



THE 2023 YOUNG MATHEMATICAL STORY AUTHOR (YMSA) COMPETITION

THE STUART J. MURPHY AWARD
(THE 8-11 YEARS OLD CATEGORY)

LONGLISTED

'Halve to Whole!' by Grace Bailey (10 years old)
at St Christopher's School (UK)

You can read the author's inspiration for the story and the judges' comments
on:

www.mathsthroughstories.org/ymsa2023

#YMSAMaths

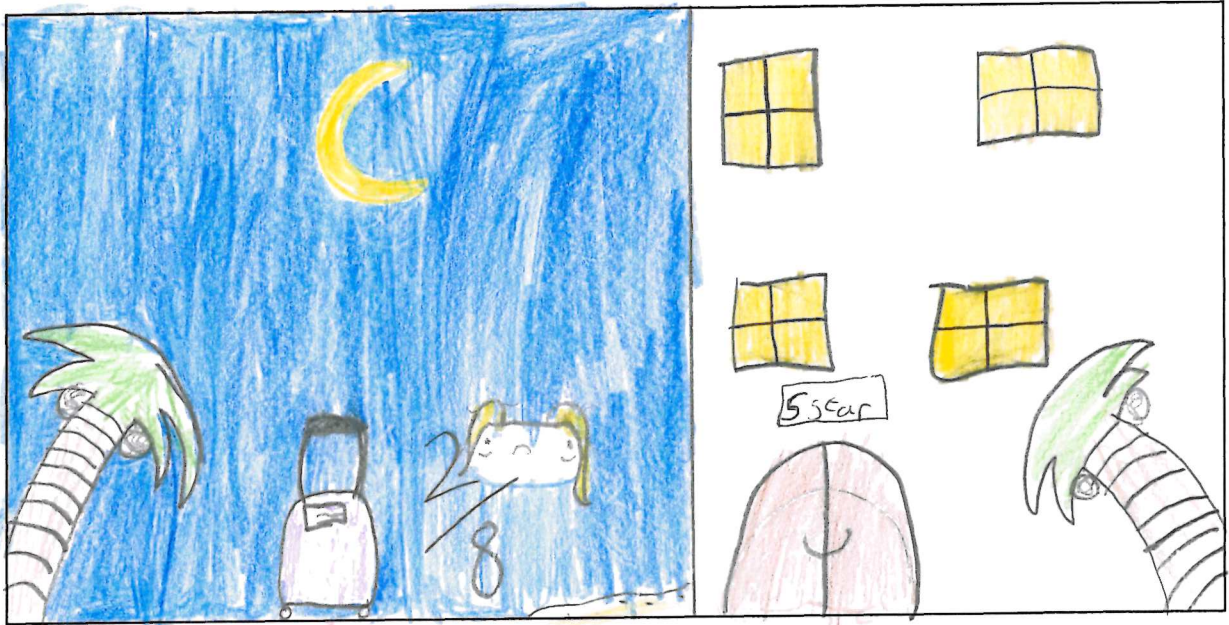


Halve to Whole





Miss 2/8 (Freda) was tired of waking up every day from an amazing dream of her with the perfect man on a sunny summer day laying in the grass and drinking wine (sigh). When would her wish come true? One day, she had had enough of waking up to a drizzly cloudy day. Out of desperation, she booked a flight to the most romantic place on earth, the Bahamas.



After a long, tiring flight in economy (flying isn't cheap) she had arrived. Miss 2/8 was exhausted. She had gotten no sleep on the plane. It was a 13 hour flight with a child kicking her seat the whole way there. Sadly Miss 2/8 had to go on a 2 hour bus journey to get to the hotel. This is the best bit. Miss 2/8 had saved up enough money to go to a 5 star hotel. She hauled her luggage into her room and slept, too tired to do anything.



It was a perfect sunny day and a stroll on the beach was needed. That's when her heart stopped. There in front of her was the most handsome man she had ever seen. He spotted her all of a sudden and she felt like jelly, her legs collapsed and he ran to help.

"Are you alright? You just suddenly collapsed."

"Yeah I think I'm ok," suddenly, she saw he was blushing. (ooooo!)

"My name is Mr 75%, also known as James. What's your name?"

"My name is Miss 2/8, But you can call me Freda."

"I know this is a bit awkward but are you free tonight for dinner?"

"You mean like a date?" (Hair twirl)

"Yeah kind of,"

"I can't it wouldn't work we don't make a whole I'm a fraction and you're a percentage," But little did they know someone was watching, willing to help, his name was Edmund equivalent!



Edmund had a plan, he called a meeting with the one and only village elder (whoop).

"I had just witnessed the most sad love story ever, it's James and this new girl called Freda who seems like a lovely lady. Can I have your permission to convert him?"

"Why, that does sound quite sad. You have my permission just go get his old bean."

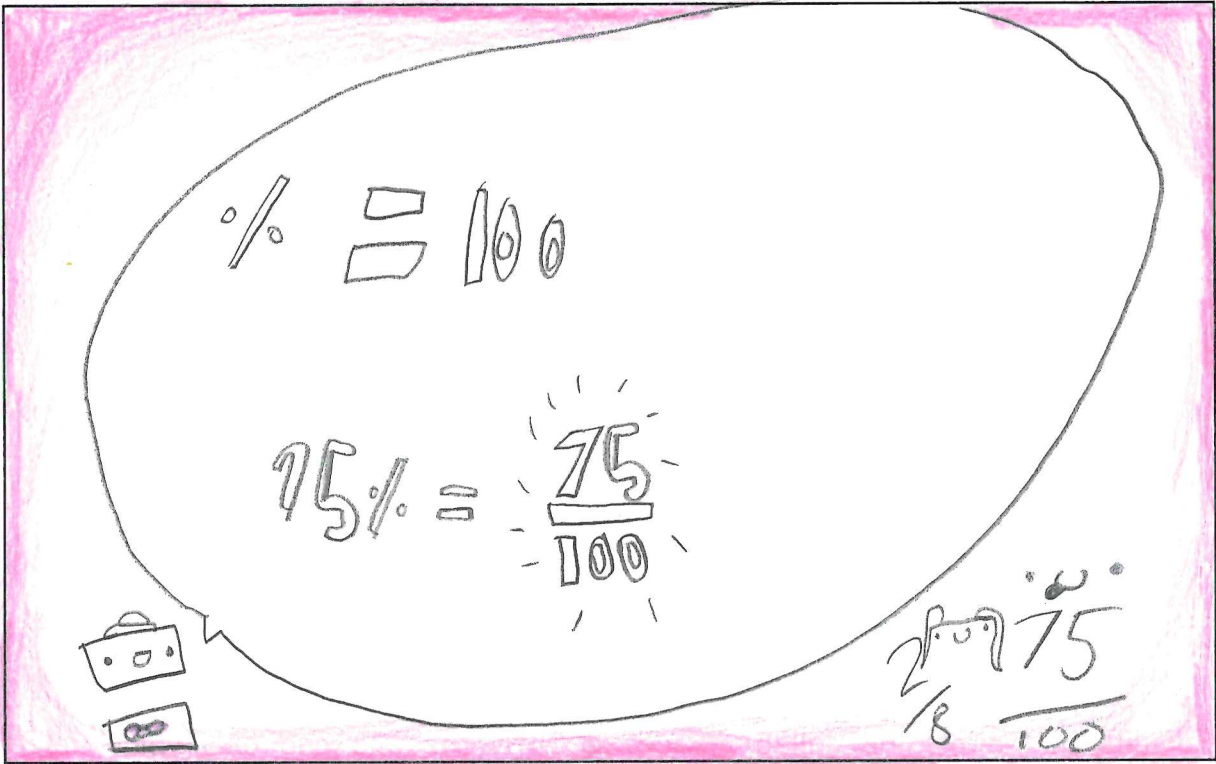
So Edmund ran and ran to James .

"James (pant pant) we have to find Freda. I can convert you so you can be together," Ed was out of breath.

"Oh Ed you're a star you have just saved my life! We must find Freda at once," James gushed so they ran to Freda.

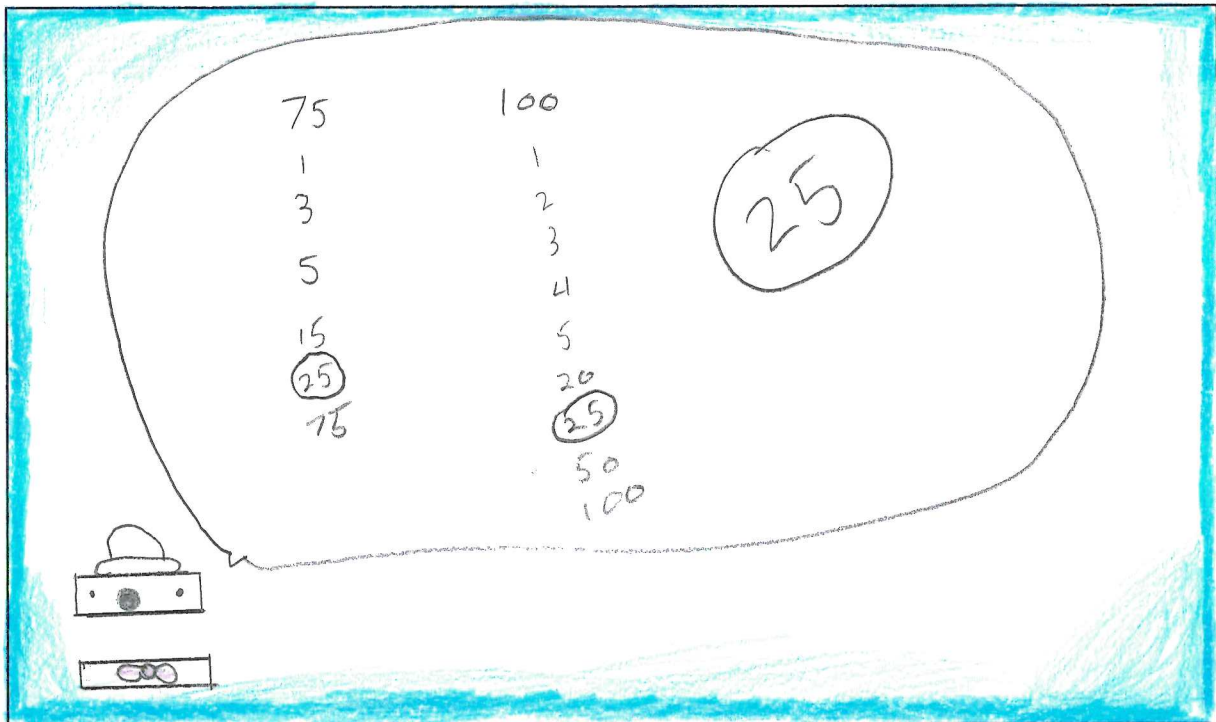
"Freda, we have got a saviour here who can convert me so we can be together."

James could not contain his excitement.



"Firstly we make you a fraction. You would become 75/100 because % means 100 so you are out of 100," said Ed.

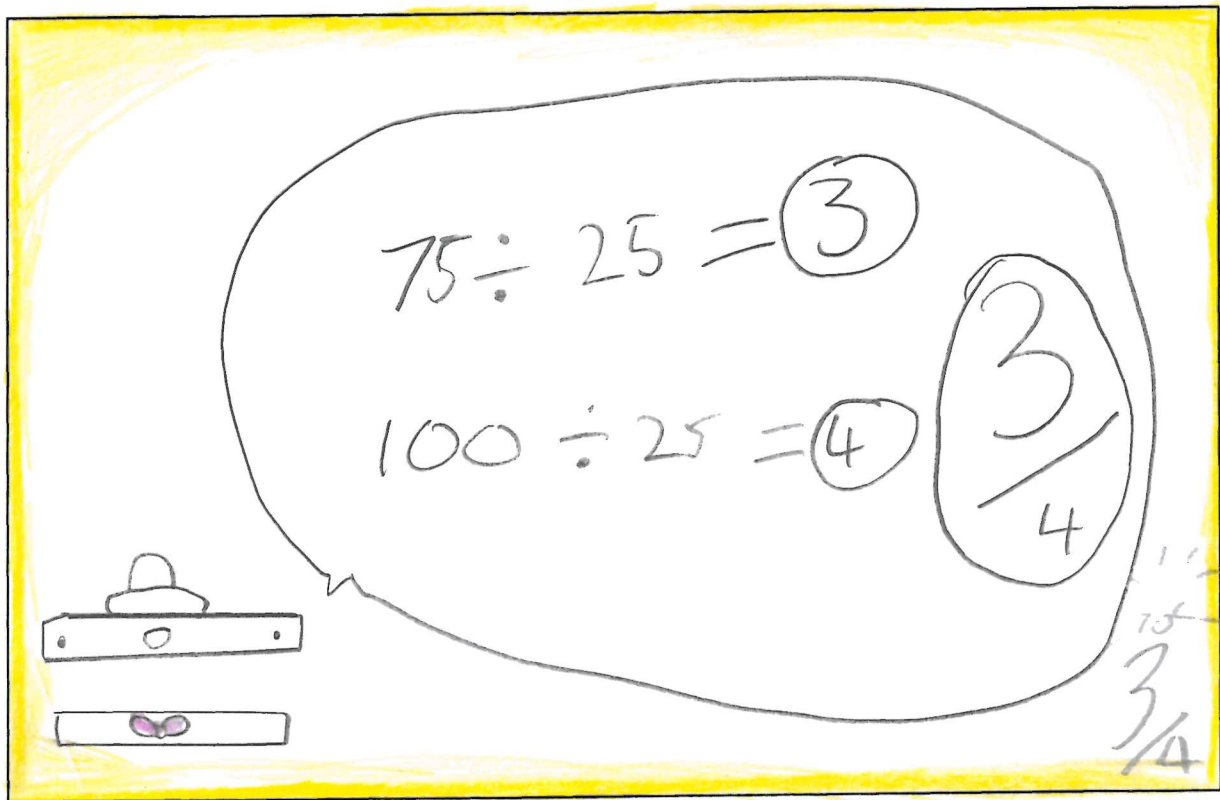
"Ahh I see but I feel really big," said Mr 75/100.



"You'll see because next we find the highest common factor between both numbers."

"But why?" James said.

"This will help shrink you so the highest common factor between 100 and 75 is 25."



"Then we have to divide both numbers so 75 divided by 25 is 3 and 100 divided by 25 is 4 so you have become 3/4. Congratulations to you both."



(Four months later)

"I've been thinking about you and me and our future, I've been madly in love with you since you fell on the sand. Will you marry me?"

"Oh yes, yes, yes I do really yes, yes, yes!"

"Oh and also I might have chosen a dress for our wedding."

So they left to see the dress and so Freda could try it on.



"James, it's too small, I can't fit!" Freda cried.

"I can help you simplify if 2 and 8 have any common factor to divide by."

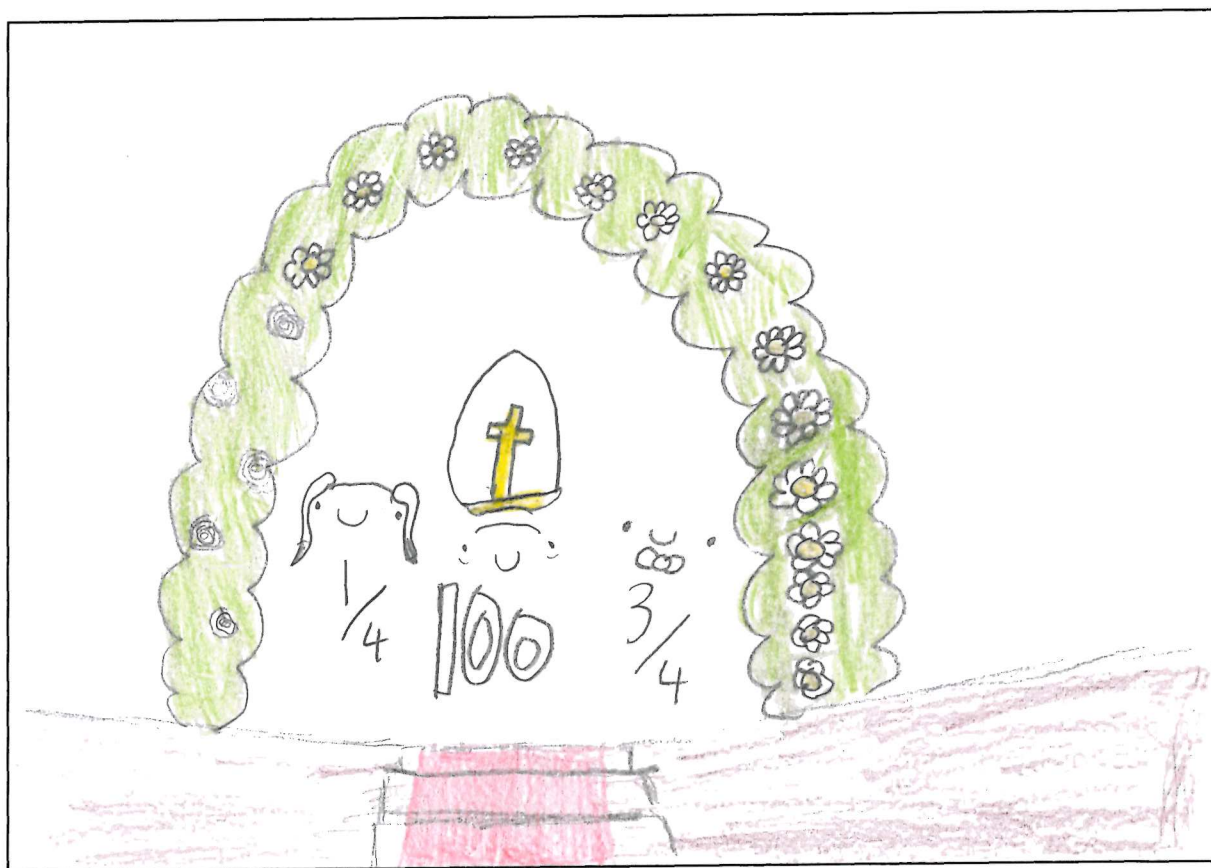
"Yes I think it's 2, is that right?"

"Yes, now divide 2 and divide 8."

"Ok, that's 1 and 4 so I'm now $\frac{1}{4}$. I fit!"



Their wedding was wholesome and fun. They had all the fraction friends and percentage pals and ate lots of cake. Freda threw the bouquet, so Miss $\frac{7}{9}$ if you're reading your next. Maybe a sequel will be needed but at the end of the day the Priest announced "You are now a whole."



BLURB of half to whole

Miss $\frac{2}{8}$ is tired of London and goes to the Bahamas when she meets the love of her life, Mr 75 percent. How will this love work out if you don't know how to convert from percentages to fractions?

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



My name is Grace Bailey and I chose fractions because it was a part of maths I really felt comfortable in learning how to convert and simplify fractions it had also given me a lot of ideas to do for the story competition and I would really recommend doing the maths through stories competition.

