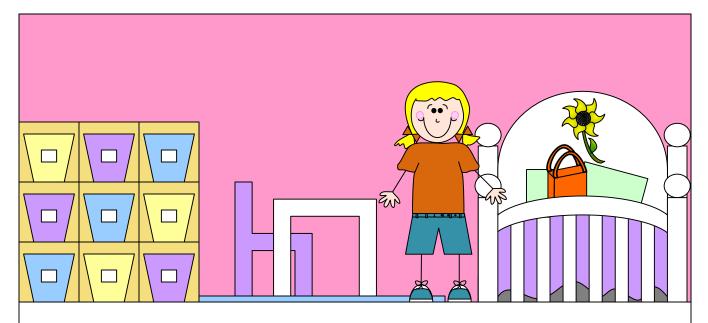
"You can have some candy, Sue," said Mom, "but do not eat it all in one day. If you eat too much candy, your teeth will rot and fall out."

Sue stood there with her eyes open wide. Her teeth would rot and fall out? That did not sound right. Her mom must have been kidding.

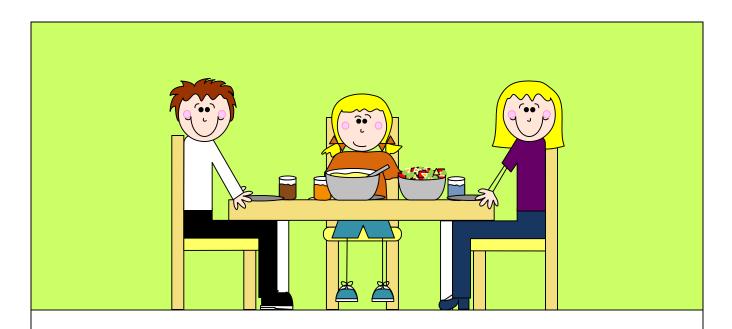
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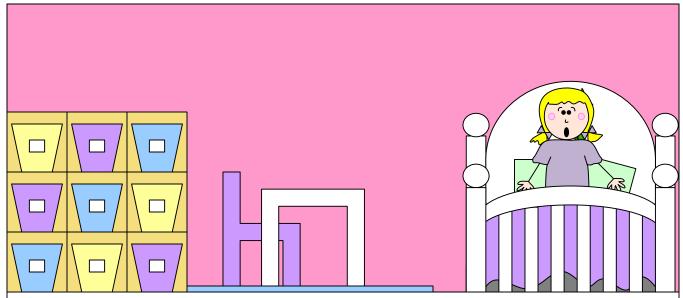
Before Sue knew it, she had the last candy in her hands! She had not eaten just one or two candies. She had eaten the whole bag of candies! She put all the wrappers back in the bag and threw the bag away in the trashcan outside her house.



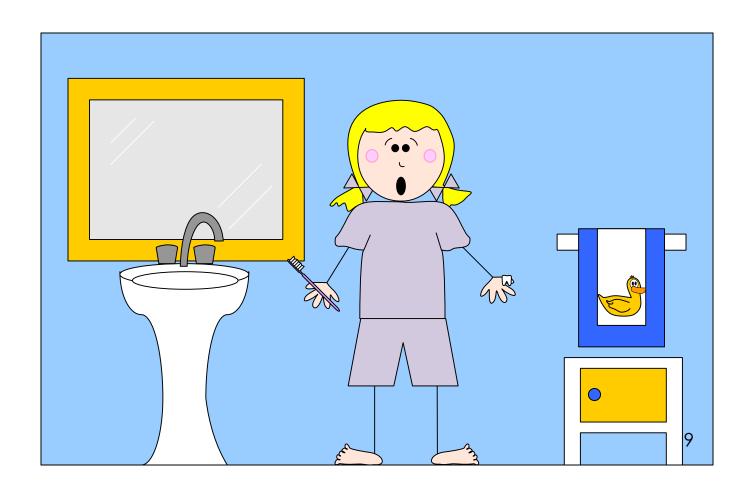
Sue went to her room and shut the door. She dumped the bag of candy out on her bed and looked at all of it. She was so excited about having so much candy! She decided to eat just one or two candies.



That night at dinner Sue was not very hungry, but she ate all she could so her mom and dad would not know she ate so much candy. She went to her room after dinner and went to bed.



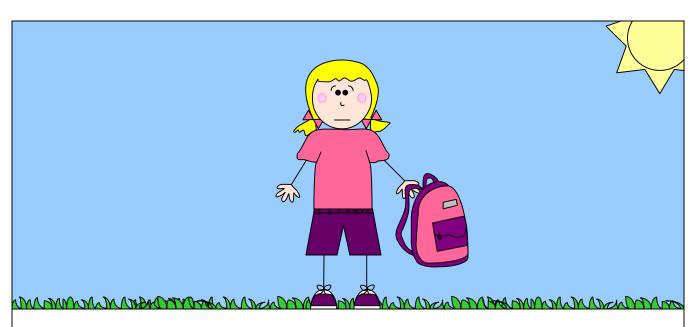
The next morning Sue woke up and her mouth felt funny. One of her teeth was wiggling in her mouth! "Oh, no!" Sue said to herself. "I ate too much candy yesterday! Now my tooth has rotted and is falling out! Maybe I can clean off my tooth and it will be okay."



Sue went to brush her teeth and her tooth fell out!

"This is really bad!" Sue said to herself. "Mom told me to not eat all the candy or my teeth would fall out. I ate all the candy and now my tooth fell out! This is really bad! I wonder if any more teeth will fall out!"

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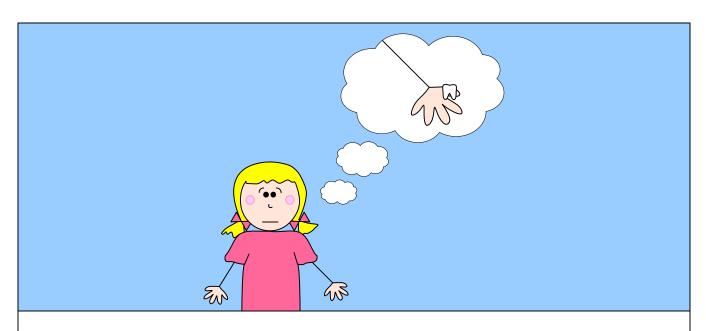


Sue put her tooth in a box in her room. She got dressed and went to school without telling her mom or dad about the candy or the tooth. She did not want to get in trouble for eating all the candy.

All day at school Sue thought about her rotting teeth. She did not want to have any more teeth fall out.

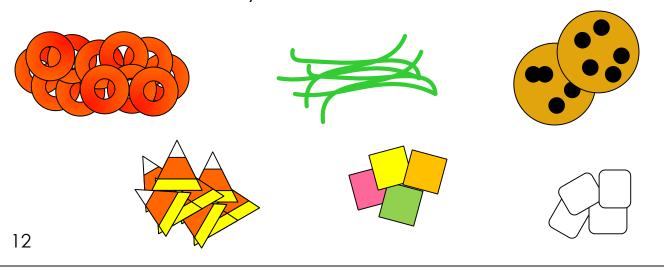
At lunch she sat and looked at the dessert in her bag. She decided that she would not eat any candy or sweet things ever again! She wanted to keep all the rest of her teeth.

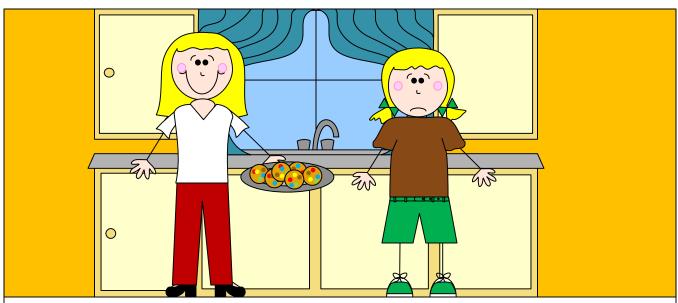
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Every time Sue looked at candy or sweet things, she thought about how her tooth fell out. She thought about how all the candy made her tooth rot. She did not want that to happen again.

For days Sue did not eat any candy or sweet things. She did not want to have any more teeth rot and fall out. She did not have dessert when her family ate dessert after dinner. She did not eat candy with her friends at school.





After a week of not eating candy or sweet things, Sue's mom and dad started to wonder what was wrong. Sue's Mom made her some cookies. They were the kind Sue liked best. When Sue did not want to eat the cookies, her mom knew something was wrong.

"Sue, what is wrong?" asked her mom. "Why do you not want the cookies? Why have you not been eating sweet things?

"Mom," cried Sue, "I ate all the candy in my bag in one day and then my tooth got rotten and then it fell out just like you said it would! I decided I would not ever eat candy or sweet things again!"

Sue did not know what her mom was going to do or say, but she was glad she finally told her mom the truth.

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"Sue, your teeth do not rot in one day," said her mom. "When you grow up the teeth you had when you were little fall out and you get bigger teeth. You just lost your first baby tooth! I am so happy for you!"

Sue was so glad to hear that her tooth had not gotten rotten, but that it was a baby tooth! Eating the candy did not make her tooth fall out! She could have some sweets and it would be okay if she brushed her teeth every day! Sue grabbed two cookies and loved eating every bite!

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