

Harmony Tree International Speech Festival (HTISF)
2025-2026 Set Pieces for Asia Division

FINAL

Prose Reading
Born in 2020-2021

I Will Never Not Ever Eat a Tomato

By Lauren Child, an adapted version

I have this little sister, Lola. She is small and very funny.

This is difficult because she is a very fussy eater.

Lola won't eat carrots, of course. She says carrots are for rabbits.

One day I played a good trick on her.

Lola was sitting at the table, waiting for her dinner.

"I do not eat peas or carrots or potatoes or mushrooms or spaghetti or eggs or sausages."

"And I absolutely will never not ever eat a tomato."

And I said, "That is lucky because we are not having any of those things."

Lola looked at the table. "Then why are those carrots there, Charlie?"

And I said, "Oh, you think these are carrots. These are orange wiglets from Jupiter."

"They look just like carrots to me," said Lola.

"But how can they be carrots?" I said. "Carrots don't grow on Jupiter."

"That's true," said Lola. "Well, I might just try one if they're all the way from Jupiter."

"Mmm, not bad," she said, and took another bite.