

Chapter 2: Experimentation, Integration, Play: Developing Digital Voice Through Audio Storytelling

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1. Audio Story by Audrey Downs

Audrey tells the story of how she met her best friend Alex using music and narration.

Transcript

For this project, I'm going to tell the story about how I met my best friend Alex, who's also one of the most important people in my life. *[music plays during narration]*

Alex and I met in the fourth grade. As the new kid in school who had just moved to Michigan from Minnesota, the last thing Alex expected was to make fast friends. But my fourth-grade self, with all of that carefree kind of confidence that only children seem to have, walked right up to Alex who was sitting alone on the swing set, introduced myself, and invited her to play. From that moment on, we were joined at the hip.

Through the fourth and fifth grade, Alex and I attended the same after-school daycare program, where we were free to play, socialize, and do homework until our parents got off work and could come pick us up. Our friendship grew closer to the point where every day when one of our parents would arrive first to pick one of us up, we would beg the parent to take the other home with them too. I still remember the little song we used to sing to try to get their approval: *[in sing-song]* "take me home, call my mom!" over and over until they finally agreed. But once we hit middle school and there wasn't any such after-school program, our parents were forced to change their methods.

They still didn't like the idea of Alex and I being home alone from when school let out at 1:30 till when they got home after five o'clock. I suppose they figured that, hey, since they like going home together so much, why not let them do that every day? So, through the sixth, seventh, and eighth grade, Alex and I rode the bus home with each other every day after school. On Wednesdays, we would go to her house, and every other day of the week, we would ride the bus home to my house. It was the perfect system. It gave us more time to play and hang out and meant that our parents wouldn't have to worry. Spending hours together every day only made us closer friends, and we've stayed that close now that we're in college.

I'm so grateful for my friendship with Alex, and I know that she'll be my best friend for the rest of my life. Thanks for listening. I hope you enjoyed.