Bourne toWrite... creative writing workshops

Tom and the Devil

by Mikey Young

Tom's YouTube account: Tom and The Devil.

Day 1.

Tom is thirteen, all elbows and knees, with untidy brown hair, a scattering of freckles and a grin that usually means he's up to something. He leans towards the camera.

"Hi, guys, it's me, Tom. You'll never guess what? Mum has got me a cat. He's black, and when she gave him to me, the light caught his eyes and they went red. He looked just like the devil, but he's not a devil. He's a cheeky devil, though, eating all my snacks. I love Devil. Watch our journey here. Remember, guys, like and subscribe."

Tom's Instagram page: Devil Is The Best Cat Ever.

Recently uploaded pictures: Tom and Devil sitting in a homemade tent in his room, watching He-Man. They love He-Man. Tom and Devil asleep together, although one of Tom's eyes is slightly open. He couldn't take the picture otherwise. Tom's favourite: himself dressed as He-Man, showing the world that one day Devil could become a Battlecat.

Tom's YouTube account: Tom and The Devil.

Day 7.

"Hi, guys, Tom here again with my best friend, Devil. Man, he's getting big, I swear. Mum used to measure me against the door frame when I was younger, so I've started doing the same with Devil.

I can't find a tape measure, so I've used an old baguette bag, and Devil is almost half its height. That's tall for a cat, right? Let me know in the comments, guys. Don't forget to like and subscribe."

Tom's Instagram page: Devil Is The Best Cat Ever.
Recently uploaded pictures: Tom with an empty baguette bag, a marked door frame and an uninterested Devil. A short video of Tom with a stopwatch and clipboard, timing Devil's laps around his room. His personal best is 2.3 seconds, but he's getting quicker!

Tom's YouTube account: Tom and The Devil.

Day 14.
"Hi, guys, me and Devil here again. Guys, he's definitely growing. Devil is almost three-quarters the height of the baguette bag now. And boy, does he eat. Mum thinks I love tuna, but really, I don't even like fish. I've just been giving it to Devil. Four tins a day, plus his normal food. That's a lot of food for a cat, innit, guys? Comment below. Don't forget to like and subscribe."

Tom's Instagram page: Devil Is The Biggest Cat Ever.
Recently uploaded pictures: Twenty empty tins of tuna in a wastepaper basket. Devil next to their husky, Bernard, with the tag #AlmostTheSameSize. Which is slightly untrue: Devil is bigger.

Tom's YouTube account: Tom and The Devil.

Day 21.
"Hi, guys, you won't believe this, but Devil is bigger than the baguette bag. So much bigger. Look…"
Tom pans the camera around to show what looks like a small black bear.
Devil meows.
"Devil normally sleeps with me, but at the moment I'm sleeping on the floor. I don't mind. He needs his sleep; he's a growing boy. I can't believe it, guys. I think Devil is going to be a Battlecat."
Tom punches the air, sending the camera shaking. The picture steadies, and he adds, "And don't forget to like and subscribe, guys."

Tom's Instagram page: Devil Is The Biggest Battlecat Ever.
Recently uploaded pictures: A saddle Tom has bought from eBay with his paper-round money. A face mask and arm sleeves Tom has made out of papier-mâché, painted black and gold. He had trouble measuring them on Devil. There's a massive paw print on one of the sleeves, from when Devil was helping. A flag Tom has made. He has written a quote on it from a scary book he's just read: "My devil had been long caged; he came out roaring."

He thinks Devil would like that. And really hopes one day he will roar.

Tom's YouTube account: Tom and The Devil.

Day 28.
"Today's the day, guys."

Tom is using a shop window as a mirror. You can see him in his He-Man outfit, all the fake muscles bulging and his long blonde wig waving in the wind. Next to him, in full Battlecat armour, is Devil, who looks stunning. The gold in his outfit brings out his piercing eyes. He is roughly the size and shape of a lion, had a lion been jet black.

Tom feels Devil's muscles tighten beneath him, and power surges through him. He places the camera on a bin containing thirty-four empty tins of tuna and grabs the reins. He lifts his cardboard sword and screams, "By the power of Grayskull!"

Devil rears up on his hind legs. He takes three huge strides, then turns back towards the bin.

Tom says, "And don't forget to like and subscribe!"