

FEATURING TALL TALES FROM:

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Stories written and dictated by the clever kids at Blighty Public School

BUTTONS

ZOOM!



A nerf bullet flies straight past my face. And then, Angus goes for a second shot and misses. Adam cheers, and Angus shoots again.

What? How did he miss?

"Third times the charm..." says Angus, and he fires a headshot. For the third time, a nerf bullet flies straight at my head. And this time it hits.

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"Nice shot!" I say. "Go again!"
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There's sweat running down my face, and dripping to my toes. I stand still, trying to act brave.

BANG!

The fourth bullet goes straight towards my head. I shut my eyes, ready for impact, but the bullet hits a button on the tree next to me.

Click! Click! Click! Something goes off mysteriously.

Flash!-A massive spark of light goes off. A big gush of wind pushes us toward something. It looks like a door! Angus, Adam and I sprint inside. On the other side of the door it's all white. It's like the world has disappeared.

Suddenly, some words drop from the sky, and catch Adam's eye. They look like some kind of clue. They say, 'CHALLENGE 1'.

I read the words out loud. And as soon as I do, some boiling, death defying lava rises from underneath us.



"Run! Run! Run!" yells Adam.

We take a couple of jumps and leaps over the lava to escape. We land on some platforms and we get out by a cat's whisker.

"Wow! That was close." I say, and I nearly slip on a trail of dripping sweat.

We run past another door, and some more words drop from the sky. This time, they say, 'CHALLENGE 2'.

Again, I read the words out loud.

All of a sudden, some more words appear. They say,' find the button'.

Angus looks around and sees a switch on a wall. He turns it on.

"There's probably spiders or snakes filling this room." says Angus.

"Not spiders and snakes!" I say. "Probably only bees!"

"Come on!" says Angus. "You go this way. I'll go that way with Adam."

"No!" I say. "There's a timer on the door."

Just then, buttons start flying everywhere.

"Run!" I yell.



Adam reaches out and grabs the only button that is not flying, while at the same time, Angus and I run for our lives. Adam presses the button. WHOOSH!-He gets taken away and flown into a mysterious vent.

Angus and I run past another door, and some more words drop from the sky. They say, 'CHALLENGE 3'.

The door opens and we run inside. Some of the buttons follow us in. Without Adam, it's just Angus and I to face this challenge. We both hope it is the last challenge.

Suddenly, more flying buttons appear. They all have many Nerf guns. What are we supposed to do now? We don't have protection or a gun.

"Ow!" cries Angus. He has been shot in the head, and now he is eliminated. A gun drops from the sky. Luckily, I've trained for this. I go for the gun and grab it.

A shield drops between me and the buttons. I sprint to the other side to get cover, dodging every bullet, just to survive.

After a while, the buttons shoot themselves and eliminate each other, except for one last button. Now it's time for me to take the shot that I've trained for.....

BANG!-A headshot!-The button is eliminated.



At last, I've beaten all three challenges. Now, I can go home.

By Mathew Bridge

The Unicorn

It's the year 1908. An evil unicorn has stolen all my diamonds, and I have to get them back. But I can't fly! Lucky for me, I have unicorn friends who can.

"Hmmm!" I say to myself. "I could go and get my friends, but they live in Candyland, close to the clouds. How could I ever get there?"

Ding!-I have an idea. I could go and build a pair of wings to fly up to them. That's it! So, quickly I run to the scrapyard to find some metal.



I find some in a junk pile, and I build the metal into some wings. I test them out by jumping off a building. I fly like a bird.

I take off and fly to Candyland. But, when I get there, it is

Fireland instead. I see smoke, fire and people running all over the place. How am I going to stop the blaze before it gets worse? I'm in big trouble.

Ding!-I have another idea. I could ask the evil unicorn to stop the fiery blaze. Hopefully, she is not so mean today.

Just then, I see something in the sky. It is on fire. It throws fire at me.



I run to my Candyland unicorn friends. I hop on one of the unicorn's back and I fly up to the sky.



I tip a bucket of water over the flying thing to see what it is. It's the evil unicorn. It has been knocked out by the bucket of water.

I look everywhere for the diamonds. I find them in a volcano

made of candy. To get them, I need a net. So, I fly back to the junkyard, and I find one in a huge pile of old cars.

I fly back to Candyland with the net. I scoop up all the diamonds and I have a party, all by myself.

By Emma Casanova

TRAPPED

Crack! Boom! The clouds roll overhead releasing heavy sheets of rain that sting my face. Squinting through the driving rain, I see a cave in the side of a cliff. Half blinded, I stumble to where I think I saw the cave. Suddenly, everything goes quiet.

Inside the cave, I fall to my knees, shaking and totally exhausted by the arduous trek up the rocky mountainside. A sound, like boulders rubbing together, comes from the back of the cave and my heart sinks. My blood runs cold.

A monstrous bear lumbers into sight. Instantly, I'm on my feet, my body surging with adrenaline. My heart is racing a mile a minute. The bear rises up on its hind legs and sniffs the air. It can smell the stark stench of fear. Then, falling back down onto all fours, the beast stalks forward. My heart feels like it is going to burst from my chest.



Outside the cave, a low rumble builds. The bear looks around in befuddlement and I (obviously, the brighter of the two of us) hunker down, as bits of rock and dust start raining down on our heads. A rock falls on the bear and it crashes to the ground, unconscious.

As suddenly as the rockfall starts it is over, and I remember to breathe. Timidly, I stand up, hardly daring to believe that I'm alive. Glancing around, I look to where the entrance to the cave should have been, but instead, I am greeted with a wall of rock. My heart sinks. In a flash, I remember the bear and my terror builds again as I turn and see one of the bear's claws racing towards me. Desperately, I try to leap out of the way, but I'm too late. The razor sharp claws tear through my shoulder.



Instinctively, I snatch a rock off the ground and heave it towards the bear. A second later, it hits the bear with a sickening thud. The bear's eyes roll up into its head, and it slumps to the ground. The bear breathes its last breath.

Slowly backing away from the hulking mass on the floor, I reach the entrance and frantically begin to dig and claw at the rock.....

Squeezing through the entrance, I land with a thud on the cold, rocky ground. With my arm hanging uselessly at my side I slowly begin to make the arduous trip down the mountainside. Then, too tired to care, I start tumbling down the mountain....

By Angus Hay

The Evil Unicorn

"Ahh! It's the most amazing thing I've ever seen!" I said to myself. "I'd better catch that unicorn."

I got a rope and some Smarties, and started to run towards the unicorn. It smelt the Smarties and came towards me. As soon as it did, I put the rope around its neck. I called it Lucy.

But then, an evil unicorn came out from behind a bush and snatched the rope. It stole my unicorn! It took my unicorn to its evil lair in icy unicorn land.

Two minutes later, I decided to look for my unicorn.

I started running really fast. I ran past some trees and some bushes, and through some snow. Finally, I got there.

Outside the lair, were lots of unicorns that the evil unicorn had caught. The lair was ugly and freezing. The unicorns were all frozen. I felt sad. I felt sad that Lucy, my unicorn, was frozen too, and I knew I had to save her.

So I went to the evil unicorn's throne room.

"I was expecting you," he echoed.

"I challenge you to a dance off," I said. "If I win, I get all the unicorns. If you win, you can keep them frozen."

"Okay!" said the evil unicorn.

I rolled up my sleeves and got ready for the dance of my life...

The evil unicorn's servant put on some music, and shouted, "go evil unicorn!"

The evil unicorn spun around and did the floss. I did a twirl and a twist, and I won the dance off.

When I got home, my yard was fall of playful unicorns.



By Addie Baker

The Magic Tornado

Mat, Zach and I were playing in the cubby at school when suddenly we heard, WHOOSH!!

Zach and Mat shoved me to the door.

CREAK! I opened the door, and looked outside. A tornado, as big as a skyscraper, was swirling over the cubby.

It picked up the cubby with us inside, and we were banging all around.

A few minutes later we flew out the top of the tornado and crashed somewhere.



We were in very bad pain, but in a few minutes we were okay, and ready to go.

As soon as Zach and I got up, we realised that we were not in Australia anymore, and that we were in the fairy tale land of Oz.

We looked around, and we realized that Mat was gone. We called out his name a few times but there was no response. So, we went to a path and started walking along it.

Zach and I were a bit hungry so we took some of the corn that was growing in a paddock next to us. We started eating it.

Then, we heard some noises from the cornfield from behind us. We stared for a while, but suddenly the cornfields parted and a scarecrow emerged. We were amazed at what we saw in front of us.

"Stop eating the corn!" the scarecrow yelled.

Zach and I were startled, but even so, we replied, "why should we?"

"Because this corn is for the animals, and not for you!" said the scarecrow.

"Oh!" said Zach, and we gave the corn back to him.

A bit later, we came across some apple trees. We sat down at one of the trees, and there, sitting down at the tree next to us was a tin man, with a pot of oil on the ground next to him.



Zach picked up the pot, and poured the oil all over the tin man.

The tin man started to move. He went over to an old and broken shed. He started to move some of the broken pieces of wood, and then he stopped. He bent down to grab something. It was an axe.



This didn't look good, so we hid behind the apple tree.

The tin man swung his axe back and forth until, 'timber!' Down came a tree.

Then, he grabbed the tree and took it back to the old shed and started to chop it into wooden planks.

When he was finished, he chopped down some more apple trees until he had enough to make a roof and door. Then, he attached them to the shed.

We were stunned, but we couldn't hang around. We had a friend to find.

We went down the path a bit more.

At the end of the path we saw our cubby.

All of a sudden, we felt content, but then the cubby lifted into the air, and we saw a lion lifting it up.

The big lion threw the cubby, and it crashed down on the path. After that, the lion ran into the trees.

Zach and I looked at the cubby. It was still in one piece. We looked inside, but Mat was not there.

I looked down the path. There was a small fire up

ahead. We ran to it, and there was Mat, sitting there with a broken leg.

Zach and I lifted him up and carried him back into the cubby.

WHOOSH! The tornado was back.

We were banged around the cubby one more time. And again, we flew out the top of the swirling tornado. We crashed back down at school in the same spot.

"Home time!" the teacher said.

Zach, Mat and I went over and hugged the teacher. We grabbed our bags and got on the bus, feeling exhausted.

By Reagan Macdonald





I'm climbing up a mountain and suddenly I slip and start sliding down, with my heart racing. At the bottom of the mountain I see a cave. The cave is dark and looks like a big hole in the ground.

So, I go and look in, and I skip a heartbeat. A rock rolls underneath my feet and I fall inside the cave. It is only 2 m deep, but it is 10 m in diameter. I am trapped.

I turn on my torch and I see portals in the wall of the cave. On the floor of the cave there's a symbol. It lights up when I step on it.

Suddenly, the cave illuminates. I run over to one of the portals that is straight ahead. I jump inside and start spinning and turning. I feel nauseous and I almost throw up. My stomach feels like it is inside out.

At the other end of the portal I get shot out. I find myself in a deep forest with a road going through it. At the end of the road there is a castle. On top of the castle, sitting on one of the turrets is a dragon. It's guarding the castle. It has red skin, silver spikes

and silver armour.

All of a sudden, I hear a clippetty-clop and a crunching of wheels. I look around and see a wooden cart. It has four horses pulling it. One of the horses says, "either get on the cart, or get off the road."

I say, "can I go to the castle?"

I climb onto the cart and the cart bumps its way to the castle. The horse stops, and the dragon angrily says, "who dares to enter the castle?"

I yell out, "I do!"

The dragon breathes out a trail of fire.

"Let's make a deal!" I say.

"Sure!" says the dragon.

"Help me to get home," I say.

"Okay!" says the dragon. "Come with me!"



I follow the dragon into the castle. It takes me down

to the dungeons. On one of the walls I see a portal. I climb inside and I start spinning and turning. I feel nauseous.

Moments later, I'm on top of the mountain where my adventure first began.

I take the safe route down the mountain, and I see people looking for me. They take me home and I tell them my story.

By Zach Dawson

Mountain Monster Trouble

Bang! Boom! Crash! The ground starts to shake rapidly. But nothing is going to stop me from climbing the scary mountain.

"Hello! My name is Bob!" I say to the ghost that haunts the mountain. "Today is the day I'm going to find a cave on this scary mountain. I'll see you later!"

I start my journey, and when I do, I see up ahead, a black cave with grey smoke floating around it.



I climb a steep sheet of rock. I jump over a river. I leap over a puddle and I reach the black cave. It is hard to see through the smoke. All around me the shadows are getting darker and darker. Something must be

blocking the light, and whatever it is, it's walking towards me.

All of a sudden, I hear this growl and I scream. I drop my climbing stick. I run into the cave and I see red, glowing eyes and a tail.

"Who's in there?" I scream. I am shaking. I feel so discomfited as I walk inside the cave.

"Stay away from my cave you heartless human." says a voice, deep and gloomy.

"What?" I say out loud, trying to sound fearless. "Why am I here with a talking cave, with no cell phone or any contact?"

"Don't enter this cave if you want to live!" says the deep voice.

As soon as I hear that warning, I decide to run back to my house and I take off. But, the talking cave-thing follows me. It comes into my bedroom.

"Oh no!" I scream.

"Wow!" says the creature. The red spikes on its back, and on its knuckles, start glowing. "I have not seen a house this nice before!" it says. "I may be staying here a while!"

By Philippa Bain

Unicorns Out of a Book

One Saturday morning I was in my bed looking in my unicorn hand-book. Then,.... Boom! Crash! Bang! The unicorns came to life! Suddenly, my room was filled with unicorns.

There were: mountain jewel unicorns, desert flames, water moons, shadow knights, storm chasers, woodland flowers and the ice wanderers, as well as, a gold unicorn and a silver unicorn. I couldn't believe my eyes.

I knew that the gold unicorn and the silver unicorn had the power to bring unicorns into the world, and that's what they had done by creating a portal.



Just then,.... Boom! Crash! Bang!...Out of the portal came lots of unicorn hunters. They attacked the gold unicorn and the silver unicorn.

All of the unicorn hunters put all of their powers together and zapped them.



The shadow knights then used their healing powers to bring the gold and silver unicorns back to life.

When they saw this, the unicorn hunters got so scared they ran back through the portal.

The gold unicorn and the silver unicorn then made another portal. This portal led back to my hand-book. "Follow me through this portal and back into the book," said the gold unicorn.

All of the unicorns went into the portal.

Just then, I looked back at my book and I saw all of the unicorns on the page.

I flicked the page over and I saw the gold unicorn and the silver unicorn. They were galloping around a tree.

The tree had golden stars and a silver moon hanging from it.



By Inga Steenholdt



I am scurrying in the outback, having a nice hike, when suddenly I see a light coming from deep within a little ledge of a cave. I hear a rumble. "What was that?" I say, as my body shivers.

Suddenly,..... Smash! One of the cliff's above the cave comes crashing down, and a tiger leaps out of the cave. Oh no! It's going to rip me to shreds.



I bolt to my car. I am about to hop in and ³drive away, when at that very moment, I hear a gunshot come from in the woods.

I look behind and see a man. He is chasing the tiger away with his gun. He fires more shots.

He hits the tiger, but he doesn't kill it. It runs back to its cave.

The man yells out to me, "can I catch a ride?"

"Sure!" I say.

He comes over, and as he is about to get into my car, I say, "whereabouts do you live?"

"In Blighty!" he says. "Down the lower Finley" Road!"

We hop into the car and I drive off.

I pull up outside his home and he picks up his gun and runs to his shack.

"Thanks for saving my life!" I yell, and I drive off.



And from that day on, I never go hiking. I just watch people hiking on TV instead. It makes me sleep better that way.

By Jovan Tidcombe



Lilly and I jog slowly into a pitch black cave. We hear noises.

ROAR! BANG!

We turn our heads in a flash, shaking and shaking, but moving closer and closer to the noises.

Lilly runs back home, leaving me here in a pitch black cave, all by myself. I reach out and touch something furry and sticky. I try to turn my torch on, but it doesn't turn on. It just flickers and flickers.

For 15 minutes I try to get it to work, and finally it turns on. It flashes around the cave and I see a massive, displeased mummy bear. She is holding something. The torch flickers, and I run over to the mummy bear. I snatch the object from her arms. I soon figure out that I am holding her baby.



I panic, and throw her sticky, little baby bear back to her. Then, I sprint out of the cave. I climb a tree outside, just as the sun slowly goes down. I am petrified. In the distance, I see glowing things hanging on Lilly's house. I hear a voice. "Ashlea! Over here!" It's Lilly. She

From up on the tree, I think to myself, 'how can I get down, if I have a very cranky mummy bear trying to exterminate me?'

Then, I think again, 'every morning, Lilly and I put flying foxes on nearly every tree. There has to be one in this tree.'

I start looking all over the tree, and in no time I find one. I grab onto the flying fox rope, and swing. As I go down the flying fox it sinks really low, and I almost touch the ground.

At the same time, the massive bear comes growling out of the cave. It starts chasing after me. And then, suddenly it halts, and so does the flying fox.



I fall to the ground. I get up and run to Lilly's house. Lilly is still on the verandah. We run inside and lock the doors so the bear can't come in.

We look through the window and the bear

comes faster and closer towards the house. And then, it runs straight past the house.

"What!" I yell. "Maybe she wasn't even chasing me, or did she think I didn't go into the house?"

"I think she is blind!" I say. Well, I assume that anyway.

I turn to Lilly and say, "I'm sure glad that's over!"

By Ashlea Charlton



My brother, Max and I are exploring. We are climbing a mountain that has a cave in it. We have sneaked out of the house without mum knowing. If she knew we were climbing a mountain, we'd be sent to our rooms for life.

"Just a little bit more Max," I say. "Then we'll be there."

"Let's explore this place." Max says, and just then I find the cave.



I look in the cave and I see a pair of eyeballs. 'Whose eyeballs are those?' I think to myself.

"Get back Max!" I warn. "I think it's a bunny rabbit."

"Come on!" says Max. "Don't be

afraid of a little bunny. Let's go in and see what we can find."

"GARR!" Suddenly we hear a growl.

"What was that?" says Max.

"I don't know!" I say. "Let's go further in and see."

"GARR!" There it goes again!

I go into the dark cave. I walk over to where the growl is coming from. I feel around and I feel something hairy.

"Come over here!" I say to Max. "I can feel something hairy, and not only that, I can feel something sharp too. It feels like a tooth."

"I know what that is!" says Max. "It's a bear! Run!"

I scream and run, and the bear runs after me. As I get closer to the entrance, the dark cave gets lighter. I look behind and see the bear's face.

"GARR!" growls the bear.

"It's following us!" I yell.

"Keep running!" shouts Max, climbing down the mountain. "I'll go to the pet patrol and tell them there's a bear chasing my brother."



"Ok!" I yell back. "But run though!"

"GARR!" growls the bear, and it chases after me. It tries to take a bite, but I get away. I hide behind a boulder and I hear it trying to sniff me out.

I hide there for half an hour, waiting for Max and the pet patrol to come, and the bear goes back into its cave.

Finally they arrive in a big truck, and they set up a cage to catch the bear. Inside the cage, is a big chunk of meat.

When the trap is ready, Max and the pet patrol join me behind the boulder. We wait and we wait, and the bear comes out of the cave. It walks into the trap and the trapdoor snaps shut.

"What kind of bear is that?" asks Max.

"A grizzly bear!" says the leader of the pet patrol.

"Oh! Ok!" Max says.

"You're lucky!" says the leader. "Lucky that bear didn't get you guys and eat you up."

He walks over and his pet patrol team lift the cage onto their truck.

"Got ya!" says the leader. "No more misery from you."

"GARR!" growls the bear.

"Come on!" I say. "Let's go home for tea!"

"Yeah!" says Max. "After all that, I am starving."

"What are we having for tea?" I ask.

"Pizza!" says Max.

"Yes!" I say. "My favourite thing to eat!"

"Mine too." says Max.

The pet patrol truck starts up, and Max and I jump in. Then, we all head home.

When we pull up outside the house, mum is waiting.

"Hey mum!" we say.

"Where have you been all day?" she says.

"We went up a mountain!" I say.

"A mountain!" says mum. "I am very, very irascible with you two guys. Go to your rooms now. I don't want to see you both until dinner time!"

A few minutes later, I hear dad walk through the door. "I'm home!" he says. "Where's the boys?"

"In their rooms," says mum.

"Oh yeah!" says dad. "What's for dinner?"

"PIZZA!" says mum.

"Good!" says dad. "Come out boys! We're having pizza for dinner!"

We come out of our rooms, and mum says, "you guys are lucky you are not going to get vegies instead."

Dad looks at us and says, "Why's that?"

