



You're Cute

A PUBERTY STORY

RICHARD CARLSON

You're Cute

A Puberty Story

Richard Carlson

Copyright ©2025 Richard Carlson

Cover designed by Getcovers

About the story: Rich, a shy, sensitive, and imaginative twelve-year-old boy experiencing puberty is embarrassed by a babe at camp. Based on a true story that took place in Tucson, Arizona, USA, in 1983.

About the author: Richard Carlson is an author of children's and coming-of-age books. He is a highly sensitive person, or HSP. You can learn more about him at www.richardcarlson.com.
www.boyspubertystories.com

My buddy Steve and I were at sixth-grade camp in mid-April. We were walking across a short bridge over a dry wash when Jennifer, a babe standing against the side railing, complimented me: “You’re cute.”

My face turned red, and my gaze dropped to my sneakers. She had never complimented me before.

Steve and the other campers broke out laughing.

“Are you shy? You’ve got chubby thighs,” she added, making my face flush even hotter.

Not knowing what to say or do, I slinked away, looking at the ground. Steve laughed again as we headed to our cabin.

A babe thinks I’m cute and that I have chubby thighs, I thought again and again and again.

“Lucky dog; You’re too shy to get a girlfriend,” Steve said.

I shrugged and continued walking, staring at my sneakers.

I wished and wished and wished
and wished Jennifer was my girlfriend.
Steve was right. I was too shy. But
maybe, someday, I wouldn't be shy.
Someday, I'd find a girlfriend—I hoped

Cute

At summer camp,
My buddy Steve and I
Headed toward our cabin.
Jennifer,
A blonde babe with long hair,
said, “You’re cute.”
My face turned red.
I looked away silently.
Steve and the other campers
Broke out laughing.
She was popular—
And I wasn’t.

“Are you shy?” She chuckled and
smirked.

(silence)

“You’ve got chubby thighs,” she said,
Making me smile.

Embarrassed, I slinked away,
Looking at my sneakers.

My buddy laughed and laughed.

I wished and wished and wished and
wished

I wasn’t so shy.

If I wasn’t so shy,

Jennifer could be my girlfriend.