

Owner of a lonely heart



Written by Junior Team 3, CRC Melton.



Write a Book in a Day



**THE KIDS'
CANCER
PROJECT**

Science. Solutions. Survival.

PARAMETERS FORM

TEAM DETAILS

STATE: VIC

DIVISION: Middle School

SCHOOL/GROUP: Catholic Regional College Melton (MELTON)

TEAM NAME: CRC Melton Junior Team 3

TEAM ID: 1282

PARAMETERS AND RANDOM WORDS

Parameters

Primary character 1 Shop assistant

Primary character 2 Pizza delivery person

Non-human character Tree

Setting Stable

Issue Passing the exams

Random words

Tiptoe

Fresh

Community

Delight

Bruised

INSTRUCTIONS

- Start at 8am
- Write an original story:
 - based on all **five parameters** (above)
 - including all **five random words** (above), and in bold type
 - with some identifiable **Australian content** (in theme or setting or characters, etc)
 - keeping within the allowed word count (remember every word on every page counts)!
 - include this parameters form in your book **immediately after the front cover**
- Remember: **Every** word on **every page** counts. This includes your front cover, back cover, blurb, acknowledgements and copyright form.
- **Be sure to give yourself enough time to submit your book and complete the following checklist before 9pm.**

Log on to the Team Coordinator Portal to:

- Check the spelling of your team name and team members' names (how these are spelt on submission will be how they are displayed on certificates)
- Complete the Declaration
- Submit your finished book in **both** PDF and plain text format by 9pm

Illustrators: Bernice Acabal, Jessica Sultana.

Authors: Isabella Sestoso, Addison Shaye Anyayahan, Shreeya Prasad, Archie Lock, Isabella Waters

Copyright

Published by Junior Team 3, CRC Melton, 109-141 Bulman's Road, West Melton, Victoria 3337.

Bernice Acabal, Addison Anyayahan, Archie Lock, Isabella Sestoso, Jessica Sultana, Shreeya Prasad, and Isabella Waters

Copyright © 2022, CRC Melton

All rights reserved. This book is copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purposes of private study, research, criticism or review, as permitted under Copyright Act, no part may be reproduced by any process without written permission. Enquires should be made to the publisher.

Contents

Parameters----	
Parameters form -----	2
Copyright page -----	4
Contents -----	5
Chapter 1: Jerome. -----	6
Chapter 2: First Impression -----	7
Chapter 3:” Just Friends” -----	8
Chapter 4: Study ‘date’ -----	10
Chapter 5: Another ‘Friend -----	12
Chapter 6: 16% -----	13
Chapter 7: Wish you were here -----	14
Chapter 8: Tears don’t fall -----	15
Chapter 9: The Final Exam -----	17
Chapter 10: Leafy Love -----	18
Dedication Message -----	19

Chapter 1

Jerome Callvo



The lonely streets and the eerie cries of the wind seemed to comfort Jerome, he always liked walking down the street whenever he was tired of the controlling world. Jerome was trotting down the street when he came across a game shop. He stood at the door, looking at the games. He wished he could afford them, but he just works part-time at a pizza shop. He just hurriedly put his hands in his pockets and strolled down the street.

He entered the train and located a seat. As he sat down, he put his headphones in and looked out the window. It took a while for him to get to his stop so as he left the train, it stopped raining. He

looked up at the sky. “Oh.” he muttered.

As he walked down the roads, it seemed much more peaceful. He lived in a very isolated **community**.

He trotted down the gravel path to his small house and he had bought a small rusty stable with it too. He had used most of his earned money to purchase it. Jerome entered his home and layed on the sofa, thinking about how life had been going.

At his university, he’s one of the most prestigious students. A high achiever who aims for the very best. During one of his lectures, he doodled little characters and made scenarios. He sits by himself with people giving him mysterious looks. The looks of curiosity lit upon his peaceful soul. He always wondered as to why people thought of him like that.

One of the only places Jerome interacted with others was at his work. Jerome had been working at the local pizza shop for around 4 years. He had been trying to save up his hard-earned money. He dreaded talking to so many people. Whenever there was a problem, he was always calm and collected.

“HEY JEROME” shouted his friend from across the room.

Jerome could not hear anything. His friend began to **tiptoe** towards him.

“RAAAAAA” his friend yelled into his ear.

“AAAHHH” squealed Jerome with a shocked face.

“STOPP,” Jerome said irritated.

“HAHA, YOU GET SCARED SO EASILY” exclaimed his friend.

Chapter 2

First impressions.

One day, Jerome hurried rapidly thinking to himself whether he should deliver the ham and cheese pizza first or the meat lovers. The guy who ordered the meat lovers did seem a bit agitated and if he didn't get it on time, Jerome might lose his job. He finally decided to make the meat lovers wait and deliver the ham and cheese. As he rushed to cross the street, he felt a bang on his shoulder and his hands automatically wrapped around whatever was in front of him. Before falling onto the floor, he caught a glimpse of the most astounding blue eyes that immediately captured his heart. He was pondering how someone could be so pretty.

"I'm so sorry" Madilyne exclaimed

"Uhhhhhhh, I'm " Jerome stuttered.

"Are you ok?" Madilyne asked in a concerned way.

"Uh yea." Jerome said awkwardly.

"Oh ok." said Madilyne.

Jerome thought to himself *wow, I really messed up there, she probably thinks I'm a weirdo.* Jerome walked away thinking about the mysterious girl who took his heart away from him, totally forgetting about the pizzas that were once **fresh** and warm.

Chapter 3

‘Just Friends’

Jerome was never a big fan of school, so to think that he cheated his way to a 93 on his ATAR is quite extraordinary. That brought him a scholarship to the most prestigious school in New South Wales, which is his own personal hell. Struggling to buy stationery with a pizza delivery guy's salary and struggling to pass any of his tests was usual, but he mostly looked forward to physics, the one subject he was decent at. Today though, his mind was occupied by thoughts of the peculiar girl he met during his usual shift. So, while the teacher was rambling on about immovable objects, his mind was on that girl's sky-blue eyes and shiny brown hair. Next thing he knew he was on his way to second period still daydreaming about that curious girl, when just then he crashed into that same girl.

“Oh, I'm so sorry, I didn't see you.” Jerome exclaimed.

“It's alright.” said Madilyne.

“Wait, aren't you that pizza delivery guy from yesterday?”

“Uh, no, I don't know who you're talking about.” Jerome argued.

“Sure” She replied sarcastically, she helped Jerome pick up his things. “See you around then, not the pizza guy.” she turned to leave.

“Wait!” he has been fixated with her for the entire day, there was no way he would let her leave like this.

“Could I have your number?” he asked.

“Why, are you going to nearly drop my pizza again?” She smirked.

“Are you going to give me your number or what?” Jerome said frustrated.

“Woah, calm down there, I'll write it down.” she turned around and wrote her number on a slip of paper and handed it to him.

“See you later then.” She turned and left. Jerome was ecstatic, he felt like a schoolchild, he had a girlfriend once before, but never like this, his mind was racing with opportunities, *will she be the one or will she break your heart or will we just stay friends*, but that happiness was quickly ended by his realization that he had science next. Later that day after school, Jerome was lying in his bed staring at his ceiling, when he heard a ring come from the bedside table next to him, it was Madilyne, he opened the text sent by ‘girl’ *hi is this pizza guy?* He sighed. Is she really bringing that up again? I text her back:

“Yes, this is pizza guy.”

“Want to talk? I'm bored.”

“Sure.”

“How are you going with your subjects?”

“Alright.”

“Have you been studying for the exam?”

“What exam?”

“Our mid semester exam, it counts as 50% of our grade.”

“I had no idea we had an exam.”

“You can study at my place if you want.”

“Really? I don’t want to intrude.”

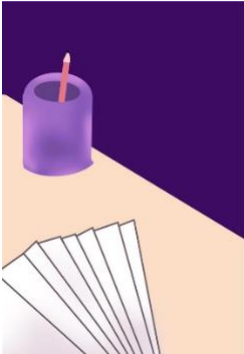
“No, it’s really fine.”

“Ok, I’ll come over tomorrow.”

Jerome lay in bewilderment, *is this really happening?* He thought to himself.

Chapter 4

Study “date”



Jerome has been having mixed feelings about Madilyne and thinks that maybe he will like her.

“You know what, forget it. I don’t know if I like her.”

Jerome put on his clothes and started to clean his room. He put his dirty clothes in the washing machine, he fixed his bed, and put his books on the table. The doorbell rang and Jerome walked all the way to the door and opened it.

“Oh, Hi Jerome!” shouted Madilyne.

“Hey.” whispered Jerome.

“So, you want to study now?” asked Madilyne.

“Sure.”

They both walked into Jerome’s room and took out their books from their bags.

“So, what do you want to study first?” questioned Madilyne.

“Uh, I think math.”

Madilyne took out her geometry and measurement book. She then took her pencil case out and took out two pencils. They studied for a few hours until it was around 5pm so they decided to go to order pizza from Jerome’s work.

“So, what pizza do you like the most?” Jerome interrogated.

“I don't eat pizza that much, so I don't know, heh.” answered Madilyne.

Jerome decided to order the pizza that he likes just to see what Madilyne would like. When the pizza arrived, Jerome opened the box and got a slice for Madilyne.

“These tastes amazing! I haven’t had this in years.” exclaimed Madilyne.

“Yeah, there's a reason why I decided to become a pizza delivery guy.”

replied Jerome.

After a few minutes, Jerome realized that she had already finished 8 slices of pizza! When Madilyn saw Jerome staring at her, she stared back in surprise. He quickly looked away with a red face. He could hear her giggling from afar, so he got more embarrassed.

“Uh, let's go study again.” said Jerome.

“Okay, sure.” replied Madilyne.

Once Jerome and Madilyne have finished studying, Madilyne decides to go home and leave her math books with Jerome.

“You can keep my math books for the meantime, I’m pretty good at math.”
announced.

“Oh uh, thank you.” uttered Jerome.

“See you tomorrow!” shrieked Madilyne.

Chapter 5

“Another guy”

Ding Dong! Jerome rushed to the door, panting.

“Uhm, hey Jerome.” Madilyne said.

“You’re here early” Jerome exclaimed wondering why she was dressed so fancy.

“Jerome, I can’t study with you tonight. I’m going out with Grayson, I’m sorry.” Jerome sighed with frustration.

“It’s okay, I can manage by myself, I promise.” Jerome explained to Madilyne.

“I’ll study just for you though” Jerome replied while slamming the door.

Madilyne stood there, silently; *did I do something wrong?* She left feeling guilty, to her date.

Jerome laid down, staring at the roof, he felt unmotivated and shocked at what had happened. Jerome began studying to keep his promise.

WHY, WHY NOT ME? He began crying uncontrollably. All the pages became wet with his eyes full of tears.

He ran to the bathroom, trying to calm himself down. He suddenly fell on his back hitting his head on the toilet. He rubbed his head and felt a sharp pain at the back of his head, *gosh*. He looked up at the bathroom light, panting heavily. He was groaning on the wet floor, trying to get up. As he stood up, he felt lightheaded and headed to his room.

On his way there, he gripped on the wall trying to keep his balance. As he entered his room, he sat down at his desk just staring at his revision sheets. He finally came to his senses and began studying to prepare for his exam.

Chapter 6

16%

When the moment came to do the exam, Jerome sat on his chair and tapped his foot impatiently. The pressure was on, everyone filed into the class, sitting on the chairs that were assigned to them. When the examiner walked into the class everything went silent, and Jerome couldn't stop thinking about this new guy called Grayson.

The exam papers were handed out and everyone tried not to flip them over and start straight away. The timer started, tick! tick! tick! Jerome couldn't stop thinking about Grayson and what he would've done with Madilyn when they were together; he was burning with jealousy and without realizing he was about to snap his pencil in half. Soon the timer went off and Jerome realized he had only finished one page; he soon started to sweat and overthink about his percentage. Some days had passed, and Jerome was still disturbed by Grayson.

What could they have done on the date, he thought, did they kiss, if this guy had kissed Madilyne, I don't even know what I'm going to do to him. Jerome went to collect his paper with a stressed face, he knew he wasn't going to get a pass, but he still went to get it anyways. His smile faded and his eyes widened. Jerome's heart felt **bruised**, he wanted to cry but no tears came out, he was way too sad

“I got 16%!” he exclaimed with shock.

On the other hand, Madilyne screamed out Jerome's name with **delight**. Jerome was happy to see her but was still mad about the fact that she went with Grayson instead of him. While Jerome was still thinking about Grayson, Madilyn wrapped her arms around him and gave him a hug; but Jerome pushed her away.

“HOW COULD YOU, YOU CHOSE HIM OVER ME” Jerome screamed at Madilyne with envy in his eyes, **“YOU DIDN'T EVEN HELP ME STUDY, ITS YOUR FAULT I GOT 16%, STAY AWAY FROM ME”**

He walked away silently leaving Madilyne crying in shock.

Chapter 7

Wish you were here.

Madilyne sat on a date with Grayson, a quiet cafe on the corner of the street. It sat lifeless for many days, it only opened on Saturdays. Madilyne loved this cafe; the warm atmosphere and greenery everywhere. The sun, sitting low on the horizon, shone on Madilyne, bringing out the blue in her eyes and the shine on her luscious locks.

“Your eyes look like the ocean; deep and beautiful.” Grayson says.

She almost doesn’t hear him. Thoughts of Jerome flood her brain like the sea of her eyes flood Grayson’s soul.

“Oh, um... Thanks, Grayson. Your eyes are nice, too.” I said half-heartedly.

All I could think about was Jerome. *The fight was stupid. I’m only in this dumb relationship to get back at Jerome. I miss him, and his goofy laugh, and how he would always study with me.*

“Are you okay? You seem off” Grayson asked, a slightly annoyed hint in his voice.

“I’m fine. Stop worrying.” Madilyne asserted.

Her phone rings. Work.

“Sorry Grayson. I have to take this.”

“Okay...” He answered, disappointment taking over his tone.

Half of Madilyne wants to roll her eyes and tell him to suck it up, but the other half wants to give him a hug.

“Hello, Madilyne speaking.”

“Madilyne, you need to come in. Kathy called in sick and you need to cover her shifts.” Madilyne’s boss had a tone as to not be messed with.

“Okay, sir, I’ll be right in.” Madilyne sighed. Mainly with relief. She would do anything to get out of this date. She hung up. Kmart had been busy, as usual, but so many people were sick, it was inevitable. Madilyne walks back to Grayson, dreading the worst.

“Grayson... Bad news. Work needs me. I got to go.” Madilyne feels as though she’s always letting Grayson down.

“Of course. Always work. *Always* an excuse. I get it. Madilyn, if you don’t want to be together, just say so. If you don’t want me, just say it now because I think I’m falling in love with you. So, say it now. Please.” Greyson’s voice had filled with desperation.

“...You’re in love... with me? I’m sorry Grayson, I... I can’t. I’m sorry.” Madilyne was in complete shock.

Chapter 8

Tears don't fall

Jerome was furious at Madilyne.

It's all her fault! Jerome thought.

He strode out of the university, even leaving his books and bag. Jerome still had his phone and headphones, so he decided to listen to music to get his mind off of everything. Two of the worst things happened not long ago. Jerome went to the train station and got onto the train. He didn't know how to feel, it was like no one was around him but, there were so many people surrounding him.

The train had reached its destination and Jerome got off and walked the rest of the way home. He then noticed a big gumtree right beside his small stable home.

What is that? I've never seen that next to my stable, thought Jerome.

It wouldn't hurt to go take a look at it right? He had nothing to do anyways. Jerome tread towards the tree, he looked up looking at the wind caressing the leaves. The leaves would fall at the sight. It was such an unfortunate yet calmful day. He then heard the most peaceful voice that he's ever heard.

"Hello, Jerome Callvo." spoke the tree.

"Who are you, and why are you talking to me?!"

"I know you, Jerome, I've heard all your conversations. Especially with that girl. What's her name? Oh yes, Madilyne." mentioned the tree.

"Okay, that's scary. First of all, what's your name?"

"I am Woody, the invisible ancient tree. I've heard everything from everyone, even from past owners." answered Woody.

"Oh, nice name. I guess." replied Jerome.

"Tell me everything, Jerome."

"What?" questioned Jerome.

Jerome was confused. How could this tree hear everything? It doesn't even have ears!

"Okay, then. If you can handle it."

"I absolutely hate Madilyne! She ruined my life; how dare she reject me for some boy! He's not even that good looking. We studied so hard, *I* studied so hard! It's like she did all that work for nothing, so it's also bad for her! She wasted her time on me for nothing! I can't believe it, I'm a wreck."

“Wow, you have a lot to say, Jerome. I know how you feel. I’ve had many people who feel like this.” answered Woody.

“I just hate her.”

“No, you don’t, I know you love her. You know you do,” said Woody.

“Try again, Jerome. Do the exam again, talk to Madilyne.” continued Woody.

“Should I, tree?” replied Jerome.

“First of all, my name is Woody and yes. Do it for her.”

Jerome thought for a second.

Should I? I’ve failed already. Jerome thought.

He remembered what Woody said. *Do it for her.* Jerome would do everything for her, so he ran all the way to the train station. He boarded the train and waited for the destination. Once the train had reached the school, he ran out and strutted to the exam room, hoping the teacher was still there.

“Sir!” shouted Jerome.

The teacher looked back, confused.

He had already failed, why is he here? Thought the teacher.

“Hi, sir, I’d like to redo my math exam. I promise to try harder this time and I promise you, that I will study and pass the exam this time. So, can I please do it again?” asked Jerome.

The teacher thought for a second. He barely gives second chances for people who fail the exam. Although, the teacher saw how sad he was and the look on his face showed him that he would try harder and pass.

“Okay then Jerome, I’ll give you a second chance but if you fail, you’re out of the school.”

Jerome gulped.

“Alright, sir. I agree, I will do my best, I promise.”

“You can do the exam again, right now this period. The other classes are doing it so you can join them.” said the teacher.

Chapter 9

The Final Exam

The cold, dim white lights hit Jerome's light brown skin and sent a shiver down his spine. He took a breath in and strolled to his chair. There it sat grey and lonely, a little bit like Jerome. He got the exam paper and sat down, grabbed his pencil, and got to work. Filled with focus and determination, his pencil moved swiftly and with purpose as it glided along the page, all the cogs in Jerome's brain were working overtime. Finally, he signed his name onto the paper and handed it in. He was finished, all he had to do now, was wait.

He got home and started pacing around his favourite stable thinking about what would happen if he failed this test 'I won't be able to have a future then I won't be able to show my face anywhere' he then checked his emails... still nothing. The next day he watched all his peers get their results, some good, some bad but he waited and waited and waited. The results on his test were not what he expected, 87%. He practically jumped for joy; he had done it! He won, but not completely. Madilyne, oh Madilyne the love of his life gone because of a stupid mistake he had made. How could he tell her how he really feels he never felt so complete when he was with her all those times doing homework, was when he truly felt complete. But now she's gone, she doesn't want to see him anymore, and who can blame her? He mistreated her, took all his anger out on her. He had to make this right. He texted her in a hopeless state.

"Hi." -J

"Hi." -M

"I have to tell you something." -J

"Ok?" -M

"Meet me at the tree on knight road in 30 minutes." -J

"Fine." -M

"I'll see you there." -M

"Sure." -J

It was set, now, it was all down to this.

Chapter 10

Leafy Love



The picnic blanket, spread out on the damp grass, while the basket is full of food; rolls and a baguette, chocolate, and assorted fruits. Jerome sat on the blanket waiting for Madilyne to arrive. He was dressed in his best clothes; comfy but not to say he did not care. He was so worried that Madilyne would not show up, his heart pounded within his chest and his palms drowned in sweat. The river below streamed rapidly, setting a romantic ambiance. He longed for Madilyn, to see her face and hear her laugh. Madilyn slowly walked through the field, nervous to see Jerome. As Jerome came into sight Madilyn blushed, as she had not lost all the feelings, she had been trying to get rid of. Madilyne sat down on the blanket next to Jerome.

“Hey, Madilyne”

“Hi, Jerome. You wanted to see me?”

“Yes! Uh, let’s have something to eat. You hungry?”

“Sure, I could eat.”

Jerome opened the basket with haste and made a plate for Madilyne consisting of a Sliced baguette, milk chocolate, and sliced banana.

“Thanks,” Madilyne exclaimed as Jerome handed her the plate.

“Madilyne, there is something I wanted to tell you. I’m sorry, I’m sorry I yelled at you. It was wrong. Madilyne, I know you might not forgive me, but, I like you. A lot. I love you. Please just tell me if you love me back. Ever since I bumped into you that one day, I knew we were destined for each other. You’re so special and I took you for granted. I promise I’ll never do that again. *I love you.*” Jerome’s heartbeat was so loud he thought Madilyne might hear it.

“Jerome. I- I love you too.” Jerome looked at Madilyne in a state of disbelief.

“I love you, Jerome!” Madilyne said again, hoping for a response. Jerome looked at her for a brief second and leaned into her. Their lips pressed together softly, and their hearts connected to make one. They were both *complete*.

Dedicated to our sponsors, and Miss Todd. Thank you for helping fuel our minds, organize this event, and help us write this story. We owe this all to you.

When two star-crossed people find each other on the pathway of destiny. They go through the hardest challenge of them all... But a new challenger appears...

