

Great News

By Judy G. Burford © 2011

SH Writing Group (we had to write a story using the highlighted words)

It started out like any other normal day, but soon turned very exciting for Alice Pickerson, a 33 year old who had become increasingly aware of her biological clock. Her cat, Roger, rubbing against her legs as she meandered down the driveway, garbed in a housecoat, to pick up the morning paper. On the way she waved at good old George, her neighbor of nearly 13 years. At 80 years of age, George was now resolved to using a walker for his jaunt to the get the paper; but that hadn't dampened his spirits any. He shouted over a cheery 'good morning' and waved his hand high above his head, all the while displaying those new dentures he was so proud of. Alice bent down to retrieve her paper, as usual. She pulled off the plastic sleeve meant to protect her news from the elements and gasped at the sight of today's headline. She quickly scanned the article, then re-read it for details, before heading inside to call her friend, Janice.

"Janice, you'll never believe this. I just read that a 32 year old man, in Brooksville, is expecting a baby. In fact, you can already see his **baby bump**. His picture is on the front of today's Tampa Tribune."

"Come on! That's got to be **trickeration** of some kind," Janice rolled her eyes in disbelief.

The two women had been friends since university days, nearly fifteen years now. They were like sisters, really. Janice had two children, six and four. Alice loved her friend, dearly, but sometimes envied her position, as a mother.

"No, it's **amazing**. It happened as a result of **blowback** when his wife had a **ginormous** sneeze. Apparently, he had a very fast swimmer that made it to her egg in record time and when she sneezed the fertilized egg blew back into him. The fetus will **occupy** his abdomen for the remaining eight months

of his pregnancy,” Alice’s arms flailed around wildly as she shared the details with her friend.

“Well, I’ll be damned. That lends new meaning to the term ‘**man cave**’, doesn’t it?” Janice bent over with laughter.

“Are you kidding, this is amazing! Now maybe the guys can carry all that weight around for nine months and go through the pain and suffering, a kind of shared sacrifice,” the sparkle in Alice’s eyes resembled the look on a youngster’s face the first time he walks through the gates of the Magic Kingdom. “I can’t wait ‘til Robert gets up. You know how I’ve been avoiding the ‘P’ word because I’m afraid to go through the labor. I might finally be able to become more than just a pet parent.”

“What a great idea, Alice. Do you think this might become **the new normal**?”

“I sure hope so. Go girls! **Win the future! Thank you in advance**, guys.”