I think I have a story to tell.
Let's start at a beginning.

This story begins in second grade.
Second Grade was Easy

- Simply talk to people
- Raise your hand occasionally
- Pack up at the end of the day
- Finish your work early and read

It was a simple routine that anyone could follow.

But out of the blue came a new addition to this simple cycle.
For the past month, someone had been placing random books in my desk. Everyday I would...

1) Find a book
2) Look for its owner
3) Skim the book
4) Place it back on the shelf

What kind of person abandons their books in another person's desk?! Determined to catch the culprit, I formulated a plan...

So why have you been shoving books in my desk for the past month?
Abbie was... quite the character to say the least.

I... just so happened to be walking by. That's all!

She was smart enough to skip a grade, an avid reader, and ridiculously hyper.

Although I caught her in the act, Abbie always denied the crime, giving excuses like any child would.

Though afterwards, I no longer found random books in my desk.

After the incident, we happened to talk frequently!

And rather than just shoving a book in my desk, she'd come up to me and recommend it.

We happened to have similar tastes, which was pretty cool.

And out of all that I somehow managed to make a wonderful friend.
She introduced me to Tolkien in fifth grade

However, she successfully brought me into another series' fandom.

though unlike her, I wasn't converted into a Tolkien fanatic. (He's an excellent writer though!)

It was a Japanese webcomic about personified nations

At night, I'd go online and reseach info about the actual country

And in the morning, we'd discuss the differences between the characters and the actual country they're based off of.

It got to a point in which Abbie would write the fanfiction while I'd draw the fanart.

And like a true fan, I bought all the hard copies of the English translation!

(All of which can be found in my archive...)
Inspired by that series, I decided to create my own story based on personafication.

Though there wasn't really a plot, I enjoyed creating my own characters.

One day, our friends asked us if we wanted to join a project.

They wanted to write a story about espionage in which we'd write a chapter from each character's perspective.

And we eagerly agreed.

Though we never finished it as usual...

RIP Story That Was Never Finished
Time stands still for no one.

And we eventually went our separate ways.

Though people come and go

we still carry the lessons they taught us

And so I kept creating.
Those memories are a reminder of how impactful a friend can be.

To think that if I hadn't found those books I wouldn't have gotten to where I am today.

And so that ends this story.