



# THE FLIPSIDE



***ASSIGNMENT: I hope Sarah's story in Thank You Sarah has inspired you. Think of a person you admire, and write a letter to President Obama asking that he declare the person's birthday a national holiday. You must explain why you admire that person. Why is he or she your hero?***

Dear President Obama,

My name is Sophia. I am in second grade at the Long Island School for the Gifted. My class just read Thank You Sarah: The Woman Who Saved Thanksgiving. I think you will like it very much. Are you having a good time? I think that the day before Thanksgiving should become a national holiday to honor Sarah Hale. She not only saved Thanksgiving; she also fought for many causes. Do you think you can make the day before Thanksgiving a national holiday to honor Sarah Hale? Thank you for reading this letter.

**SOPHIA HUANG**  
**Second Grade**

Dear President Obama,

I'm in second grade at the Long Island School for the Gifted. I think you should make a holiday called Science Day. Science Day is when you celebrate all the great scientists. You're a fantastic president, President Obama.

**MASSIMO SIRACUSANO**  
**Second Grade**

Dear President Obama,

I am a second grade student at LISG. I just finished Thank You Sarah: The Woman Who Saved Thanksgiving, by Laurie Halse Anderson. Have you ever read it? Can you make the birthday of Theodore Roosevelt, the 26<sup>th</sup> president, a national holiday? I think it should be a national holiday because if it weren't for him, we wouldn't have Yellowstone National Park. He was also the first president to care enough about the environment that he spent his own money on it. He created the bird sanctuary in Oyster Bay, and I like to go there.

**PETER SAVRIDES**  
**Second Grade**

Dear President Obama,

My name is Teagan Aiyana Vaughn, and I am in second grade at the Long Island School for the Gifted. Our class just read Thank You Sarah: The Woman Who Saved Thanksgiving, by Laurie Halse Anderson. I really loved it.

Sarah Hale, in this book, wrote letters to presidents for 38 years trying to make Thanksgiving a national holiday. She never gave up. Finally, President Lincoln said yes. I think Sarah Hale was amazing.

She has given me the idea for a holiday too. I think Americans should honor Dr. Dorothy Klenke. She was the first woman in the U.S. to become a brain surgeon. I am going to be a brain surgeon when I grow up. I can't find a lot of information about her. It's sad because she did an amazing job. She was a pioneer in medicine.

Right now, in the U.S., there are only 196 women brain surgeons. Maybe more girls would be inspired to achieve this dream if we had a holiday celebrating the first brave American woman to do it.

Thank you for reading my letter. I hope you get to read Thank You Sarah: The Woman Who Saved Thanksgiving to your children. I am sure you will all love it.

**TEAGAN VAUGHN**  
**Second Grade**

Dear President Obama,

My name is Sari. I go to the Long Island School for the Gifted. My teachers gave us an assignment to read a book called Thank You Sarah: The Woman Who Saved Thanksgiving. It was a really good book. You should read it sometime.

Sarah Hale had a secret weapon. You know what it was? It was a pen. I know what you're thinking. How could a pen be a weapon? A pen could be a weapon because you can write with it and get things you want accomplished. This is why I'm writing you this letter.

What I want is a new holiday. The holiday I want is called Elizabeth Blackwell Day. We should have that holiday because Elizabeth Blackwell was the first woman doctor, and then other women could become doctors too. It was important that women could become doctors because they may have had very good ideas too. Also, Elizabeth Blackwell went to Geneva Medical School, which is now Hobart and William Smith College. The day Elizabeth Blackwell should be celebrated is on her birthday, February 3. Bye, Mr. President.

**SARI STRIZIK**  
**Second Grade**