

Kitty and Axel
Story Fourteen
Toxic Waste, In the Dumps

Kitty: Axel, I feel really terrible today. The forces of evil have invaded; a black cloud wafts overhead sending down drops of acid rain. Noxious vapors rise up from the tainted soil, infecting the plants with withering, stinking disease that turns leaves black and dissolves them into a gelatinous oozing mass of rot. The air is filled with odors of decay, of maggots, roaches and other insects we've never seen before with enormous bulbous eyes streaked with blood. Their teeth drip thick yellow goo that sizzles as it falls to earth. The beasts can no longer walk and fall down becoming prey to the buzzards circling at this very minute above our heads. Ill will and hatred between people prevail; they beat each other with sledgehammers and they eat their dogs, not even caring that we are good, kind creatures. The dogs disappear; there are no more pets, no poodles, no terriers, not even any mutts. And that's it, the end of the world. Amen, fin, adios amigos.

Axel: Stop, stop it, Kitty. I can't take any more. Things aren't that bad. Come on; we'll do something to cheer you up.

Kitty: Forget it. It's too late; the end's coming, fast.

Axel: We'll go to the spa; we'll cleanse, take a bath, get our hair cut, our nails done, our eyebrows plucked. We'll put off the end of the world; forget it. Live in denial; pretend everyone is full of happiness. Life is what you make it, Kitty. Be in the present; don't worry about what's going to happen in the future or what happened in the past. You can't do anything about it anyway.

Kitty: Well, there you go. That's the problem. The end is coming and I can't do anything about it.

Axel: How about this, I'll read to you from My Dog Skip.

Kitty: That's great. I love that story.