



OLR's Book of Stories

2020 WRITING COMPETITION FINALISTS

Ella K – 1 BLUE

One day a little girl went for a walk and the girl saw a boat.

She hopped in the boat and she went out to sea. She did almost get eaten by a shark and she wanted to go fishing. The girl did catch a lot of fish.

She did bring the fish home and cooked them, and she said, “those fish were so so yum!”. The girls name was Elle.

Ciara K-S - 1 BLUE

Once upon a time there was a boy named Jack. He really loved going to the fun park.

One day he went to the fun park and he found a green creek.

He went over to the green creek and saw a scary snake. He got bitten by the scary snake and had to go to the hospital. “Why can’t it go away now?” he said.



Kobe R - 1 GOLD

There was a little girl named Madison and she went to the river to get some water.

There she found a boat and it led her to a time machine and it took her back in time and it crashed in the sand.

She lost the cable and she was trapped in time.

She travelled back to when the dinosaurs were around. And then found the cable. She plugged it in and turned it on and took her home.

Frankie S – 1 GOLD

Once upon a time there was a little golden toad. His name was Peter.

One day Peter found a lamp. He jumped onto the lamp and then slipped off the lamp.

When he slipped off, it rubbed the lamp and a genie popped out of the lamp. The genie said, "You have three wishes".

Then Peter said, "I wish I was big, I wish I could jump the furthest, I wish I was powerful".



Xavier R – 1 RED

One day there was a kid, he was a boy. His name was Kev and he loved to run. So he did.

One day, he went for a run and he saw a book. He looked at it. It was a bad book, so he got mad!! So he went home and he went to bed.

When he got up he saw the book again so he looked at it and...it was a magic book so he kept it in a gold safe. It was cool when he looked at the stuff, but he stopped, and he went to bed.

When he got up when it was the next day, he saw a frog. It was a cool frog so he put it back and he got sick because it was poisonous, so Kev got upset.

So, he got his mum and dad so upset she had a heart attack. But Kev just remembered something. He had an idea, he had a magic book. So, he wished for him to be better, so he was happy.

Leo D – 1 RED

Imagine

A dinosaur was walking in the bushes and it found a lamp and rubbed it.

Then a genie came out of the lamp. It was mean and it chased them and caught them and put them in a dungeon forever and never were seen again.

The dungeon was scary and very dirty too. The dinosaur was sad. It was crying and the genie heard the dinosaur and it finally spoke, "If you keep on crying I will kill you".

So, it stopped crying and the genie didn't kill the dinosaur and it let the dinosaur go and it lived happily ever after.



Stella F – 2 BLUE

Once upon a time, a little girl came upon a lake with a weird looking boat laying on the shore.

She started turning the boat and saw something moving in the boat! Ah! Oh, it is just a fish. Then she went home.

The next day, she sneaked out of the house and went to the boat and jumped in. She paddled with her hand, then she stopped. She listened and she heard an echo. Then something jumped over her head and got her hand.

She landed in the water, then saw a human with a tail that looked like a mermaid. It said, “we need your HELP! They are coming to destroy our land!” She let me have a breath because she kept me under for an hour.

I thought about it. She came up and I said, “Yes”.



Alyce R – 2 BLUE

Once upon a time, on a terrific stormy night, where rapid rain soared down to an old lady's cottage. The old lady saw that the rain was leaking drop by drop, into her cottage. DRIP, DROP, DRIP, DROP.

She lived in a meadow very, very far away from other houses beside the village on the other side of the meadow. On the other side of the meadow, there were about 200 houses. The best thing was they all loved to party so much but there was one house that loved to party the most.

The house belonged to a little girl called Milly and she had a pet dog Silly. But there was something wrong with Silly that didn't seem right. Ever since Milly got Silly's new stunning pink and nightmare black collar that shone brightly in the sunshine. The weird thing was it made him talk in our human language.

One day, Milly and Silly went on a walk. But five minutes later into the walk, Milly and Silly got lost. They wondered around and somehow, they wandered into a forest. "Uuuhhh, let's just do funny things", said Milly. "What is a burglars favourite food?" "What?" said Milly. "A burger". "Hahahaha, very funny but I don't think jokes will help us get out of the forest", Milly said sadly.

They walked around. When suddenly, they heard a voice that said, "I'll never be able to pay for this to get better". They went closer to where the voice talked. They realised that the forest ended right in front of them. They were so happy because they thought they made it out.

"Yay we made it out", yelled Milly excitedly. "Yay we can say a joke now. Knock, knock, who's there, interrupting cow into moooo".

Milly pretended that it never happened. She still kinda liked it but was always feeling weird around Silly.



Emerson D – 2 GOLD

Once upon a time there was a girl called Ella and she was walking in the city.

She came to a bottle, so she put it in her backpack and bought it home with her.

When she got home, she went on a bike ride. When Ella got home, she saw that her mum was busy cleaning the house, so she grabbed the bottle. Then she accidentally dropped the bottle and it smashed to pieces.

So she rushed to the kitchen but when she got back there was a genie in her room. It wasn't any genie. It was a mean genie. So the genie took her away.

The genie took her to a river and dropped her into the river but when she was still in the air a helicopter came and saw her so the person in the helicopter reached their hand out and saved her.



Charlotte D – 2 GOLD

Once upon a time there was a little girl called Rosy and she was going to the amazing African forest. She had an adventure backpack.

When she was walking, she saw diamonds. She said, "I think they are magical.". But, then she stopped there and she saw a cave. When she got in, she saw a book and a key lock on it. But when she found the magical diamonds, she saw a diamond that looked like a key.

Then she had an idea. She opened the book but when she opened it, a big, big bear came out of it. It had big sharp teeth and claws. The bear was chasing after her to the bears home. It was a scary dark cave.

When she was in the bears home, the bear trapped her. When she was in the trap, a little frog was in the trap too. When she looked around her, she saw lots of bears around her. When she saw the frog, the frog said, "Can you get me up?". She did it. She lifted the frog up to unlock the keylock. When the frog unlocked the keylock, it opened it. They walked really quietly and got out of the cave.

They were so happy, they ran home and never came back again. But the frog said, "Can I come too?" and she said, "Yes!".

When they got home, Mum said, "Where were you?" "I went on an adventure", said Rosy. "Look mum, also when I went on the adventure, I found a pet frog". "That is cool," said Mum.



Charlotte W – 2 RED

The One Flower

Once upon a time a little flower bloomed and swayed with the grass.

When it rains it will stop swaying and grow bigger and when the bees come, it will just keep swaying and have a nice life, relaxing out of the shadows and out under the sun.

One day a terrible thing happened! There was a party in the backyard, at lunch the party started.

The flower was scared of the faces they pulled at it. One child said, "I will call you Lily". The flower now called Lily was happier than what she was. When the party stopped, the girl who called the flower Lily left her special book. The flower tried to get the book back to her but he couldn't because she was stuck!

Lily started to get sad and Lily screamed for help. Someone heard Lily and came to the rescue! It was a lady beetle and lots more. The spider asked, "What is the problem?". "A party was here, and a girl left her book" Lily said. "Ok so how do you want us to help"? he said. "You can help by picking the book up and giving it to the girl. She is inside." So off they went.

The flower waited and waited. The flower felt like they were never going to come back until they came back and said, "We made it and do you want to be my friend"? "Yes. I would love to happily ever after".



Darcie B – 2 RED

The Princess and the Dragon

Once upon a time there was a lovely princess that lived in a big big castle a long time ago.

But a few castles up, there was an evil prince that had everything he wanted, and no one liked it.

One day the evil prince caught the princess when she was asleep. He took her to the biggest dungeon in the world and she said, “Ahhh ahhh please help me”. But then he forgot to lock the cage door and she got out, but he got her before she could get out of it. Then he came and checked on her.

But then “Ahhhh dragon” she cried. “Do not worry I am not a bad dragon I am here to save you, I will try to blow the bars out”, but that was no use. “You go have a rest and then come back” she said.

Finally, the dragon was back. Of course... the dragon thought, “I do not need to put the bars on fire”.

“I have super strength. I will pull the bars open.” he said to the princess. “Yay”, she said and so he did it and the princess was safe.

The princess and the dragon fell in love and because of that, the dragon turned into the handsomest prince in the world and the evil prince was locked away forever. They lived happily ever after.



Declan A – 3 BLUE

Area 51

Once upon a time there were two boys named John and David.

They were driving around when they saw a gate. They drove closer to see what it said. The gate said: Area 51 restricted area. David wanted to leave but John wanted to sneak in. So they decided to do scissors, paper, rock. John won. So, they tried to slide under the gate and they were in.

But they got caught. The soldier yelled and ran after the boys until David found a door. He said to John, "This is all your fault". But John didn't answer because there was a whole group of ALIENS! They didn't know what to do because if they went back out, they would be chased by the soldier. And if they went closer to the aliens, they would probably take them to their UFO. So they ran over to the aliens and found out they were just holograms. "That was a waste of time!" said John.

Then David saw a jet. He'd always wanted to fly a jet. They hopped in the jet when about 200 soldiers ran after them. David started up the engine and flew off. They still wonder if the soldiers will come to chase them again.



The New Gate

“Rosie, come quick it’s finally finished”, yelled Carly my sister. “Oh, quick Charlotte”, I exclaimed to my dog. It was a Friday afternoon and I was lying on my bed reading a book and that was what got me up and moving. As soon as I was downstairs what did my mum say? Yep you got it, time for bed!! Wow, I never knew those words could be so frustrating! Oh well, I guess there’s always tomorrow.

“Aahh, another beautiful morning”, I exclaimed to my dog Charlotte. “Woof” she replied back, which I translated that in doggie language was English for, “Yes, it is!” Then, I started to remember something, it was something that I wanted to do first, but I couldn’t. Do you remember? Aah yes! That’s right, I wanted to go through the new gate first but I’d better hurry because I think that everyone else is starting to wake up too.

Thump! Thump! That was the sound I made when I ran down the stairs. I knew I should be quiet, but I couldn’t with Carly hot on my heels and it was very hard to slow down. As soon as I got down those stairs and out the door, I knew that I would be the first one but once I was through it, I knew it was not a good thing.

As I ran through the gate, I discovered that my arms were disappearing then my waist. Wow! I’m teleporting but where am I teleporting to? I must figure where I am when I get there.

As I landed on the ground, I found it was soft and fluffy like fairy floss. I tried it and figured it was fairy floss! But how would I get home? I decided to ask a gingerbread man walking by and he said to go to the store next to the hot chocolate fountain. So that’s what I did. He gave me a square and I ate it.

All of a sudden, I felt myself teleporting back. When I got back, I was lying in my bed. I was just wondering if it was just a dream, but I figured it out when I found the fairy floss in my fingers. “I’ll just keep it a secret for now”, I thought “but I’ll tell someone someday soon I hope at least”.

“Oh ooh”, I thought. “What if someone else goes through the gate? Oh well they’ll have to figure it out by themselves”.



Harley R – 3 GOLD

The Gate

One day, I walked up to a castle gate and I wanted to go inside. I had to pull two chains at the same time to open it. I pulled one, then the other and the gate started to open. It made a loud “creeeeeeek”, as it opened. I walked inside and heard another “creeeeeeek”. I looked behind me and the gate was locked. I was locked in and I didn’t know how to get out.

Then I saw a few signs that said, “If you want to get out, you will have to complete a series of challenges. When you complete all of them, you will be given a key and then you can escape!” The first challenge was to find a bottle in a big sandpit, that’s not too hard right?

I was looking and looking until I saw something shiny. It was a bottle! I opened it and saw something inside. It was a note. It said, “the key is outside the castle”. I had no choice but to climb out.

I was trying to climb out, but I couldn’t. Then I noticed there was a ladder next to the gate the whole time! So I climbed out of the castle and I never went back inside ever again.



Zoe E – 3 GOLD

The Gate to the Queen

One day, Zoe told Isla and Abby that they had a chance to go and see the queen. So Abby and Isla asked their mums if they could go. Isla's mum said, "sure" but Abby's mum said, "no way!" But it was still one week till they got to see the queen, so Abby kept on begging her mum for six days but sadly she still said no. So, Abby just gave up but then she had an idea she would just sneak out.

The next day, she just snuck out and made it look like she was still in bed. But all of a sudden, her mum was coming upstairs to see if Abby was still in bed, so Abby jumped out her bedroom window and ran to Zoe's house and they both ran to Isla's house. After a good three hours of walking to the queen's tower, the gates literally shut. It was a disaster! But just then, Zoe had an idea. They would just climb over the gate!

So one by one Zoe, Abby and Isla climbed over the gate. After a while, the three girls got to see the queen. She looked like she was actually playing a game of poker. We went up to her and she said, "great job for being the first three people here". So Abby said, "I really thought we were the last people here because the gates are shut". Isla then said, "Can we all have something to eat please? I am starving and so are the other girls".

So in the end, they had lunch with the queen. Abby's mum didn't even notice she was gone, and they played some games with the queen. It was definitely the best day of their life.



Tahli B – 3 RED

The Gate

Ahhh! I fell down a deep dark hole. “It’s ok”, I thought. Leah the Koala is here in this giant hole with you. Leah, the koala has a soft heart and her feelings can be broken easily. I’m Mia. I’m just like Leah. But I do see an extremely old door. It feels sticky like I’m in a wet slimy sewer. It smells like a deep dark evil wasteland.

Now we have to get out of this hole of misery. Should we go through that slimy gate? Yes, it’s our only chance of escape. Wait I’ve got another idea, we could use your koala claws and climb out. Yay we made it...the door is following me, should we see what’s in there? Why not? Let’s go. Well can at least appreciate that we got out of the worst hole ever.

Two seconds after I got there, I blacked out. But before it happened, I saw tall people hit me with a hammer but I also saw them hit Leah my koala.

I finally woke up and saw blood everywhere. Then I saw the evil queen and she said were nearly dead. But I had the right amount of energy and called an ambulance. Leah sadly died. But I got a new koala.



Levi B – 3 RED

The Gate

I had butterflies in my tummy as I clicked my seatbelt. As I went through the gates, I could see the yellow tracks and purple fence.

We went up for a while, then we got to the top. I dropped my poor chocolate chip and lemon gelato. I felt so heartbroken. Well, I was kind of lucky I didn't drop my iPhone!

Wow, I am still going up a new track. I better put my phone in my pocket.

I could feel the wind blowing past, blushing through my long curly hair. Ahhh! I'm going down there. A black zoo gate... errr there's a nerdimensional time portal inside the gate. Oh no! How did I get here and why? Dang it, I knew I couldn't trust that old man.

I could recognise a big two storey building in the distance. It was my best friend's mum's old old house, when he was 1 to 15. I walked over and saw her eating a bowl of cereal. It was on a plate that was purple with yellow sunflowers. I walked in. There was the same portal that put me here.

Yay!! I am not trusting a singing old man.



The Gate

It was July the 12th 2007 and Katie and Emily Smith were out for a walk. It was 8am and they were walking in Maldry Street. Maldry Street was there favourite street. Katie was a happy, interesting and intelligent girl. Emily was kind, helpful and like her sister, she was very smart. They stopped and stared at a big farmyard gate with a sign on it that read: WARNING stay out or else. The girls were very intrigued.

The two girls slowly pushed on the big brown gate. As they pushed open the gate, it creaked slowly and the two frightened girls trembled in fear. They saw a mysterious figure in the darkness of the night. The pitch-black figure turned around in fury. The girls ran as fast as they could through the fields of dirt and rotting plants.

As they ran, Katie found a secret passageway. Katie pointed at the passageway and they both jumped. They hoped that this weird hole would get them out of the farmyard. Instead it led them to a big room full of explosives items that could blow the girls up at any second. The girls held each other hoping they wouldn't blow up. The farmer ran into the hole, his face angrier than before. The two sisters trembled again.

All of a sudden, the farmer's animals dropped into the hole and charged at the girls. Just then, a friendly cow stopped and jumped until there was a crack in the ground. The cow jumped one more time and a hole opened in the dirt. The three of them fell through the hole.

The girls ran and pushed on the gate. They ran back home and were scared about what other things were in that street.



Zeva K – 4 BLUE

The Gate

One day there was a spectacular zoo gate, also some zookeeper called Stacey Wallais and Zeva June. Stacey works in the Mammal section and Zeva works in the Reptile section and at home Zeva has a reptile, it's a Bearded Dragon.

Raj Mackintyre is a police officer. He's very lonely because his wife died after 7 weeks of being married, sadly. One day we got a package from the post office and no one even ordered anything. We opened it up and it was...a Chickaraiffe - the rarest animal ever! Everyone was like, "This is so exciting!" said Stacey. "I know", said Zeva. "What should we do with it?" asked Vincent. Vincent works in the Amphibian section. "I think we should keep it", said Stacey excitedly.

One night, Raj was the only one who was at the zoo but then he fell asleep and something happened.... the Chickaraiffe got stolen by Vincent!!! He was a thief! Dun, Dun, Dun!

Then Raj woke up and quickly checked on the animals, but one was missing! The Chickaraiffe! "No!" shouted Raj. Everyone woke up because everyone could hear from their walkie talkies and immediately, they went down to see what happened when they did, Stacey shouted then Zeva did. Zeva saw something moving in the zookeeper outfit. It was.....Vincent! Zeva yelled, "Everybody look! It's Vincent".

"Do you have the Chickaraiffe Vincent?" Stacey said confused. "Um no", he said suspiciously. "What's behind you?" asked Zeva. "Nothing." said Vincent worried. Then we heard a noise coming from Vincent. It was the Chickaraiffe.

Everyone was shocked because he was a zookeeper but then Vincent ran out the gate, so Raj had to chase after him and Raj caught him. So now, Vincent was band from the zoo and never to be seen again.

But the Chickaraiffe was happy and safe in the cage. Then one day we got a new delivery.....

To be continued!!!



The Gate

DING! DONG! “Oh shoot, Chloe hurry up, we’re gonna be late!” Mahlia shouted impatiently as she sprinted through the front door and ran up the street to school. “Mahlia, wait up!” Chloe quickly replied as she jumped out of the door and over the fence. Chloe had no problem catching up because Mahlia had paused dead in her tracks, in front of the abandoned water park that shut down las month. “What’s wrong Mahlia?”. That’s when Chloe heard the horrible sound of screams and scratches from inside the waterpark. The two girls, kept walking to school, both scared to death and wondering...What or who was inside the waterpark and why?

The next day, when both girls were awake, they discussed and noted down how they would conquer getting past the gate and inside the waterpark. “Maybe we can ask Daddy if we are able to borrow his folding ladder. That way, we can use the ladder to climb the gate and safely make the ground.”, gasped Chloe, proud of her plan. “That would work, BUT, then again, Daddy would ask why we needed it and you would have to tell the truth.” Mahlia replied smartly. “KNOW-IT-ALL”, Chloe sulked screwing up her nose at Mahlia. “But what if we said...um...ooh! We...were going to...go to Tilly’s house, and ahhh...help her get her...um...cat out of the...tree in her front yard! Yeah!” Chloe muttered, making it up as she went along. “Smart” Mahlia gushed, surprised with her little sister. “Come on girls, time for school!” Mum yelled from downstairs. “Come on, let’s go.” Mahlia whispered, smiling at her sister.

That evening, when Chloe had the ladder and Mahlia had finally managed to pull her curly locks in a bun, out they went, across to the waterpark. “SSHHH!” cried Mahlia. “Chloe, put it down slowly, the ladder is very loud”. Click, click, click, click. “Alright, that should do it.” Chloe whispered. “Mahlia, you go first.” Mahlia grabbed hold of the ladder and started to climb. As she reached the top, the gate started creaking and then BOOM! The gate fell to the ground, the ladder falling along with it. “Mahlia, jump!” Chloe screamed.

Mahlia didn’t take any chances. At once, she leaped off the ladder landing inside the waterpark, super close to the five-metre-deep pool. “Woah, that was close!” Mahlia gushed. “Ok, now back to it...Chloe, where are you? Come out...Chloe, you’re scaring me!” Mahlia burst into tears. Chloe was caught under the gate and couldn’t move. Mahlia finally saw Chloe and ran over to help her. “1-2-3-push!” Mahlia shouted, worried about her sister. “Are you ok?” Mahlia hugged Chloe as she thought she was seriously injured. “Mahlia, I’m fine, I’m fine...I’m fine!” Chloe giggled, relieved she was ok. “Come on, it’s getting late. Call Mummy and say...um...we’re spending the night at Tilly’s house



and we'll walk home in the morning." Mahlia murmured. "Alright, done! Now let's go!" Mahlia squealed. They skipped into the waterpark.

They searched and searched, every five seconds hearing the horrible screams and scratches. Chloe climbed up on a waterslide and slid down slowly. When she was about halfway down the slide, an echoing scream rattled through the slide. Chloe didn't dare to move. Her heart skipped a beat. Suddenly a pale face appeared down the bottom of the slide, crying and begging for help. Chloe rushed down the slide to the little girl. "H-h-hi...I'm Chloe, a-are you ok? Are you-you upset, or-or hurt or something?" The little girl sniffed and smiled. "I'm sorry, you probably want to be left alone." "Wait, um...actually, that was sweet. I'm Lila, and to be honest, I'm so happy you found me." Lila seemed super relieved. "Um, and I don't mean to be rude, but have you been screaming?" The little girl held out her arm. "That is bleeding bad. Do you need an ambulance or something?" Chloe said, shocked at how bad Lila was bleeding.

All of a sudden, Mahlia burst down the slide. "BOO!!" Mahlia screeched. Chloe and Lila screamed. "Oh gees, that's bleeding bad, I will call an ambulance." Mahlia dialled 000 and the next thing they knew, Lila was being taken to hospital. "Come on, it's almost light, let's go home." Mahlia sighed. Both girls ran home and told their parents all about their adventure.



Abbie Burns – 4 GOLD

Ghosts, here I come!

“Marabell, sweetie, are you all right?” said Marabell’s mother. “Yes mummy!” Marabell cried with her little voice. “Ahhh!” Crash! Bang! “Owww!”

This is a tragic story about a 6-year-old girl and her mother who were involved in a car crash near the McLane Manor. It was so bad, that McLane Manor will be under quarantine forever!

Twenty-two years later...

“You five again?” yelled the principal of Destiny Avenue High School. “I told you no dogs in school!” “But Mr Carston”, moaned Summer. “You couldn’t say no to this face.” Buddy the dog groaned with a wide-eyed face. “All right, all right, just this once...but next time detention.” “Thank you, thank you Mr Carston!” “Yeah yeah...now get your bags and go home you lot.”

So, as Jake, Summer, Autumn, April, Zac and Buddy came past the old McLane Manor, they thought they could hear screams coming from within. “How about we get a better look.” yapped Zac. “Hold on!” cried April. “My Nan’s calling me.” They all stared at her as she spoke to her Nan. When April got off the phone she started to explain. “My Nan said that our parents are missing!” she yelled. “Oh no!” Zac mumbled. Autumn and April cried their eyes out, Summer fainted, and Jake sat in the corner alone while Buddy suddenly ran through the gate of McLane Manor.

All of a sudden, everyone stopped their whining, ran to the gate and then realised... “Summer!” yelled Zac and Jake at the same time. Everyone rushed over but Summer didn’t wake up. Zac tried CPR (although he didn’t know how to do it) and April called 999 (that’s the English emergency number).

As soon as the paramedics arrived, they jumped in the ambulance. One of the paramedics asked, “Where are you parents?” April didn’t know how to reply so she answered, “They’re at a rock concert with their friends.” “Where do you live?” April

replied, “Ummmm...99 Lipton Rd, West Town.” When they arrived at the hospital, they all fell asleep in the waiting bay. They woke up and Summer was allowed to go home.

When they arrived at home, April and Autumn were lying on the couch, Zac and Jake were lying on the floor and Summer was in bed. “It’s a school day” cried Summer. They rushed to get ready. As they just stepped out the door, Buddy ran straight up to them. They heard the same screaming they heard running past McLane Manor. “What are you doing, you mangy mut?” “What? Who said that?” Zac said in confusion. “I did, you big dumb dumb.”

“I...who may I ask is I?” said Summer in her quiet voice.



“Me!” “Me, who?” they all asked at the same time. “Marabell, that’s who I am.” “So, you’re invisible?” “Nope, nope, nope...I’m a ghost and proud of it...aren’t you? I live alone at the McLane Manor”. “You, and only you?” said Summer. “Yes, which is why I would like some friends”. “Sure, we will be your friend”, said Autumn. “Great, meet me in the Morning at McLane Manor gates”. So they did exactly that.

The next morning, they walked to McLane Manor. “Morning!” screeched Marabell. “Hi!” Summer said. “I couldn’t help but overhear your parents are missing”. Marabell explained... “Well, guess what? I found them!” “OMG!” cried Summer. “They’re in here”, said Marabell. “In a secret base, just come through the gate”. They just came in when their parents yelled, “KIDS!”. They ran straight to them, but Marabell shut the gate. So, they spent the rest of their lives at McLane Manor making memories Marabell never got to make.



This Place

Moving as silently as a shadow, I stood on my tiptoes and peered through the keyhole. I really wanted to know what was on the other side of the keyhole. I stood on my tiptoes and peered through a second time. I could see a wonderful deserted forest waiting for me on the other side of the keyhole. I knew I had to climb through to the other side and explore this misty forest, but first, I had to figure out a way to get through to the other side. I started feeling the dirty rocks with my hands trying to figure it out.

There was a golden doorknob that had been built there to fit perfectly. I tried to open the doorknob, but it was glued stuck. I pulled and tugged but nothing happened. Then I thought, what if I tried to push the door, instead of trying to pull it open? So, I have it a try and guess what? It worked! Inside was a gigantic shiny key. It looked like no one had touched the key before.

With my hands trembling, I carefully picked up the shiny key. To me, it looked like it could fit in the keyhole perfectly. It was worth a try, so I lifted the key with all my strength and placed it gently in the keyhole and turned the key. The wall in front of me just disappeared in front of my eyes. I stepped forward in this place which looked like a forest.

I started searching around, looking for any clues of animals or humans. So far nothing, but I felt like something was following me. Every time I turned around, I heard noises coming from the bushes around me. "What was that?" I saw something up ahead. "What could it be? Could it be an animal?" I asked myself. I walk slowly towards something that looked like a tent with a note pinned to it.

As I approached the tent looking thing, I saw the note. I read the note out loud. The note read: "Hello, anyone that finds this tent will be able to live in the tent forever and every day. You will be served food by the wild animals. They will give you anything you want." I couldn't believe my eyes as I had found my first ever house. I knew this trip was worth it after all.



Avneet J – 5 BLUE

Moving as silently as a shadow, I stood on my tiptoes and peered through the keyhole. My mouth was opened wide with amazement and my body was bubbling with excitement. I pushed opened the door so hard that it felt like it was flying away in the air. All I saw were the most beautiful animals there and the most wonderful land. But I wasn't watching where I was going, tumbled down the hill and bumped my head hard on the ground.

After a long time of dizziness, I finally opened my eyes and lots of colourful, blurry shapes surrounded me. I got up and the shapes backed away from me. The spinning had stopped, and I could see what had been surrounding me, it was the animals who live in this land. Suddenly, I saw that the strange curious animals were making a walkway and then suddenly... "A Lorax, but how?" I whispered to the orange figure walking towards me. When I was looking around to see what was going on, the Lorax knocked me out with a shovel.

Oh, here we go again! thought to myself and I fainted. After a while, I opened my eyes and saw that I was in a creepy palace with black and grey stone walls. I got up and started to find a way out so I could get ack to home sweet home.

It had been hours and hours of waking from where I started. Finally, I found a door and opened it and went inside. I found a coffin and opened it. As I took a quick step back, I was shocked with disgrace and horror. Inside read, "THE BOY WITH NO NAME". He was covered with bloodshed and cobwebs. I ran out of the door as fast as I could but then tripped over. The boy with no name ate me whole and only blood was left all over the floor.

"Whhaaa haaa hahaha!" The evil Lorax laughed and laughed. "He fell for all the tricks we played on him!" He cried!

To be continued.....



Patrick W 5G

Moving as silently as a shadow, I stood on my tiptoes and peered through the keyhole. What I saw in that cave was just extraordinary. I saw waterfalls going up, bugs the size of an elephant and elephants the size of bugs. This world was the most peculiar but spectacular sight I have ever seen. My brain was telling me to go into the cave, but my heart said run away and never return. It was a tough choice almost as hard as a walnut but I'm a 12-year-old boy with a sense of adventure, so the answer was obvious. I will do inside of the dream looking cave.

Oh, I should always listen to my heart!

As I squeezed through the hole, I felt something touch my leg. At first, I panicked but then I realized it was a piece of string from my pants. At last, I was in an amazing cave filled with massive butterflies and tiny rhinos. This was like a story my dad used to tell me when I was little, until he died. He died at the age of 32 when I was 3. He died when climbing this very mountain. No one ever found the body, but I don't want to depress you with my back story, so yeah forget I said all that.

The terrain was amazing, and the grass felt like a blanket against my legs and it smelt like gingerbread. Everything was amazing until all of a sudden, I saw a bunch of bull sized bull ants (get it?).

I thought all was lost because they were vicious predators surrounding me, until a man swooped down and caught me by my sweater. He swung me straight out of the cave. For some reason I'd seen that man before, then it hit me. "Are you my Dad?" asked Billy shocked. "Yes, son but we can't talk because you need to get home". "But Dad what about you?". "I have to look after the land". "But...." Billy was cut off. "No buts, you must go to your mother outside, NOW!" yelled Billy's dad.

So, Billy ran outside to meet his mum. "Oh, I thought I lost you!" sulked Jill. "No mum I'm fine now, lets go home" said Billy with a smile on his face. "Mum is dad alive?" said Billy trying to keep a straight face. "No honey, he's not." said Jill in a small voice. Billy chose not to tell her. She wasn't the only one still a bit shaken. "I'm always going to miss your father." said Jill. "Me too Mum, me too".



Elizabeth M – 5 GOLD

Moving as silently as a shadow, I stood on tiptoes and peered through the keyhole. “Why is it so bright!?” I said to myself. “Hmmm, what is this glowing key? It’s really pretty but why is it here?” I asked myself. I slowly peered over my shoulder and saw some kind of spirit. Just as I started to run away, the key used some sort of magic and pulled me back. I fell toward the ground with a big thump. The spirit floated towards me and started talking to me. It was talking in a weird way, a way that I couldn’t understand. It said something like this: “I ros na vico rika”. It was weird but then the key floated into a slip in a book the spirit was holding. It then turned completely invisible except for its luminous purple eyes.

“I am glad there is someone else here”. The spirit said happily as it floated around me. The key came out of the slip in the book and barged straight through me. “What is going on here? Am I a spirit now like you or am I a ghost? The glowing key just went straight through me. Am I dreaming? I know, I’ll just pinch myself!” I pinched myself really hard so many times, but nothing happened.

“Awww man, I thought I could get out of here! Anyway, who are you exactly?” I questioned the spirit. “Oh, if you really want to know, then...I’m a cursed soul. Nothing special, I don’t even know my own name”, the spirit said mysteriously. “What is a cursed soul? It sounds pretty weird but also cool”, I asked in an amazed voice. “It’s pretty simple. I am a spirit that was given a curse. It runs in my family”, the spirit said sadly. “Well then who is in your family? Are there lots of spirits or are they people or are they going?”.

As soon as I asked that, the spirit’s eyes glowed and then turned into some magical purple fire and it started spreading around the cave. Then a big shoot of illuminous fire circled around me. I ducked as a ring of fire was suddenly shot at me. Is this because I asked about the spirits family!? I wondered.

“Aaahhh!” I woke up on my bed, surprised at what had just happened. Was all of that just a dream? Where is that spirit? I thought. “What is that?” The key is real and it’s right in front of me. I thought everything that just happened was real, but then I woke up and thought it was a dream. But then suddenly, I heard a giggle as the key floated towards me...



Joseph Hey – 5 RED

Moving as silently as a shadow, I stood on tiptoes and peered through the keyhole. Then I remembered...

Horrible songs, a long trip, hunger... I practically had a bucket list full of what to expect on the bus to camp! Especially Camp Slither. True to its name, it was crawling with snakes.

When we eventually got there, we all strode out of the bus one after the other like we were told to. Still starving, the canteen was my first interest, unfortunately that came later. All of us in unison sat down waiting to be assigned partners, cabins and activities. It's like no one had ever camped before.

When we were getting the roll done, I snuck out to the canteen. My lust for food grew. I stepped closer to the door and I tripped over something! Blinded by pain, I couldn't recognise my surroundings. Drawing on my own subconscious mind, I woke up. I couldn't get up though...I'd forgotten how, I didn't even know where I was. I must have amnesia.

Learning as I tried to get up, the best I could do was a short crawl. A hiss lead an echo of hisses in the forest and followed my fall. I assumed it was the snakes who tripped me. As I said, this place is full of them! But in about a minute my crawl was a step and I finally made it to the canteen. Midway through stuffing myself, I decided that I should take note of my surroundings as I might get here again. I made the right decision. My actions were as planned and words came out of my mouth. I was on my way to full recovery! Phew!

I made it back to my camp to find out that I was partnered with the new girl, Juliet Tol. For some uncalled for reason, I wanted to impress her. I don't usually have interests in girls do I? Still getting over my amnesia, I didn't know who I was. But all that aside, it was time for the treasure hunt!

Unfortunately, like Newton said, 'every action has an equal and opposite reaction!' My action was the treasure hunt but the opposite reaction was that it was in the snake-filled forest. Ok, maybe that's not exactly what he meant!

The treasure map forced us over a river, to fight snakes and finally the canteen! I went in striding. I was on a quest to impress! It probably didn't help that I locked myself in. I didn't want to alarm anyone, so moving as silently as a shadow, I peered through the keyhole. Then it all came back...that's how I can tell this story!

It was good that I took note of my surroundings before so I could remember the only window that was open. It stuck out to me like a sunflower in a field of roses. I climbed out to notice that beneath me was a river and I awkwardly stumbled into a canoe. Realising I still



needed the item from the canteen, I got out and went back in to find Juliet with the golden fork we needed to find. The canteen was a good five-minute run from the camp but I knew the canoe would get us there faster!

I didn't know how to ride one but apparently Juliet did. She got us there in about three minutes and I'm starting to think she's not very new to the camping scene. We were able to win the treasure hunt and move straight over to the canoe race...the time was impeccable! We dotted straight to our used canoe and started moving.

I've heard gruesome stories about the water, more frightful than others! But being the brave person I am, I powered through the waves of success. Well, Juliet did. All I did, was stand still in a cool pose, basically mimicking a model's career. After about 10 minutes of non-stop coolness, we came to our destination. There's another one for the books! Juliet high-fived me! I mean, yeah...she high-fived me!

Then I heard a haunting hiss, a haunting hiss, followed by an echo of at least 100 more hisses. They chimed in on after the other so well. It was like some sort of cult chant. Then this read-white snake came up to me with what I could recognise was a sceptre. I touched it and my veins turned aqua, illuminated by light. Then the trees crowded over us and this time, I grabbed the staff with the speed of a cheetah. Then another chorus of hisses came. Had I passed some sort of test? After that moment I blacked out.

Still equipped with my sceptre, I awoke and stood up to bowed down snakes. Was I now their king? That was something I didn't know...



Oscar W – 5 RED

Moving as silently as a shadow, I stood on my tiptoes and peered through the keyhole. It brought back a memory, a faint memory, one I didn't want to remember.

After the plane crash in Cambodia, I was forced to live with Granny. Don't get me wrong, I love her to death but at that moment in time, I was not in the spectacular happy mood I normally am. Granny was really comforting over the next two years, with my birthday, with Mum and Dad's birthday, with their wedding anniversaries and of course Christmas – Mum and Dad's favourite celebration.

On New Years Day, 2017, Granny said we were going to America for a holiday. I was happy and sad at the same time because this was my first holiday since – well Cambodia and USA...WOW! I'd heard that's where dreams come true!

14 sleepless nights later and finally the day had come. The day for USA. I packed up the rest of my stuff excited as can be, ready to go to the airport and board a flight for 13 hours. Granny and I had KFC for lunch before our flight and I ordered Mum's favourite drink - Coke, and Dad's favourite burger – a Zinger Burger.

Well, Granny slept through the whole flight, but I was way too psyched to sleep. I was just thinking about the marvellous adventures we would have.

On the first day, all we really did was get settled in and have dinner at our hotel restaurant. When day two came around we were going in a cave in the mountains – well I hoped so. Granny said she'd been in there before. I wondered what's so good about that cave.

When we got in there, I realised why it was so amazing because of the modern and historic features like old paintings, pictures of the first founders and much more. There was one thing that got my full attention – a light, a bright light. I followed it, it led to a door with a big keyhole – when I say big, I mean the size of head. I looked around to see if there was a key somewhere and there was. Under a mat. I tried to lift it up, but it would have to have weighed 50kg! So, I got Granny to help me lift it and when we did, we put it in the keyhole and BOOM!!

The door creaked open. Inside was a stadium, a stadium full of people. I went to walk but I stepped on this notepad. It read, "Hello new contestant, you are the tenth and final finder of the Grief Games. Meet at the stadium in ten minutes. Thank you". "What's the grief games Granny?" "Where about to find out", replied Granny. With that, Granny was already 50m down the path and I knew she was not giving up until she found out what that note read.

When we reached the stadium, there was this weird looking blue hologram. He said, "Hello, please state your grief." "Um, my parents are deceased", I wept. "DING",



the hologram said, "Go through to the competitor's station. The event you will be competing in is a memory game. Good luck". A memory game for what? I thought.

When I went out to the field, all I could hear was Granny screaming. Then the MC entered the stadium announcing our names. Then he said something I will never forget. "If you win the Games, the people you are grieving will come back". Will I win???



Murphy O – 6 BLUE

A Different Twilight

Arrghh! I woke up expecting to be in my room, but I couldn't go back to sleep. I looked around as I jumped off my mattress into the icy cold water. I swam onto a ledge using my muscles to climb up. I soon found myself wondering and thinking how did I get here? And why was I wandering into a forest at night?

With the wind whistling furiously and the water from swimming, I was two things - cold and scared. I walked deeper into the forest when I realised, I wouldn't last long, so I ran. I ran right into a tall white building. I needed to get in there, so I found a door handle in the darkness, just guided to the door by the moonlight. When suddenly, I found myself twisting the handles, blinded by the strong lights so I ran inside to shut the door.

There was an elevator. Maybe the building was bigger than I thought. The doors opened slowly. When I shoved myself into the elevator, there was 11 floors. Slam! The doors shut a lot quicker, then the lights turned off. This wasn't normal. The doors opened slowly again but then I saw lights flickering and something around the corner bolted. The doors shut on me.

I was finished. I couldn't go back, there was no chance. I pressed the button on the elevator hoping it was still there but instead the building lights turned on. I walked forward, finding a black robe on a stand. The lights turned off. Now I was really scared in the middle of a hallway.

Moving as silently as a shadow, I stood on tiptoes and peered through the keyhole. When the same figure stared back at me that was it. I ran to the next door and hid finding a lock, so I locked the door. But when I looked behind me, I saw a wardrobe, so I stepped inside. I fell right back into my bed and when I looked around me, I was in my room.



Scary Dreams

I took one last gasping breath. Thump! I floated there unconscious. Like a bit of seaweed, lifeless yet helpless. I could hear the agony of heart stopping screams.

3 long years past. It all started one stunning day at the beach with my family and me. It was a magnificent day and the water was beautiful. It was fabulous day for swim. I couldn't wait, I was so excited. I sprung in with no regrets and started paddling out. It was a very crowded day at the beach and it was a beautiful day...I'm not going to lie.

Hours go past and all of a sudden, I saw all the water starting to go out to the deep sea. Now this was strange! Then it hit me! I remember mum telling me about this. Alarms started going off like a gun. People were screaming and sprinting, my heart was thumping like drums and my anxiety levels were over the top.

My body froze with inner fear and I realized it was a tsunami. Nightmares turned to real life. I swam, my life depended on it. The wave was coming swiftly. It was getting closer and closer by the second. I took one last gasping breath. Thump! I floated there unconscious. Like a bit of seaweed, lifeless yet helpless. I could hear the agony of heart stopping screams.

I woke up in this dim black place full of mysterious grey smoke and scary thoughts. Moving as silently as a shadow I stood on tiptoes and peered through the keyhole. I stumbled closer and closer. I finally am briefly in front of this mysteriously bright keyhole. I reach out and...Beep Beep! I wake up to a sound of a screeching car horn. "Are we at the beach yet, Mum?" "No sweetie. Go back to sleep".



Michayla M – 6 GOLD

Journey Through

“Mum, I’m home!” I yelled from the bottom of the staircase. “Mum?” I said again, as I trod up the stairs. When I got to mum’s room, I slowly turned the door handle. I walked in but stopped dead in my tracks, no one was there. No one was in the house at all. My heart skipped a beat. I felt the adrenaline rising. I wanted to call out but every time I opened my mouth, only silence came out. I just stopped there, my eyes searching the room for a sign of my mum. My eyes stopped as I saw a glowing light under the vintage floorboards.

Quick as lightning, I was down on the floor, wrenching off the floorboard. In my mind I was thinking what has happened? Where’s mum? What’s going on? As I tore up the floorboard, I noticed a box. It was a white box and as I turned it around in my hand, I saw a dark blue crystal encrusted on the side of the box. As I touched it, the house suddenly became dark.

I screamed in terror as I felt the floor collapse under me, and I felt my body being tossed around like a dog’s toy. Finally, the shaking stopped. I found myself in a dark room with a dim light showing through the door. I shook myself off and stood up. Moving as silently as a shadow, I stood on tiptoes and peered through the keyhole. There was nothing there. But then I remembered the box. I picked it up and held it in my hand. If it got me here, then surely it could get me back home, I thought to myself. I turned the box around and once again touched the shining crystal.

I felt the adrenalin rising as the floor again collapsed under me and I was chucked about like a plane that was about to crash. I was holding my breath so I wouldn’t scream. Then suddenly everything stopped. I could feel my heart beating so fast like it was trying to break my ribs and escape my chest. As I looked around my peculiar surroundings, I realised I was in a.....RABBIT HOLE?!?! I picked myself up and climbed out.

Once I was out of the disturbing hole, I saw a girl. She was in a blue dress and was sitting on a rock crying bitterly. I walked over to her, not knowing at first what to do. Then I gently rested my hand on her shoulder. “Hey what’s up?” I beckoned to her in a kindly manner. “I don’t know where I am.” sniffled the girl. “What’s your name?” I said as I sat down next to her. “My name is Alice.” said the girl.

I looked around; I saw as amazing view off the hill into a sunset valley. Wow this really was Wonder Land.



Laury D – 6 GOLD

Moving as silently as a shadow, I stood on tiptoes and peered through the keyhole. My hands started tingling as I reached into the bright keyhole. I couldn't believe my own eyes. As I reached in further something pulled me in, when I looked to see what it was I...

"Mum" I said wondering if she would hear me. "Yes honey" she answered. "I've been having some strange dreams lately", I told her. "Oh, what about?" she said in a soft voice. "Well I've been seeing a black room with a bright light shining at the end of the room. "Oh", she replied. "I think you will be fine".

When I went to sleep that night, I woke up in the mysterious black room with the keyhole again. I ran closer to it, but it only seemed like it was getting further away. I fell over as I couldn't see anything on the ground. I woke up in real time in my cosy soft blankets, rubbing my eyes.

I walked to school that morning with my best friend Joe. I told him all about my dreams but for some strange reason he didn't believe me either. All day at school he didn't really talk to me at all. I hoped he wasn't mad at me. When I got home from school, I made myself a snack and watched my favourite TV show ever.

I watched it for a while until Mum called bedtime. I had a shower and slowly dried myself so I would go to bed later and be more tired, so I could get to the keyhole faster. I climbed into bed and almost instantly fell asleep.

I woke up in the dream where I fell over the last time and ran as fast as I could to the keyhole. I finally got there in time to look in the keyhole. I reached in to feel if anything was there, since I couldn't see because it was so bright. I felt something skimming across my hand as they started tingling. I heard scary noises coming from the light as more things touched me. I felt something grip onto me and pull me in. I look to what it was and then I....

