

“Bad Stories for Bad Children” by Mike Eserkaln

Story #16: Tommy “Two-Thumb”

This is the story of Tommy “Two-Thumb” Mulligan. He always had a thumb in a pie. When at the store, you could find him in the pastry aisle, poking away at row upon row of cherry, blueberry, and muscleberry pies. Pies for other people, but he didn’t care.

At home, when his mom would bake a pie, you could find Tommy sitting in the oven, kneeling on the hot oven coils with both thumbs firmly squished into the bubbling brew of goo that was barely even a pie yet.

At the circus he’d get in trouble with the clowns during the “cream-pie-act”.

At a pie eating competition last year he almost had both his thumbs accidentally bitten off by Tubby McGrue, Brown County Pie Eating Champion. While an honor, still painful. Tommy’s mom decided not to bring Tommy to the County Fair anymore. But that didn’t stop Tommy.

He went downtown to the “Special T. Pie Factory” where new fresh piping hot pies were made daily. Thousands at a time. Tommy was in heaven. He asked for a job as pie inspector #12, but they put him on as #13 instead. His first day on the job... his first few minutes of training, Tommy was off on the conveyer belts cruising around the factory with his thumbs in pies.

He never got off those conveyer belts, and has been moving around the “Special T. Pie Factory” for years now. Round and round, up and down. All the while with a tummy full of pie and his thumbs stuck in crusts.

He’ll probably be there for the rest of his life. You know what they say; live by the pie, die by the pie.