



Ready Or Not!

“It’s finally here! The first day of school is finally here!” shouts Traveling Teresa.

Teresa has been waiting for this day since she and her friends were last together. That day they all played croquet in Teresa’s grandparents, Sweet Pea, and Poppa’s backyard. Teresa’s friends enjoyed learning how to play croquet, spending time together, and snacking on the tasty cookies and lemonade Sweet Pea made.

Also, on this day, Gloria shared with Teresa about a new boy coming to their school. Gloria said she overheard her mom talking about him on the phone. Gloria told Teresa that she heard her mom say he and his family were from Japan. His parents’ military assignments are why they are relocating here. Gloria told Teresa that when she heard this, she could not wait to share this news with her.

There are many reasons Teresa is ready to return to school. One of her main reasons is to see who the new boy is.

Teresa thinks, “I wonder if the boy I met on my Little Red Suitcase’s magical trip to Japan is the same boy Gloria told me about this summer. He said he was moving to a town in Florida. Could it be Alphonso? It’s gotta be him!” For Teresa, the suspense is almost unbearable!

“Teresa, Tyler, breakfast is ready,” their Mom, Jennifer, calls in the direction of their bedrooms. She has prepared each one their favorite breakfast and knows they will love having it on the first day of school.

Tyler says as he walks into the kitchen, “I’m starving. It smells like pancakes! Did you make pancakes, Mom?”

“Yes, I fixed your favorite.”

“Coming, Mom. I’m so hungry. I sure hope you fixed oatmeal,” Teresa answers.

Before Teresa leaves her bedroom, she looks in the

mirror again at her outfit and hair. She says to her mirror, “I love my blue jeans with the heart patch on the knee. And I love this shirt, but I’m not sure this is the one I want to wear. Hmm, I want to look cute.” Teresa changes her shirt for the third time before she decides the Kind Vibes Only t-shirt is the best choice. She feels good about her outfit.

Teresa whispers, “I love this new hairstyle. I’m glad my pigtails don’t stick out anymore.” Teresa chuckles at the memory of her pigtails standing straight up. She slides on her signature mismatched flip-flops, grabs her backpack from the chair near her bedroom door, and hurries to the kitchen. Her little black and white cat, Suzy, follows closely at her heels.

Ready or not, it is the first day of school, and here she comes!