The Perfect Birthday Present
by Kelly Hashway

Toby stared in awe at the commercial for the new Super Robotoman. It was half man, half machine and could transform into an airplane, a submarine, and a racecar. It could fly, swim underwater, and even do karate. Super Robotoman was the ultimate superhero action figure.

“Dad! Look!” Toby pointed to the television screen. “That’s what I want for my birthday. Can I get one? Please!”

“Hard to find? But it’s on T.V.”

Dad laughed. “That’s what will make it difficult to find. Everyone will be looking to buy it.”

Everyone? Toby thought. Well then he’d tell everyone that he wanted the Super Robotoman. Someone would be able to find it then, right?

Before bed, Toby called both sets of grandparents and told them all about the Super Robotoman. Then he added a note at the bottom of each party invitation so all his friends would know he wanted the Super Robotoman. He passed them out at school the next day.

For two weeks, all he talked about was the Super Robotoman and all the cool things it could do. His friends and family nodded and smiled as Toby went on and on about how it was the perfect birthday present.

Toby was so excited he could barely sleep the night before the party. He woke up early and helped his parents set up. Mom had bought Super Robotoman decorations, including a piñata. Toby thought they were great, but what if he didn’t get the action figure? His birthday would be ruined.
As the guests arrived, Toby took the presents and placed them on the gift table. He studied each package, giving it a good shake to see if he could figure out if one contained the Super Robotoman. His parents made him wait until after the cake and the piñata to open his gifts. The party was a blur as Toby stared at the pile of presents.

Finally it was gift time. Toby ripped opened the first present. “Super Robotoman!” Toby was ecstatic, but everyone else looked worried. “What’s wrong?” he asked.

Dad handed him a box. “I think you should open another present.”

Toby opened it. “Another Super Robotoman?”

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**Preview**

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**About the Author**

**Kelly Hashway**

Kelly Hashway’s latest book, *May the Best Dog Win*, is now available!

Dash has the perfect life until the Super Sweeper 5000 shows up. Sweeper runs all over the house sucking up the leftover food scraps, and he even gets his own room! But Dash won’t give up his place as the favorite dog without a fight.

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1. Name six things Super Robotoman could do.

___________________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________________

2. How did Toby’s friends and family react when he told them all about Super Robotoman?
   a. They told him to stop talking about it so much.
   b. They told him he probably wouldn’t get it for his birthday.
   c. They ignored him.
   d. They listened politely.

3. Place these events in chronological order. Write 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, or 6th on each line.

   ______  Toby told his dad what he wanted for his birthday.
   ______  Toby helped his mom set up for the birthday party.
   ______  Toby saw a commercial on TV for Super Robotoman.
   ______  Toby called his grandparents to tell them what he wanted for his birthday.
   ______  Toby passed out birthday party invitations to his friends at school.
   ______  Toby’s guests arrived at the party.

4. What unusual thing happened when Toby opened his presents?

___________________________________________________________________________________________

___________________________________________________________________________________________

5. Write another appropriate title for this story.

___________________________________________________________________________________________

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Fill in the missing letters to create a word from the story. Then, write the full word on the line. Be sure you spell each word correctly.

1. ___ b ___ a r ___ ___ ___
   hint: a vehicle that travels underwater

2. ___ a ___ d ___ e n ___ s

3. ___ a ___ a ___ e
   hint: Japanese art of self defense

4. ___ n ___ f ___ r ___
   hint: change from one thing to another

5. ___ i ___ a ___ ___
   hint: toy containing candy that is hit with a stick

6. ___ s t ___ t ___ ___
   hint: really, really happy
For Toby, the perfect birthday present was Super Robotoman. What would be your perfect birthday present? Draw a picture of it in the space below. Then, tell what it is and describe it in detail.
1. Name six things Super Robotoman could do.

Super Robotoman could transform into an airplane, a submarine and a racecar. It could also fly, swim underwater, and do karate.

2. How did Toby's friends and family react when he told them all about Super Robotoman?
   a. They told him to stop talking about it so much.
   b. They told him he probably wouldn't get it for his birthday.
   c. They ignored him.
   d. They listened politely.

3. Place these events in chronological order. Write 1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th, 5th, or 6th on each line.

   1. Toby saw a commercial on T.V. for Super Robotoman.
   2. Toby told his dad what he wanted for his birthday.
   3. Toby called his grandparents to tell them what he wanted for his birthday.
   4. Toby passed out birthday party invitations to his friends at school.
   5. Toby helped his mom set up for the birthday party.
   6. Toby's guests arrived at the party.

4. What unusual thing happened when Toby opened his presents?

   Everyone had gotten him the same thing. He had lots of Super Robotoman action figures.

5. Write another appropriate title for this story.

   Answers will vary.
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Fill in the missing letters to create a word from the story. Then, write the full word on the line. Be sure you spell each word correctly.

1. submarine
   hint: a vehicle that travels underwater

2. grandparents
   hint: your parent’s parents

3. karate
   hint: Japanese art of self defense

4. transform
   hint: change from one thing to another

5. piñata
   hint: toy containing candy that is hit with a stick

6. ecstatic
   hint: really, really happy

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