

The Children and Cat Surround Me

Crystal Apilado is trying to get her wedding projects done, but kids and cat compete for her time.

By Crystal Apilado

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Tristan, left, and Davis with their projects. Snip. Snip. Snip, go the scissors in my hand.

“I made an orange scarecrow, Crystal. Can you see it?” asks Tristan.

“Crystal, what is this?” asks Korbin, pointing to some obscure object on the sheet he’s coloring.

“Stop sucking your thumb, Tristan,” says Davis, as he scribbles more words down on the story he’s writing.

“Sigh,” goes Kevin as he tries to continue on with his cat nap.

Purr. Purr. Purr, goes Stitch.

There I was, minding my own business and snipping away at the cardstock for my wedding save-the-dates. Dinner was in the oven, homework was done and the boys were playing in their room. And then I was ambushed.

Stitch wants to be in the middle of things. Korbin, the first-grader, came up on my left geared with colored pencils and a coloring page. Tristan, the toddler, came up from the right with crayons and a coloring packet. Davis, the fourth-grader, came up to my direct right with lined paper and a pencil. Stitch decided sitting on my lap, despite the fact that I was snipping away with scissors, was the premier place to be. And somehow my fiancé, Kevin, was attempting to take a nap on the couch just behind us.

And my mother wonders why my save-the-dates have yet to be sent out.

It’s so much easier to snip, snip, snip away on cardstock when all of the boys are sleeping, my fiancé included, soundly in their beds and when Stitch is sleeping on whatever perch or under whichever table he has chosen for the night. This, of course, means that I’m tired, too, but since I’m a night owl, I can snip, snip, snip away at that cardstock until about midnight before the carefully stenciled lines start to blur.

It was a good, honest effort though, trying to do one of my many do-it-yourself wedding projects before bedtime. Even I deserve some sleep once in a while, between wedding planning, cooking dinner, checking homework and cleaning the litterbox, right?

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