

Writing Prompt 2:

Inflation – Sun Mart – Vann

Vann looked down on the unimpressive sample table, the ram-dragon pretending to be half as interested in it as his crocodile boyfriend Reave. An equally bored red panda in the standard red and khaki uniform of Sun Mart was supposed to be selling the pair on a new line of soda machine, though it was obvious to Vann that the employee—apparently named Leo—wasn't up for the challenge. Reave was the only one in the trio with any interest in the product, and most of his questions were being slowly answered by repeat glances at the box and internet searches. Each time the ram-dragon thought they were about to move on to something actually interesting, Reave would ask something new or drag the poor employee into a long-winded conversation about something only vaguely related.

Reave looked over the small machine on display once more. “Hmm, it's really tempting to get Vann, I'm sure we'd have a lot of fun with it,” he said, his boyfriend only sort of listening. “But it *is* a bit pricey. Why don't you try a couple samples and we'll think on it while we shop?”

“Huh? Oh, sure, sure,” Vann replied.

He grabbed the closest paper cup of soda and chugged it in one go, eager to leave. The taste was better than expected, though a lot fizzier than he was used to. Wanting to justify his long wait, he quickly grabbed a cup with a different flavor and downed it as well, again surprised by both the taste and extra fizz. A small gesture towards the other cups got an uncaring shrug from Leo, and Vann happily sampled the remaining flavors he had to offer, along with second and third tests of his favorites.

Vann let out a small belch, stealthily giving his gut a tap with a hoof. “Stuff tastes a lot better than I thought it would.”

“Good to know,” Reave said, glancing over at the pile of empty cups strewn about the sample table. “Would have been nice if you'd left one for me, though.”

“Oops,” Vann said, blushing.

Reave smiled. “No worries, I'm sure there'll be a fresh batch by the time we wonder back around. Then I can have a taste and decide if we should buy it.”

The pair thanked Leo for his time and began walking away, both trying to remember what else they needed to grab from the store. Vann's round gut swayed from side to side as he walked, jiggling with every step and easily distracting Reave, who was unashamedly fond of his boyfriend's size. After a few minutes of off-and-on ogling, though, Reave swore it looked...bigger. He began staring at it more frequently and for far longer, looking away just often enough to ensure he didn't run into someone. His suspicions were eventually confirmed as he noticed the wrinkles of Vann's somewhat loose shirt smooth out and the slightest hint of his wooly gray belly poke out from beneath. By that point Vann finally realized he was being admired more obsessively than usual.

“Sweety, you know I always get suspicious when you...” Vann stopped in his tracks as he chanced a look at his middle. “What the?”

Vann grasped his belly with his hooves and gently pressed into it, his skin feeling firmer than normal. He was also able to hear a faint fizzing coming from within. The confused ram-dragon gave his gut a solid shake out of sheer curiosity, his eyes growing wide as it visibly swelled further in response. Reave couldn't resist giving his boyfriend's belly a good couple shakes himself, watching in glee as Vann's middle ballooned out from under his shirt.

“Hey, stop that!” Vann said, swatting away Reave's claws. “Something must've been bad with that soda batch.”

“Oh, it's not *that* bad,” Reave teased, admiring the continuing—albeit slow—inflation of his boyfriend's middle.

Vann glared suspiciously at the crocodile. “Don't get any weird ideas, we need to figure out how long it'll take for this to stuff to settle down.”

Reave grinned. "Well there's one easy way to find out." The crocodile swiftly positioned his claws on either side of Vann's exposed belly and began tickling his surprised boyfriend, forcing the ram-dragon to laugh hard enough to shake.

Vann's gut swelled out dramatically again, pushing away most of his shirt in the process and gaining the attention of nearby shoppers. "W-wait, c'mon man stop!" he shouted in between laughs.

"Nope, this is way too much fun," Reave said, ceasing the tickling and switching over to outright shaking the ram-dragon's swollen belly again.

A frantic attempt to push his over-eager boyfriend away only resulted in Vann stumbling backwards, the carbonation within his stomach reacting even more violently than before. His already massive belly expanded dramatically, causing Vann to lose his balance and tumble forwards onto it with expected results. Reave watched in awe as the ram-dragon began to swell before his eyes, Vann's unintentional rocking back and forth trapping him in a perpetual state of inflation that soon lifted his arms and legs completely off the floor. Vann desperately attempted to balance himself to stop the bloating, to no avail. He could feel the pressure within his gut building as his skin grew taut, clenching his eyes shut and groaning as he rapidly expanded. To make matters worse, Reave would give him a hard shove any time he seemed to be settling down, kick-starting the inflation again.

Perched atop his massive belly, Vann could see dozens of other shoppers stopping to watch the spectacle, some laughing while others aimed their phones to take pictures and shoot video. His face flushed red from embarrassment. His middle was practically as large as he was tall now, and the ram-dragon was convinced the build-up of carbonation within him wouldn't cease until it'd burst him apart. The opportunity to escape the slowly growing crowd of onlookers made the idea of popping suddenly seem very ideal to him. Unfortunately, just as the creaks began and his middle was stretched to its tightest, the fizzing actually stopped.

Vann wobbled back and forth on his near spherical belly, the pressure stable. Reave playfully slapped his boyfriend's middle a few times, listening to the wonderful hollow sound that reverberated back. "Oh, we'll definitely have to buy the machine now," he said with a devious grin.