

# COOKIES IN MY SOUP

by  
Marisa Torre



4 year old Souza is a wilful little girl who learns more about making good choices from a new Autistic friend than from all her daily adult caregivers.

1. **Children's literature** with non-gender-specific Special Needs friends for parents bedtime story ages 2-7 and students age 7-9 text-book  
Lyrical repetition, household and life sight-words, socio-emotional lessons
2. **Book and in-class manipulatives for** students aged 9-12 sight-words
3. **Digital program interactive engagement**
4. **TV Series:** Souza in daily life gets her best help from Special Needs kids

Educates! Celebrates! Empowers!

**Marisa Torre Worked:** 12 yrs YRD School Board, Special Ed.  
1,438 words, 5 pages

Repetition and one sentence per line, wherever possible, facilitates sense of completion for remedial students who are otherwise easily overwhelmed.

Adapts to interactive digital/online program for home and in-class lessons

**Mom** brought **Souza** to visit her **Nonna**.

It was a cold **winter day** and Nonna was making soup in the **kitchen**.

Oh! It smelled so good!

"This is a good time to have some soup." Said Nonna.

On the **stove**, Nonna's **pot** of **soup** was ready to eat.

Souza had a **bowl** but her favourite **spoon** was not on the **table**.

Souza was a wilful little **girl**, so she went to look for it.

It was not in the **drawer** and not on the **counter**

It was not on a **shelf** in the **cupboard**.

She even looked in the **oven**, the **freezer** and the **fridge**.

Then, **beside** the **sink** she found her favourite **spoon** in the **dish rack** and Nonna filled Souza's **bowl** with some nice warm **soup**.

Oh! It looked so good!

Souza made her **spoon** heavy with noodles.

She lifted her spoon slowly, opened her mouth wide and slurped away!

Oh! It tasted so good!

The soup was warm and salty.

The noodles were soft and chewy.

"Thank you, Nonna, noodles and soup are so good together!" she said.

Souza put her empty bowl and dirty spoon into the sink.

Souza was **sleepy**, so she sat on the **couch**, with Asiram, Nonna's **cat**.

"This is a good time to have a nap." Said Nonna.

She had a **blanket**, but her favourite **pillow** was not on the **couch**.

Souza was a wilful little **girl**, so she went to look for it.

It was not on the **floor**, not on the **chair** or on the **bookcase**.

She even looked **under**, **over** and **behind** the **chair**.

Then, **beside** the **chair** she found her favourite **pillow** on the **end-table**

**Nonna** tucked the **blanket** around Souza's **feet** to keep warm for her **nap**.

Oh! It felt so cozy!

"Thank you, Nonna, a **pillow** and **blanket** are good together!" she said.

When **Souza** woke up from her **nap** on the **couch**, the **pillow** and **blanket** were **messy**, so she made the couch **tidy**.

"This is a good time to have **milk** and **cookies**." Nonna said.

In the **kitchen**, Nonna's homemade **cookies** were ready to eat.

Souza's favourite **glass** was on the **table** but the cookies were not.

Souza was a wilful little **girl**, so she went to look for them.

Her favourite cookies were not in the **oven** and they were not on the **stove**.

They were not in the **fridge** or the **freezer** or on a **shelf** in the **cupboard**.

She even looked in the **dish rack**, and in the **drawer** just in case.

Then, beside the **sink**, she found the **cookies** on the **counter**.

**Nonna** filled her **glass** with some nice cold **milk**.

Oh! It was such a treat!

Souza dipped her cookie and made it heavy with milk.

She lifted her cookie slowly, opened her mouth wide and crunched away!

Oh! It tasted so good!

The milk was cold and smooth.

The cookies were crunchy and sweet.

Souza ate both her cookies and drank all her milk.

"Thank you, Nonna, cookies and milk are so good together!" she said.

Souza put her empty dirty glass into the sink.

Souza asked Nonna if she could go to the Library and bring a snack.

"This is a good time to go to the library." Nonna said. "Which snack,

**Cheese** and **crackers**, **yogurt**, **fruit** or an **egg sandwich**?"

Souza wanted fruit; an **apple**, an **orange**, some **grapes**, or a **banana**?

An orange and a banana need to be peeled, and some grapes will get squished so Souza will bring an apple, a nice sweet crunchy apple.

Time to get ready!

**Souza** put her apple safe in her back-pack.

She put on her **snow-pants**, then her **boots** and her **coat**.

Then her **scarf** and her **hat** and **mittens**.

When they got to the **Library**, Souza was lucky to have a Library card!  
Off with her mittens and hat, her scarf and coat and then her boots!  
She found two books on the shelves and a spot to sit.  
Souza enjoyed her books, and then put her books away on the **book-cart**.

Souza was happy to have an apple for a snack.  
She thought about what good food she had earlier today.  
Earlier today she had a good soup and then such good cookies.  
"I should put milk and cookies in my soup, together." she said to herself.  
"It's time to go now" Nonna said.  
Souza put on her boots, her scarf and coat, and then her hat and mittens!  
She smiled to have such a good idea and go home dressed so warm.  
Thank you, Nonna, everything is oh, so good together!  
Souza was a wilful little girl.  
She was happy to have such a good idea about milk and cookies in her soup.  
"I'm going to put milk and cookies in my soup!" said Souza to Nonna.  
Nonna said, "It's not a good idea to put milk and cookies in a soup."  
But Souza was a wilful little girl.  
"I'm going to put milk and cookies in my soup!" said Souza to the **Librarian**.  
The Librarian said, "You can't put milk and cookies in your soup."

On their way, Souza still thought it was a good idea.  
"I'm going to put milk and cookies in my soup!" she said to **Crossing Guard**  
Crossing Guard said, "Who puts milk and cookies in their soup?"  
But Souza was still a wilful little girl.  
When they went to get her **neighbour** from school,  
Souza said to the **Teacher**, "I'm going to put milk and cookies in my soup."  
The Teacher said, "You mustn't put milk and cookies in your soup."  
But Souza was still a wilful little girl.  
"I'm going to put milk and cookies in my soup!" said Souza to the neighbour.  
The neighbour said, "You shouldn't put milk and cookies in your soup."  
  
But Souza was still a wilful little girl.

When they got to **Baby-sitter's house**, Souza said to her **friends**,

"I'm going to put milk and cookies in my soup!"

Her friends said, "We'd never put milk and cookies in our soup!"

But Souza was still a wilful little girl.

Souza said to Baby-sitter, "I'm going to put milk and cookies in my soup."

Baby-sitter said, "Don't put milk and cookies in your soup."

But Souza was a wilful little girl.

She still thought it was a good idea to put all her favourite foods together.

Souza saw all her little friends together and playing with big **toys**.

She didn't want to play with them.

Souza wanted to think about nice warm salty soup with chewy noodles.

She also wanted to think about nice cold milk with sweet crunchy cookies.

But, the Babysitter said, "Come and meet our new friend, Chris."

Souza asked, "Why is the new kid so big, but playing with a little baby-toy?"

"Chris is older and Autistic, you have to speak slowly and quietly."

Souza asked Chris, "What's Autistic?"

Chris just shrugged and kept playing with the little baby-toy.

But Souza was happy to share her good idea about all her favourite foods.

Souza said slowly, "I'm going to put milk and cookies in my soup."

Chris was scared at first but thought carefully while Souza waited quietly.

Then, Chris said to Souza,

"Soup is good because it's warm and salty and noodles are soft and chewy.

Milk is good because it's cold and white and cookies are crunchy and sweet.

But when you put them together, it makes the soup cold and the milk warm.

When you put them together, it makes the milk salty and the soup sweet.

The cookies will get mushy and stick to the noodles.

That's why I don't put milk and cookies in my soup."

Yes, Souza was a still wilful little girl, but her new friend was right.

She thought Autistic meant Chris was special; a little slow but smart.

Souza was happy to have a new friend who helped her make good choices.

She was happy to talk about her cat, Asiram, and all her favourite things.

Chris was happy to have a friend who didn't think Autistic was stupid.

Oh so good together!

They played with Chris' baby-toys and looked at Souza's books.

Souza helped Chris to not be so scared.

Chris helped Souza not to be so silly.

Souza was still a wilful little girl.

She still liked a nice warm salty soup with soft chewy noodles.

She still liked a nice cold glass of milk with sweet crunchy cookies.

But now, Souza was happy to have them separate, not all of them together.

Now, Souza could have each of them with Chris.

Oh so good together!

**THE END**

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Screenwriting with Larry Kasdan  
2 yrs Royal Conservatory of Music

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5 years Volunteer - Art Gallery of Ontario (AGO), TIFF, Canadian Film Fest  
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