

Story Guide

A KIND OF, SORT OF, PRETTY MUCH TRUE STORY BY MaryGay Ducey

Watch the video of storyteller MaryGay Ducey live at the 2018 National Storytelling Festival [here](#).

(Right click on link to open it in a new tab.)

Story run time is 2:00 - 27:59.

Now, enjoy exploring the story with the activities outlined below.



explore it

- MaryGay calls her audience "the most fabulous group of strangers-who-are-now-family." What do you think she means?
- MaryGay says this personal story is "kind of a true story." Do you think storytellers embellish their personal stories to make them more interesting? How do you feel about this, if they do?
- MaryGay demonstrates how she walks once she dresses for her first date. Try walking like someone wearing a girdle, 10 petticoats and 4-inch heels. Does acting out parts of the story make it better?



think it

- MaryGay says her dad ". . .didn't know a lot about kids - nothing." Why is this true?
- What joke does MaryGay's dad play on her while riding in the car? Does she believe him?
- What does the boy whose hair has "enough grease to dress a salad" do when he comes to see MaryGay? How does her dad react?
- Why do Mr. and Mrs. Steele tell MaryGay to call her dad to come get her from the beach?
- What is Russell Steele like? Why do you think MaryGay wishes she had not wasted 6 months on this guy?



create it

- Illustrate the "killer rides" that MaryGay and Russell enjoy on their first date. Explore centripetal force and Ferris wheels in this [NASA video](#). Act out being on a Ferris wheel.
- Name foods that MaryGay eats on her date. What are some of your favorite foods at a fair or carnival? Create a new kind of fair food. Describe it in detail or draw a picture.
- MaryGay describes her family's car as "an ocean liner" with fins and uncomfortable seats, and even lacking seatbelts. Have you ever seen a classic car like this? Draw a picture of what you imagine it to look like.



tell it

- Write a personal tale about your trip to a fair. Tell it to a friend or family member. Act out parts of the story while you tell it.
- MaryGay says that her dad always brings her home, and she seems to appreciate this. Journal about the reasons you appreciate the adults in your life.
- MaryGay's dad calls her "sister." What nicknames have you been given? Learn about and share some family members' and friends' nicknames and the stories behind how they got them.