

THE WRITE SUSPECTS



YOUNG WRITERS
YOUNG READERS
ANTHOLOGY

West Chester Writing Project
Young Writers/Young Readers Camp
Summer 2025

Welcome to the *Mystery & Imagination* edition of the Young Writers/Young Readers Camp anthology! In Ms. Emily's classroom this summer, campers became junior detectives—reading mysteries, unraveling secrets, and crafting suspenseful stories of their own. From puzzling plots to twist endings, our young authors dove deep into the art of mystery writing.

Whether investigating strange happenings around camp or inventing their own shadowy suspects, students spent time both indoors and outside sharpening their sleuthing and storytelling skills. They brainstormed, drafted, edited, and finalized pieces that now live within these pages. Along the way, they explored a variety of genres and styles, all while deepening their love of reading and writing.

Each story and poem in this anthology was written by a member of our camp community. Over the course of two weeks, these curious minds blossomed into writers, readers, and storytellers. They cracked literary cases, made lasting friendships, and filled our classroom with laughter and creativity.

A heartfelt thank you to the caregivers who brought their children to and from camp each day; your support makes this kind of growth possible. Immense thanks as well to the Young Writers/Young Readers camp staff, who offered encouragement, inspiration, and collaboration throughout. And finally, many thanks to West Chester University and the Graduate Building for providing us with the perfect space to think, write, and unravel the mysteries of storytelling together.

Emily Wisniewski
July 2025

**West Chester Writing Project
Young Writers Young Readers 2025**

Teacher: Emily Wisniewski

Name
Catherine Baskwill
Sabrina Castellente
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Yeseo Choi
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Catherine Davis
Neetika Gupta
Shannon Kittle
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Sanvi Kuppireddi
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Will Lloyd
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Josephine Ragusa
Annabelle Roesener
Brayden Rosenfeld
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Lost in Love

by Caitie Baskwill

The thunderstorm Zeus created tore everything apart. My house was gone, snapped in two. The only thing that remained was me. And.. my bathroom mirror? I slowly turned towards the cracked, rusty mirror and looked at myself. Tonight, I had lost everything. My parents who I never wanted to be apart from. Luckily, my siblings aren't here because I'm an only child. I don't even want to think about what I'm going to do here. As the mirror revealed myself and all my scars inside and out, I realized I was just broken. Lost. What was I supposed to do? My eyes look tired, but only my soul is. My skin was covered in spots of blood and I had never been more pale. There was a huge scar on my face, and inside my heart was broken. I looked away from the mirror because I didn't want to see myself anymore. I turned away and heard footsteps. I hesitantly turned around. Standing there was someone from my high school. Someone I had hated for the longest time. "A-A-Aiden?" I stammered. He had silky black hair and a mellow but cute face. He looked at me then looked away almost like he was nervous. "I just came here because I needed to talk to you. And I know your secret." Aiden explained. My face turned red and not pale like how it was before. "What do you mean secret? Secret. Secret? I don't have a SECRET. I'm an Innocent. Human. Being!" I said, trying to cover up the fact that I did, indeed, have a secret. Of course I had a secret. The truth was...I'm a human being. We both share something unique though, which is that we both have a dozen scars on our arms and legs. I'm assuming that's what he's about to tell me when saying I have a secret. I stopped thinking about that for a moment and looked back

at him. His face was almost as red as mine, and not in anger. "I know you have blue scars like I do," he said. I pulled my sleeve down farther, pointlessly concealing the scars. If he saw my arm, it would show the scars. He pushed his sleeve up his arm and showed me the scars. I pushed up my sleeve and did the same. We put our arms together and we saw that the scars together formed a sort of heart. I looked into his eyes. He looked back and I wanted to look away. It was so awkward. We've been enemies our whole lives and it's hard to think that we're actually soulmates. I pulled away from him and stood there awkwardly. Aiden kept looking over at me and then at the ground. I looked back at the rubble I used to call home and didn't know where I was going to go. "Hey, you can come home with me if you want. I know you need a place to stay, and I'm really sorry you lost your home," he finally said. "It's whatever, honestly. Sure," I muttered. He led me to his car and opened the door for me. "You're welcome," he chuckled. I felt even closer to him and wanted him to do something. Something magical. I needed it to happen. Aiden looked at me and smiled. "You know, I can't believe I'm saying this, but I like you," Aiden said with a blush. My face turned even more red. "I feel the same," I replied softly. For a moment, we just sat there looking at each other. Why couldn't he kiss me? If I was the first one to do it, I know it wouldn't be as good. I might as well just wait for him. For the rest of the drive, we stayed silent as one love song after another played on the radio. My favorite song finally came on and of course it was just the song that described us, especially since we have scars. It's called Found, after the characters are lost and in control of themselves, they find love. I looked at Aiden but he wasn't looking back at me. I let out a fake cough and he still didn't look. How do you get yourself to sneeze..? Maybe then he'll

look at me. "ACHOO!" I screamed in a type of weird sounding sneeze. "Are you ok?" he asked. "Yeah I'm fine. All good here. NOTHING IS WRONG." I said in a loud tone. I think he thinks I'm insane. At my favorite part of the song, I really needed him to kiss me. I was trying not to just go up to him and kiss him because he had to make the first move. My favorite song was playing, it was lightly raining, and he was beautiful and RIGHT THERE. I asked him to turn up the volume and before I knew it, it was blasting in the car. All I heard was my favorite song with someone right next to me that I wanted NOW. "CHICKEN!" I thought to myself. That chicken can't just kiss me already. My song was on repeat and I was dying over here, meanwhile he keeps doing the perfect (and stupid) hair flip. His silky black hair flew back and forth and he didn't realize it. Finally, I screamed, "AIDEN JUST KISS ME!!!" And he leaned over to my seat, stopped the car, even though we were in the middle of nowhere, and kissed me at last. It felt so magical as I had been longing for. I forgot all about my family and my home for a moment, and as my favorite song played, and the rain gave way to a beautiful rainbow, so did my heart as me and Aiden, for the first time, kissed.

The End!

Sabrina Castellente

My Author Bio

Sabrina Castellente is an 11 year-old softball player, who plays on T.E. Thunder. She has a dog named Clover and a brother named Colin. She plays the trombone for her school, and also plays soccer and basketball. Her favorite subjects are Reading, History, and English. When she grows up she wants to be an archaeologist or pro softball player.

Hunters & Hiders

HUNTER...HUNTER...HUNTER... I'm a hunter this can't be true, can it?

I was running through the forest, the red mark on my cheek haunting my Conscience. I live in a world that when you turn thirteen you get a mark. This mark can be red or blue, hunter or hider. As you can probably guess hunters hunt the hiders. In most cases, hiders die before they turn 30 the lucky ones live to have children. My whole family are hiders, they survive because they hide in plain sight. Everyone in my family paints over Their mark. Your mark is the only way you can tell the difference. THEY...check every week for fakers, but my family had found a way to trick the system. From a young age my family is taught to keep THE secret. I Knew that my family would kick me out if they found out that I was an actual hunter. I'm already the oldest of five and my parents neglect me so much that they wouldn't even notice if I was gone. I was running away, through the forest, not even caring that the branches were cutting sharply into my skin. I was running away, away from my family, away from my mark, away from.... ME.

My round, rocky, form

I was hurdling through the stars, my round, rocky, form causing destructing through the galaxies. Is was doing my thing until I spotted a beautiful planet through the others. Blues greens and grays blinded me. So naturally I headed toward it. It was difficult but I crashed through its atmosphere. Then, suddenly i couldn't control my speed like I usually could. I obviously didn't want to destroy this beautiful planter but I couldn't stop. I tried to slow down but couldn't, i tried to stop but couldn't, I tried and tried, strained and strained but it didn't work. Then I slammed into the surface of the beautiful planet, and very thing went BLACK!!

The hairbrush war

I live in a society where it is expected to wake up and go to war every morning. If I do not I might get teased by my peers in a torturous place many kids fear. I wake up before the sun every morning just to prepare for this ugly battle. For this type of war I need a deadly weapon with hundreds of small barbed tips. We slam this weapon into each others heads. This awful "privilege" as our elders say is almost exclusively for the stronger of the our kind. I hate this.

The Mars Compound

Marshall's mop fell and his bucket of water spilled all over the floor when his dad walked out of the door but his dad wasn't RIGHT... He walked stiffly and jerked. When he spotted Marshall he started to twitch even more. Marshall was paralyzed with fear, this right, his dad had gone crazy. His strict, smart, scientist dad jerking and twitching????? That couldn't be right! Marshall's dad straightened up and when their eyes met, Marshall noticed that his dad's eyes were red a scary blinding evil red. Marshall yelled "DAD, what happened to you" his dad answered but not in his voice, in a deep raspy voice. "GET OUT OF MY WAY CHILD!" Marshall was astonished "IT'S ME DAD" Marshall cried. The monster of his dad raised his arm and thwacked him out of the way. He went flying into a wall, which promptly collapsed.

As the building caved in around Marshall he struggled to get out. When a strong arm grabbed his wrist and pulled him out from under the wall. When he finally got out he was surprised to see a girl about his age. "Come on we got to get out of here" she yelled. "The whole building is going to cave in on us" Together they fled out of the building into a spaceship and launched it. Then they realized they didn't know how to pilot the ship. So they just let it fly. Eventually they saw earth coming up. "Good thing the ship was already going home" Marshall said "Not for me" the girl said.

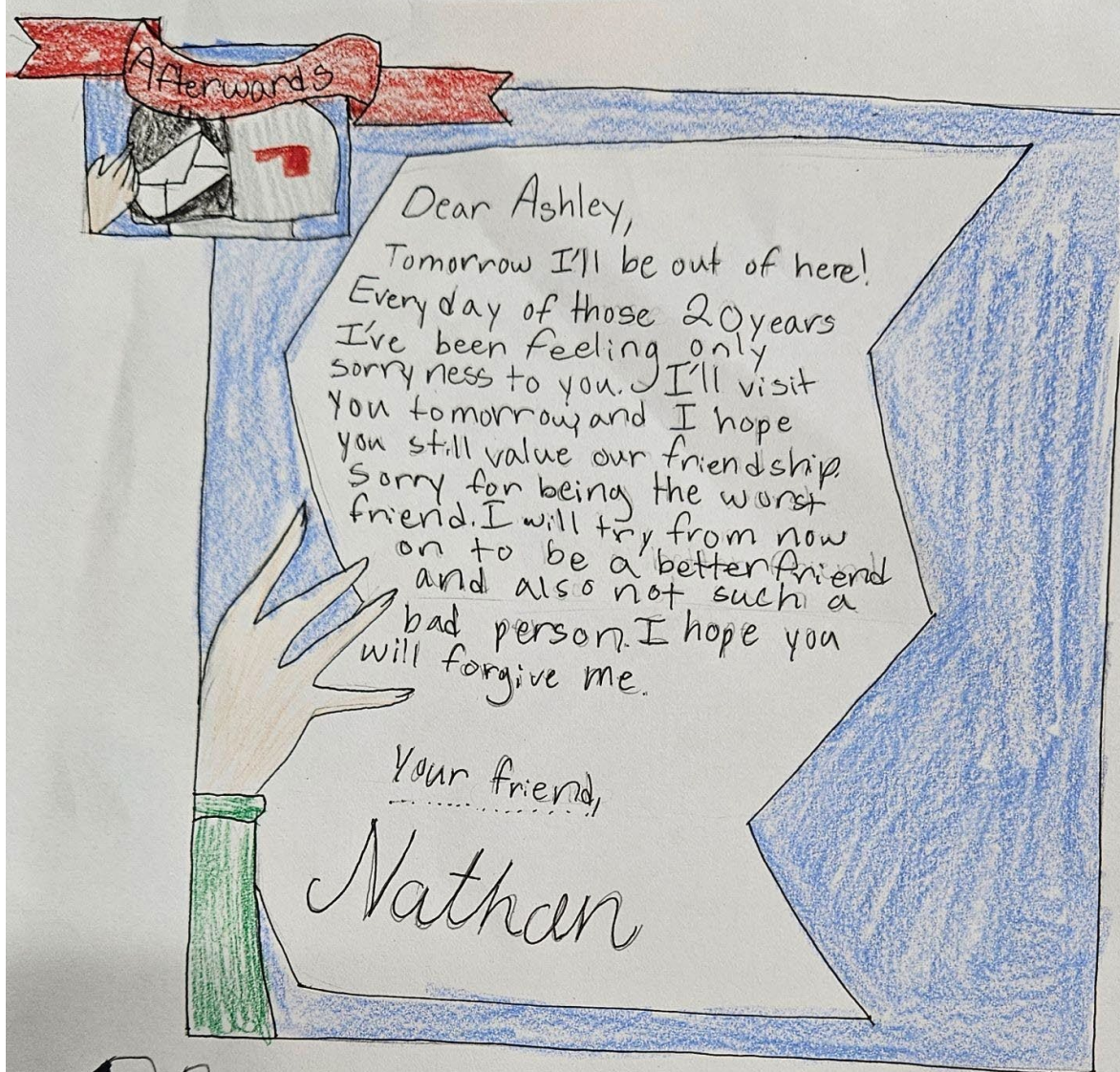
It was a nice day in Virginia Bjorn Dunn was awaiting orders at a 711 Bjorn was 29 and a field agent for the CIA. He had been waiting for five minutes when a sleek black sedan arrived walked Steve from the director of the CIA if Trump personally came to talk this must've been really important. Thought Bjorn Crump said we have a reason to believe that a terrorist organization is in possession of a weapon that could kill everyone on earth the CIA calls it Bandor the virus, melts your heart and is highly contagious. Your first move will be to go to the French Open where the leader of the terrorist group will be. You will then tell the leader back to their base where you will try to destroy band, we have a tracking chip and you which will allow us to move men into surround the compound in moving if things go wrong good luck in your plane to the French Open leaves in two hours. This is our last stitch effort because they have to unlock the electric defenses, which will take two days since you're watching good luck I stood there for a full minute, letting the conversation sink first started to check the gear. The director had packed for me an M 18 pistol with five loads agency, smart glasses in a Verbo, which can break any lock stick gloves and a few other cool gadgets. I got an Uber to bring me to the airport in another hour. I was on my way to Paris touchdown on the tarmac I put on my glasses hello each and the glasses in these glasses recognized everyone and could do other things. I thought my glasses recognize the two people terrorist on my left coming towards me. I turn right and run to the exit. I hailed a taxi to the French open. My glasses automatically will recognize the terrorist leader, Eric Paulus see a door and my glasses show that there are armed man with

behind the door in the French Open. The store also leads to a private balcony. Glasses I say who rented out this private balcony 280 glasses 280 was rented out by Eric Paulus. He is in there. I say my key to unlock a storage closet and unscrew the air vent to a balcony. I passed the two men. I passed four more than I get to the balcony I see Eric and some guards I drop a sticky tracker on his shoulder when I'm crawling over the four men he they hear me and start running to the storage closet, where I entered after I jump down guard spots me punch him in the face he drops unconscious and I run out the three other guards put up a chase. After escaping the French Open, I run to the safe house and wait for Eric to move. He does he boards a plane bound to Vienna. I board my plane and arrive at Vienna after telling Eric to a compound in Vienna suburbs I have a flashback. I have just finished my mission and saved the world. Norwegian special forces told me that I could go to the CIA because of my excellent performance on the mission. I accepted was a full-fledged to CIA agent. After infiltrating the compound, I acquired the virus. Which was easier than I thought, but when I was going out of the house, all the guards suddenly sprang on me They captured me and locked me up. They tied me into a chair and took back the virus after I use the paper clip next to me to break out of my bonds. I snuck into Eric's room and took the virus back, destroyed it and called in the CIA assault team . in the end Eric was locked up in a French prison. And I retired at 29 why because I decided spying was not for me. After returning to Langley I told Steve of my quitting because of what I saw at the compound. And he accepted me and approved of my resignation.









About the author

YESEO CHOI is an author/illustrator living in Delaware County with her dog, Leco, and parents, a brother, and a sister. She loves to play lax, knit, and go to the mall with her family. She is a middle-schooler at GVMS.

The Cruise

The sun crept into the room slowly. It slid through the crack in the curtains, pouring out on to the floor. It seeped into the carpet and bled down the hallway. From there, it turned a corner and baked the kitchen in light.

I sat up slowly. My head throbbed with an aching headache. “Momm” I called groggily, “my head hurts.” But no response comes from the kitchen. “Mom?” I yell, “are you home?” But I hear nothing. No stirring. No movement. Nothing.

I pick up my phone, and tap on her number. It rings for a minute and then goes to voicemail. I try it again. And again. And again. Each time it rings out and sends me to her voicemail. I try texting her too. Frantic *mom where are you?s* and *please answer my calls*.

I decide to investigate. I check the kitchen, her room, the basement, the living room, and both bathrooms, but she isn’t anywhere. So, I think to myself, *she obviously isn’t home. But the question is, where is she?*

I sit in the kitchen, thinking, basking in sunlight, waiting. Waiting for my mom to show up and come home to me. I pick up my phone to call her again, but before I can hit the digital button, I get a call from an unknown number. I answer the call, “Hello?”

It’s my mom’s voice on the other end. “Emma,” she says “did you go back to the room without me? I told you not to.”

“Mom! Where are you?” I ask, confused about the *room* thing, “I’m here, at home!”

“Emma, what are you talking about? I’m still at breakfast.” She says, visibly annoyed, “And you should be too. Why did you leave without me? This cruise was supposed to be bonding time.”

My stomach does a somersault. What did she mean by cruise? And why does she think that I’m with her? “Mom, I woke up this morning, alone, in our house. I’m still here, by myself. Where. Are. You?” For extra emphasis, I use the FaceTime camera to show her exactly where I am.

“W-what?” She looks terrified, “Then who’s with me, right now? Could it be-” she gasps, “She’s coming.”

“Don’t hang up, just put it in your pocket, that way I’ll still hear you.” She does just that, and I can hear the sound of ‘me’ greeting her.

“Hey mom! What’s up? Why do you look so scared?” I have to admit, they really do sound like me.

“Who are you?” Mom asks, I can hear that her teeth are gritted, “And where are your parents?”

“Umm... right here? What are you talking about?” They play it off so well, the whole I-don’t-know-what’s-going-on-here act.

“You are not my daughter. My daughter is at home by herself right now, all alone. You aren’t her, and I shouldn’t have believed that you were.” Mom is fuming. Furious at whoever this is.

“Well, it took you long enough to realize.” She spits, followed by an evil cackle, “I knew that you wouldn’t notice until we got on the boat, but a whole night and a half day? Well that was just unheard of! Now, I no longer have to pose as one of you humans anymore.” From the startled sounds my mom is making, and the screams coming in from around her, I can only wonder what is happening.

I forget how to speak. Screams burst through my phone speakers like fireworks on the Fourth of July. Speaking comes back to me, “Mom! Mom! Are you okay? What’s going on?” I’m practically screaming myself, hoping, wishing for a response.

But none comes.

Eleanor Davis is a rising 7th grader. She lives in Chester County, PA. She enjoys going to the beach and the Poconos. She plays lacrosse and swims year round, and loves being with her friends and family.

The Mars Compound

Marshall's mop fell and his buoy water spilled all over the floor when he knew even his father's reassuring words couldn't hold him back. He kicked his mop aside and walked out of the room. He was about to open the door when his father walked by. "All good Marshall?" Dad asked. "Yup! All good here!" I said sounding way too excited. "Okay then..." he told me, but I could tell he was catching onto me.

This was it. I could finally find out what (or who) was in there. All this time I was so excited, but now I was actually getting kind of nervous. What if there really was something dangerous in there, but I was so close, I couldn't give up now! Hands shaking, face dripping with sweat, I knew I had to open it. I lift up my shaky hand and open the door. I push it open, and it creaks loudly, and I walk in.

I walk into the dark room and the door slams shut behind me. As I walk deeper into the room I see a shadowy figure come into view. They are throwing something against the wall. I walk closer and see a person. My dad. Why was my dad in here? "Marshall, you're finally here, you-" he was cut off by a deep voice at the door. "So Marshall, I guess that you have found him." Wait. It was.. also my dad? I couldn't understand. "Well you can't come back out when you know." He slammed the door shut and I heard a locking sound come from outside.

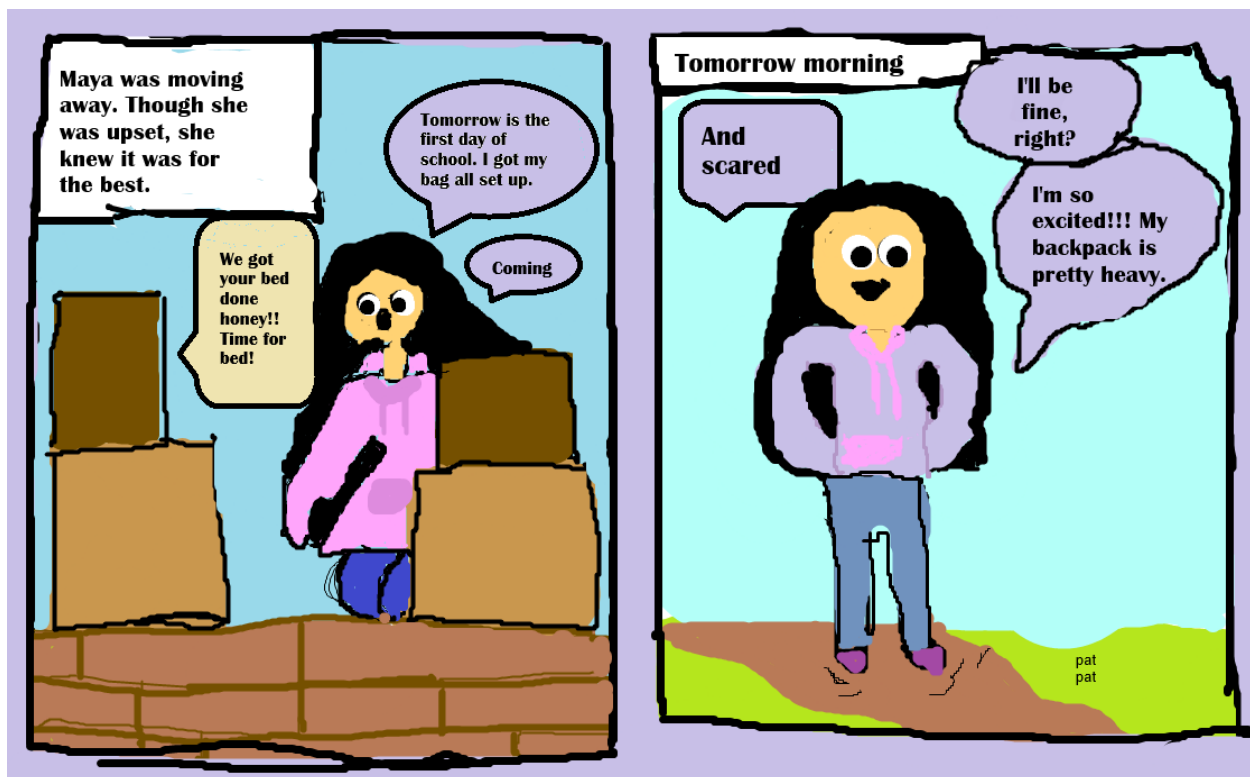
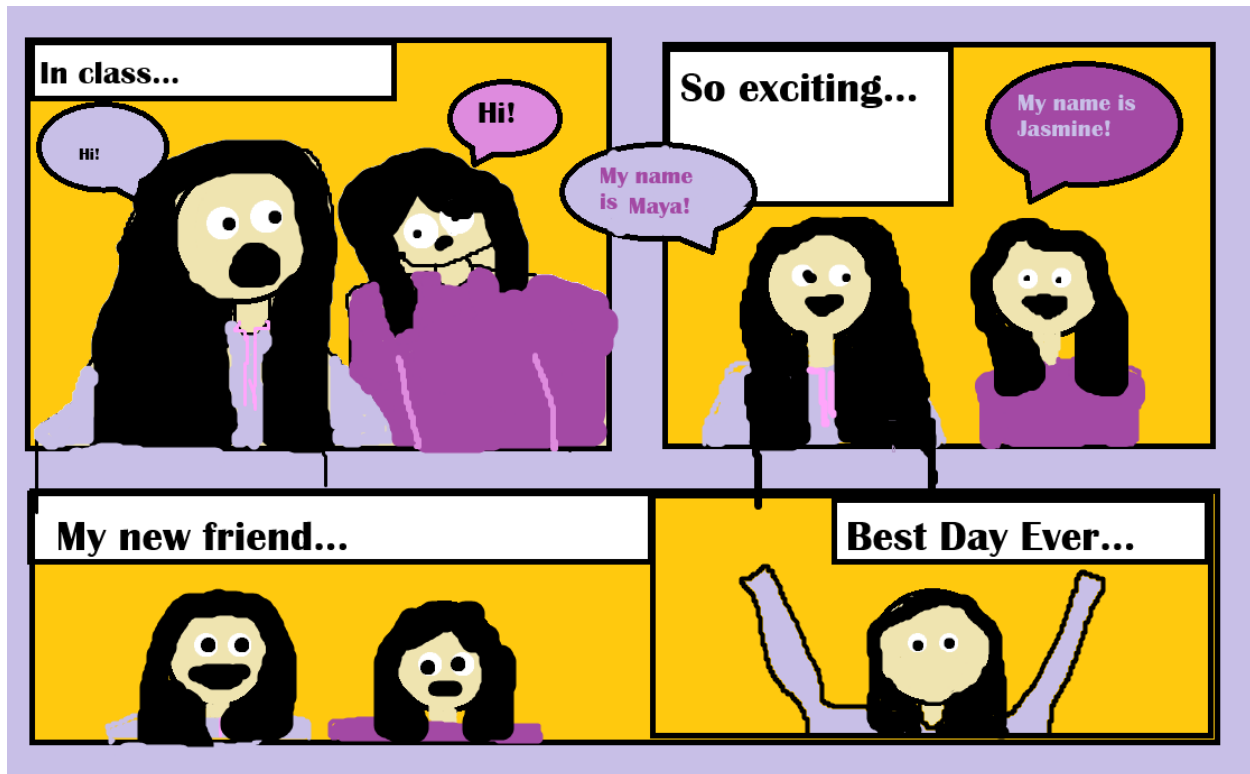
"Well," I say, "I guess we have some extra time on our hands. Do ya mind telling me more about, well... all of this?" I ask. "Of course, I don't blame you for being curious. It all started when we arrived. The first person that had come to this place, decided to transfer their body and consciousness to a robot. He thought it would be the safest for all of his memories. I didn't ask for it. Turns out this whole time when they were telling me that they wanted me here because it would be nice to have a scientist on board. All they wanted was my smarts. So they took it, well at least half of it. They couldn't finish the procedure. So they locked me in this room, it was a storage closet so there were only chairs in here. I threw them against the wall because I knew you were in the room next door."

"Wow dad, that's pretty rough. Sorry for not finding you before now." I sigh. "No worries I should be the one who is sorry. I led you in here and now we are stuck in here and I can't get you out." Dad says. "Well, we just have to find a way out then."

the end

Author Biography

Catherine Davis is a rising 6th grade student at Vally Forge Middle School. She is an 11 year old and lives in Chesterbrook, P.A. She loves to shop, hang out with friends and family, and do crafts. She and her friends hand out a lot and have lots of sleepovers. One of her favorite things to do, is to travel. She wants to travel a ton when she grows up.



Redrum A. Timmoc: A Diary Entry by Shannon Kittle

“UGHHH,” we said, probably for about the thirtieth time that day. “This guy thinks he’s sooo funny,” my friend Ann said. “But all he really does is make me want to strangle him with my own two hands!” I said. “You can’t do that!” Ann chided me. “The first thing they do if they find a dead body is check for fingerprints! Well, one of the first things, at least.”

“Then I would wear gloves,” I said. Ann put her head in her hands. “What am I going to DO with you?!” she groaned. “I don’t think that anything you say or do will convince me not to kill this guy,” I said. Ann thought for a moment, and then said, “Okay, say you DO kill him, what then?” “Then,” I said, “I would destroy any evidence I leave behind and run away from the scene of the crime, maybe to Alaska, then come back once it blows over.”

“Annnnnnnnd??” Ann prodded. I rolled my eyes. “AaaAAannNdddDd, I would not strangle him. I would use a lightsaber,” I said sarcastically. “There’s actually an ancient spell in mythology that lets you go into a book and retrieve an item-” Ann stopped suddenly. “Oh,” she said, catching on. “You were being sarcastic.” “Yeah,” I said, “but the spell from ancient mythology sounds cool. Let’s try that!”

After school let out that day, we went to Ann’s house and she showed me what the spell looked like. “When we’re done, it should be a light blue elixir that can fit in a small vial,” she said. The ingredients were: the smoothest stone from the bottom of a lake, a hair off of each of our heads, a key from a friend, and two weeks of moonlight.

There was a lake directly in the meeting point of our two houses. I dove in and searched the bottom for a while before coming up with our prize: the smoothest rock either of us had ever laid eyes on. We each had a necklace that came together to form a key, so we added that to the potion as well. Then, we each pulled a hair straight from our heads. It was slightly painful, but it was worth the impressive result.

Two weeks later, we had completed the ancient ritual and we were on our way to the annoyance’s house in the middle of the night. We had mapped out his house’s vent systems, because we could squeeze through a small opening from a hole in the house’s wall, which eventually led to a vent. I had brought a book that had a lightsaber in it with me in my bag, and we poured the potion over the book.

For a few moments, nothing happened, and we were afraid that we had wasted an entire two weeks of our lives. Then, all of a sudden, a bright beam of golden light shot up out of the book! I dropped it in surprise, but Ann caught it before it hit the ground. She shoved her hand into the beam of light. As Ann pulled her hand back out, I saw that she didn’t have one, but TWO lightsabers in her hand.

She silently handed one to me, and I closed the book and put it back in the bag. We left our bags outside, because they wouldn't fit with us when we went through the vents. As we crept toward the hole in the wall, I had a sensation that we were being watched. I whipped my head around as fast as I could, and I saw a figure bolt behind a tree. Ann beckoned me and vanished into the hole in the wall.

I decided that it was dark, and I was tired, fueled only by adrenaline. My eyes had probably played tricks on me as always. I followed Ann into the hole, trying to shake the feeling that, once again, I was being watched. We crept along the edge of the wall, feeling the sides for when they would be shorter. As the walls grew shorter, we dropped to the floor and started to crawl.

My over-sensitive ears picked up a sound from outside. *It was just a squirrel, scurrying through the leaves of a tree, not someone trying to murder murderers*, I thought. But still, I looked behind me. I didn't see anyone. I switched my eyes back to the vent crawling activity I was doing. Soon we would come to a turn that went straight up, and then we would turn right, and we'd drop through the vents into our annoyance's room.

Before we got to the turn, I heard the rustling sound again, except it was louder. Ann still couldn't hear it, so I still didn't mention it. I stole another glance behind us, and thought I saw a flash of light. Ann turned around, too. She had also seen the flash, a flash we had only seen once before. We looked at each other in the darkness and it was clear we had come to the same conclusion; *someone had found the book*.

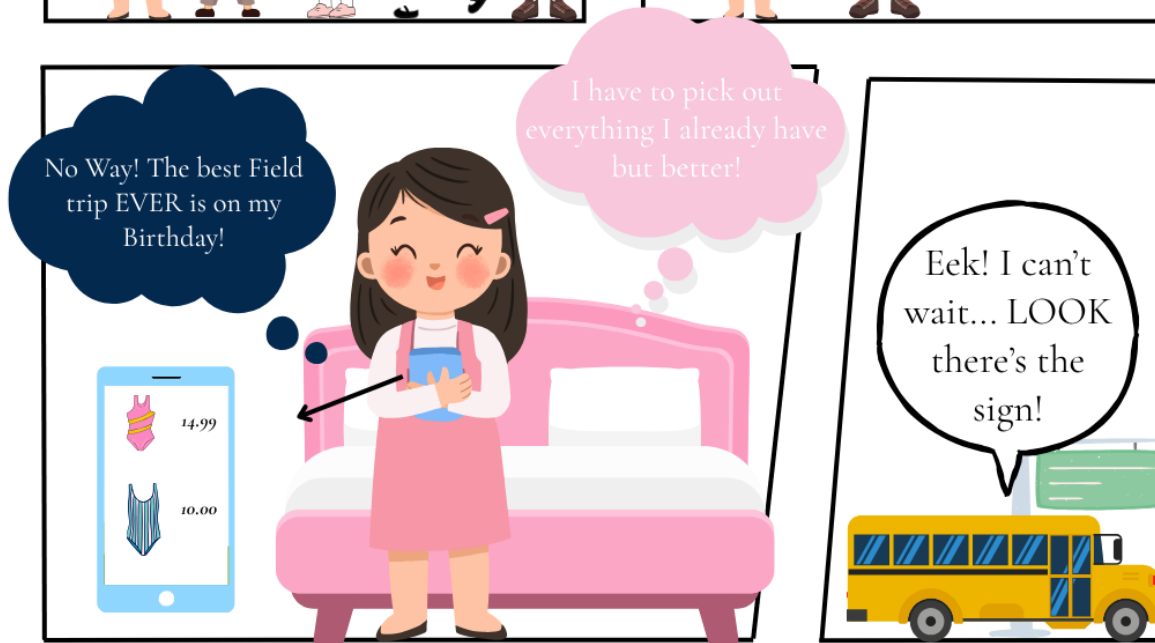
Ann stopped right as we got to the turn. It was always tricky to go up when there wasn't a ladder, but since we were very agile, we ascended with ease. As we climbed, I could see a light up ahead and to the right. We were almost to the annoyance's room. Finally, we reached where we could crawl instead of climb again. Ann turned right, and I followed her. I could still hear the rustling, but I couldn't talk, because that would risk waking everyone up.

Ann reached the annoyance's room first. She slowly removed the vent and emerged into the room. I could see her look around, and then she crept in. I climbed out after her, and when I got back, I saw that she had already raised her lightsaber. Ann pressed the button to turn it on. I looked away. Nothing happened. I looked back, and I saw that the lightsaber hadn't ignited. Ann looked confused, and then angry.

I don't know what she would've done next, but suddenly, an unearthly shriek came from the window. I raced to it, and saw exactly what I knew I shouldn't have seen. A hooded figure stood at the base of the house. The figure looked up at me. It pointed, not at me, but behind me, almost as though warning me of something. I whirled around, and I saw the same hooded figure in the room. It wasn't facing me, though. It was standing right behind Ann. It raised its hand, and the last thing I saw was Ann's horror-stricken face as she turned around. Then, I did what probably anyone would've done in that scenario. I fainted, and fell right out the window, into the open book.

****Chapter Two is not here yet. Please wait patiently to find out what happens to Ann and Redrum.****





Author's Bio

Jaswita Koganti is a sixth-grade student going to Fugett. She lives in Exton, Pa with her sister and parents. Jaswita also loves to bake and read graphic novels as well.

A bunny with wings

Deep in a forest a group of creatures lived in peace. There were dragons, unicorns, bunnies, and all types of birds. One dreadful rainy day, the leaders called a meeting. They discussed the recent events. "The dragons have been stealing crops from us." The bunny princess Ananya announced. Bunnies are known for their healing magic and their crops. "We did not steal anything." Princess Flame defended. She is the princess of the dragons. Soon every princess was fighting. All the citizens watched in fear as a war broke out.

One day, fifteen years after the war started, a baby bunny was born to a rabbit and an ice bird. The baby had wings that are blue and feathered. The little bunny grew up in secret. In a patch of forest that was hidden to all. The bunny longed for friends. She wishes there was no war. A sunny day she wears a cloak to cover her wings and ventures into the bunny town. She finally makes some friends. The sun sets quickly, its time to go home.

She loves to help wounded soldiers of all creatures. She heals them and leaves. They never know who healed them. She thinks all creatures are equal. She has much power. She can heal but she can also hurt. She inherited ice power from her father. She liked to make ice crystals and statues though they melt anyway. She starts to make some paper. When the paper is ready she writes letters to all kingdoms, And adds signatures of the leaders. She leaves the letters just barely inside the territories.

Soon the day comes, the leaders gather for the first time in 35 years. They look around confused, finally princess Seven of the unicorn says "Who called us here." Then, she comes out and says "we have been fighting for too long." Princess Blade of the birds says "who are you?" She replies "I am born of a bird and a bunny." Then she spreads her wings. Whispers are heard throughout the crowd. Then Ananya says "but the dragons are thieves." She replies "is fighting going to fix it?". After much discussion they work out their problems and the war is finally over.

Then princess Flame asks "What is your name?"

The bunny replied "My name is crystal."

Author Bio

Sanvi Kuppireddi is a girl who likes to read fantasy books. She grew up in Malvern, Pennsylvania. She also has a beloved fish named Galaxy. Her favorite color is purple and she has one older brother.

PROLOGUE

Once upon a time, in the palace of Arfia, lived a kind queen named Ellis and brave king named Everett. They were in love and cared deeply for each other.

Although one day, Queen Ellis suddenly fell terribly ill, for she was now immobile. Desperate, King Everett went to a mysterious sorceress he had heard legends about, Mistress Gray. Luckily, she had just the thing! A stack of magical flowers called Sundrops , that could cure any disease. The king just HAD to have it! But then Gray had one tiny request: If your wife should still die. I will be yours. Without a thought, he nodded, not thinking of the consequences. He just wanted his queen to be safe. So it was done. He clamped all of it into his mouth and raced off with it.

Soon, he was next to the bedside, but queen looked oddly still and her fur and eyes were as wet as the ocean and as gooey as slime. Her eyes, closed and peaceful. It turns out, that she had passed away just a few hours ago and the

maidens were preparing for her royal funeral. The king was devastated. He had failed, now the love of his life was gone, forever. He dropped the flowers on the ground harshly and began to howl.

As Everett looks at flowers on the ground, he began to think shredding them to pieces, and stomping on them. When suddenly the flowers started fill the room with a blinding golden light, forcing him to cover his eyes with his paw. The room felt like it was shaking. Then it stopped. All of it stopped. Finally, he could open his eyes again. Then there sitting before him was a beautiful puppy with the fur of radiant gold, the eyes of a young doe.

Her name was Fantasia. And she was going to be the to stop evil. For she had a special gift. A gift that would make dogs do anything in their power to make sure she doesn't reach the throne.

TO BE CONTINUED...

Penny is 11 years old. SHe is going to Montgomery school. SHe is going to 6th grade. SHe is an only child. She has a 3 year old dog, Chloe.

Will Lloyd

1.

You step outside. It is a beautiful evening. Your party idea was great, and now people are in your yard, enjoying your barbecue; now the neighbourhood will see you as a cool person, and you might get a raise. You think about your town, how weird and different it is from other places. Only one business, where you work, it being in the middle of the woods and more.

Someone calls for you, asking for you to go play air-hockey. You go to them, and start playing. In the middle of the game, the person glances out the window. You look out at it as well, and see a breathtaking sight. A meteor shower.

As you watch the meteors rain from the sky, a warning appears on your phone that reads: METEOR SHOWER WARNING. Meteors bearing unknown aliens are crash landing into Earth. They have armor made on an unknown unbreakable material and despite their size, are very agile. Recent reports tell us that the military cannot stop them. To repeat; THE MILITARY CANNOT STOP THEM. Observers report that they do not have eyes. Evacuate now!111111qqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqqq,,,,,,,,,,,,,,qqqqq

You look at the end of the warning. Something must have happened to the person making it. You shudder and your heart beats faster as you realize that if the military cannot stop them, neither can you.

What do you do:

Get supplies and run. (Pg. 4)

Try and find one. (Pg. 2)

Ignore it. (Pg. 3)

2.

You set off into the woods, in search of one of the aliens. The terrain is uneven, and you accidentally trip on a stick and fall. You hear a screech in the distance. As you get up, the last thing you see is a giant black mass leaping towards you.

ENDING 1 - STICK

3.

You ignore the warning, but the others don't. They run around screaming, trying to get their belongings and get to their cars. Unfortunately, all of the noise attracts one of the aliens. You, being the last one left, try to run upstairs, but the alien hears you and rips through the wall and punctures you.

ENDING 2 - NOT FAST ENOUGH

4. .

You rummage through your house, gathering all the supplies you would need. Once you have packed, you join the crowd of people trying to escape. You start your car and drive with the pack of the fast people who have managed to get to their cars quickly.

Cars beep as they drive off, and cars still in the crowd honk to get others to move.

Unluckily, the noise attracts an alien.

What do you do:

Join the crowd and honk. (Pg. 5)

Drive slowly away. (Pg. 7)

Turn on your car's silent mode and go full speed out. (Pg. 6)

5.

You join the crowd of cars and start to honk. Unfortunately for you, the noise from your car just makes you another potential target.

It parkours its way across cars, eventually making it to your car. It rips open the top, and jumps down and kills you.

ENDING 3 - HONKING

6.

You turn on your car's silent mode, and drive full force out, except it fails to turn on. Now you have to drive your car without a guide. You still charge full force ahead, but hit a bump and go airborne. As you are in the air, your wheels are hit by an alien, making it so you can't drive. Unfortunately, another car is driving towards you, and crashes into you, launching you towards the windshield and breaking it.

ENDING 4 - STABBED BY GLASS SHARD

7.

You slowly drive out of the pack, and make it onto the highway. The amount of cars makes it hard for the aliens to pick a target. Unluckily, one is sitting in the lane you are currently in. You are forced to swerve to the left, moving you onto another path.

As you drive down the road, you see signs on the side saying things like, "Safe camp this way!" and "Warning! Aliens." You continue driving, and you come to a campsite in the woods.

A person examines your car, and lets you inside. Inside, there are multiple cabins, and a weirdly shaped outer wall made of sound proofing material that looks impossible to get over.

Another person guides you to one of the cabins, where you will be staying, with no other roommates.

You explore the campsite, and meet all the people. Soon enough, it is night, and just before you are about to go to sleep you hear something. You check your phone, and you have a text from the camp director; "It's s'mores night!"

You hop out of bed and go outside, joining the other campers by the campfire. You tell stories and jokes, and eat s'mores, but you suddenly see something pitch black on the inside of the outer wall.

What do you do:

Report it to the director. (Pg. 9)

Ignore it. (Pg. 8)

Moon Missions

By: Srinika Mukherjee

Did you ever touch a moon rock? Well ... I did! If you are thinking, I went to the moon, I did...n't. I went to the NASA Space Center in Houston, Texas. My dad and I, saw one of the three Saturn V rockets. Saturn V carried Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin to the moon. It was built in the 1960s.

Apollo missions

Some of you might be thrilled to know that 12 American men on the lunar surface. One day, you might be an astronaut when you grow up. If you don't want to be one, let me tell you what you might miss out on. You might be able to be the first one to make a discovery in another planet!

You might know that Neil Armstrong was the first person to go on the moon, but did you know Neil Armstrong's first word on the moon were, "That's one big small step for men, one giant leap from mankind"? He was part of the Apollo 11 mission in 1969. There were 14 missions in Apollo program carried out by NASA to send humans to moon. Six missions were successful. Apollo 13 was an unsuccessful mission because of the malfunction in the oxygen tank.

During our visit to the NASA space center, we entered the Apollo mission control room and witnessed the computers and desks from the 1960s. They also re-created what happened in Apollo 11 when they were landing on the moon.

Chandrayaan-3

Since we talked about Apollo mission. I think we should also talk about Chandrayaan-3. Chandrayaan-3 is a special mission that was organized by the Indian Space Research Organization. Chandrayaan-3 sent the Vikram lander to the Pragyan Rover to the moon to land softly in a specified locations to deploy the lander. The Pragyan Rover studies the lander surface for various elements such as calcium, iron etc. India has gone to near the moon's South Pole on August 23, 2023. They were the first country to go near the moon's South Pole.

India is the 4th country to go to the moon. The other country are the US, China, and Russia.

Scientists are anticipating there might be water on the moon. Maybe we will reside on the moon in ten years or some of us can visit there on vacations. Do you want to live on the moon.

I also want to see a rocket launch pad where I revisit Houston. If you want to learn more about my visit to NASA Space Center in Houston, Texas. Just ask me. I hope you like it

<p>Box 1: You and your friends were staying in a hotel over the Christmas holidays. While watching a movie, you and your friends hear a knock on the door. Unsure, you look over to your friends. No one had Ben expecting any guests. Emma and Jackie wanted to ignore the knocking and continue the movie, though Cyndi wanted to answer.</p> <p>Do you...</p> <p>Box 2- go with Cyndi to answer the door.</p> <p>Box 3- stay inside and continue the movie</p>	<p>Box 2: You and Cyndi walk up, her hand reaching for the wooden knob. Once open, a man is revealed, standing stiffly in the hallway. He was tall and lanky, with sickly pale skin. He wore a black uniform with the words 'Henry's Pizza' plastered on. He spoke, his words quiet and deep. "Did anyone order a pizza?"</p> <p>You shake your head. "No, it must have been the room beside us who ordered." Cyndi answers politely. The man nods and walks away. Cyndi was about to shut the door behind him when you stopped her, pointing to the back of his uniform. Where your finger pointed was a red splatter that looked awfully like blood. "It must be red sauce." You answer your own question after a moment.</p> <p>Cyndi nods, though her expression tells that she also feels that feeling of uncertainty in her gut. You Survived!</p> <p>For now, at least...</p>
<p>Box 3: Jackie paused the movie, trying to make it seem like there was no one in the room. For just a moment it had worked, the knocking coming to a halt. Emma sighed in relief. But just as quickly as it had stopped, there came the sound of knuckles against the hard wood. "Maybe we should answer it." Emma whispered, clearly frightened. Jackie shook her head. "They clearly don't have good intentions. What could they need from one specific room so urgently?"</p> <p>You nodded in agreement, standing up and sneaking over to the closet, careful to not make too much sound. Cyndi followed just as quiet- but as Emma stood, she tripped over a</p>	<p>Box 4: You begrudgingly slipped out of the small space, making room for Emma to take your place. Meanwhile, you and Jackie tried to look for another place to hide. You looked under the bed, but there wasn't enough room. The door was knocked open, revealing a pale man who didn't seem too happy. "I heard someone ordered a pizza..." he said angrily, opening the pizza box in his hand and pulling out a pizza slicer, though it looked oddly sharp... He threw it at you and Jackie, and her arms around you in fear was the last thing you felt besides a sharp pain in your side. You died! Sorry...</p>

<p>lump in the carpet. Her knee landed on the remote, which had been stranded on the floor when you had gotten up. Sound burst from the television as the movie unpaused. Jackie grimaced, quickly helping Emma up and hurrying into the closet. The door knob jiggled on the door, though there was no more room in the closet for Emma nor Jackie.</p> <p>Do you...</p> <p>Box 4- sacrifice your spot in the closet</p> <p>Box 5- stay inside and hope your friends are okay</p>	
<p>Box 5: "Sorry!" You whispered, closing the door to the closet. Cyndi's shoulder was crammed against yours, her breathing heavy as a loud sound echoed through the hotel room. A few mumbling was heard through the closet followed by a shriek. You and Cyndi shut your eyes closed, hoping what was happening wasn't what it sounded like. After a few moments of eerily long silence, you heard the door to the hotel room close.</p> <p>You survived!</p> <p>But at what cost?</p>	<p>Author Bio: Josephine Ragusa is a middle school student in West Chester, PA. She enjoys swimming, hanging out with friends, and writing.</p>

**Start time is nowhere near
But I've been waiting for this the entire year!
Trained and ready, uniforms on
I motivate myself while practicing on the lawn!
We find our positions on the field
As coach says just have fun
but I'm focused on the girl I have to outrun!
The game starts and I take off like a rocket,
I'm racing towards the net with the ball!
Everyone is cheering and I hear my parents call!
The score 8 to 8 with 10 seconds to go
Something good is about to happen.....**

I just know!

Creativity, reading, and so much more
At camp it's writing and mystery galore!
Making friends and having a blast
Packed with fun and it went by so fast!

**Run, run, run, away from your fears
Run, run, run, away from your tears
Run, run, run, with all your might
Run, run, run, ready to fight
Run, run, run, never turning back
Run, run, run, I'm on the right track**

It's a sunny day in the Everglades, Florida. Jonas and his friends think it is a great idea to campout in the midst of the Everglades. They find a place to park, then set out on their two mile hike in. The Everglades is one of the coolest things to see, with all the wildlife, thriving green trees, and plants all around. Before they set out, they noticed how the parking lot was completely vacant. That didn't seem to bother them, but they still were confused why this part was completely vacant even if it is popular. They finally set up their campsite, so Brendan felt like it was time to explore. Brendan was a friend of Jonas, and he was also a very curious person. Everyone else didn't want to go though. They had been tired out from the five hour drive here, and they had just not felt like it. That didn't stop Brendan, and he set out to explore. Hours had went by, and Brendan had not returned. It was peaceful and then.....ROAAAAAARRRRR!!!!!! That startled everyone. Everyone knew Brendan was in trouble now, because that creature sounded big and sounded from the direction Brendan went in. Right after the noise came the sound of screaming, and everyone knew officially Brendan was in trouble. All friends, Ryan, John, Brayden, and Jonas set out to find Brendan. They kept on running on deeper into the Everglades until they came to a river. Luckily there was a boat at a dock,

and another on the other side. That boat let all the friends know which direction Brendan is in. Although it was scary for everyone, they knew they needed to rescue their friend. They had to be extra careful, since there are a bunch of gators in the river. They safely made it across and continued running and searching for their friend. Many dangerous things lurked around here, like snakes. Unlucky for Jonas, he had got bit! But he was also lucky since Brayden had brought a snake bite kit and helped heal and get the venom out of his leg. They ran through the rest of the forest, and found Brendan. He was sitting on the wing of a broken ship talking with a Martian! Brendan explained everything that the Martian told him. The Martian had crash landed here earlier during their drive here. That crash made everyone leave, that finally made sense to the friends. This alien was named Bob, and was just looking for a place to live. He was bullied on Mars, and wanted to leave that planet. Brendan and the alien got scared at first sight, but quickly became friends. Bob decided that he wanted to live here, and the friends decided to give it a try. Turns out, Bob was respected by everyone on Earth. He was a very nice alien, and people like him for that. Bob made great friends with everyone here on Earth, and he was able to live here without any problems. The friends and Bob will never forget that Everglades trip, and they will always be friends forever.

The Discovery

By Maanvi Sunkireddy

On a stormy day, in the middle of summer, a mysterious figure appeared through the fog. It overlooked the city limits of Philadelphia.

In a nearby neighborhood, three friends who loved science and sci-fi were launching bottle rockets when, suddenly, the ground shook. Thud! Thud! Boom! The green alien emerged from the shadows and let out a loud, fierce roar. There was silence. Then, While the other two friends ran, one of the friends stood very still.

His name is Charles. He seemed interested in this peculiar creature, which, according to the local labs, is originally from Mars. Charles slowly inched forward, a water bottle in hand (as a last-minute weapon for emergencies), and steadily reached for the alien's hand. It let out a shrill scream and knocked the water bottle out of Charles' hand. Then he surprisingly shook Charles' hand in agreement, which was a sign of friendship. The alien whispered, "Danger is coming. I will protect you, but you must promise not to reveal my presence to anyone except for your friends. Demons are traveling through space and time trying to find and destroy Earth. If you help me, together we can save it." Charles was stunned and excited. He nodded his head in agreement.

The next day, Charles, his friends Tommy and Max, and the alien, set out to save Earth. They had a team meeting in the playground where they discussed their next plan of action. Currently, Max was supposed to travel to Hollywood Hills and try to close the gate that the demons had created. Tommy was going to their house to build a defense mechanism, and Charles and the alien were going to fight and ward

off the demons that had entered through a gate near Santa Monica pier. They set off discreetly and swiftly toward their duties.

An hour later, Max had successfully closed the gate with his supersonic blaster, and Tommy had built weapons to help Charles and the alien fight the demons. Now, all they needed to do was send the weaponry to Charles. Tommy used his ultra-blast jetpack to zoom to the Santa Monica Pier.

A few minutes later, Tommy had arrived at the pier and handed the weapons to Charles and the alien. Together, the three of them worked tirelessly for hours to defeat the demons and push them back through the closing gate, which led back to space.

When they got back home, they were very proud of themselves, and the alien was proud of them too. As a sign of gratitude, the alien gave them a small round gift. Then, he vanished into thin air. The three opened the gift and found a charm that had "The Terrific Three" engraved on it. They were very happy and silently thanked the alien.

THE END

Author's Bio

Maanvi Sunkireddy is a middle school student at Lionville Middle School in Chester County, Pennsylvania. She enjoys playing softball, swimming, and reading horror/mystery-based books. Her favorite afternoon activity is sketching or drawing.

Ms. Emily

A Moment of Memory

By Ms. Emily

Marshall's mop fell, and his bucket of water spilled over the floor when the alien walked on in its full alien-glory.

Atop green shoulders sat a head with fifteen bulging eyes, purple lips, and a frown so menacing that Marshall let out a blood-curdling scream.

He scrambled backward but tripped over the overturned bucket, crashing to the floor and landing in the murky gray water.

From this angle, the alien looked even more terrifying—Marshall could see its entire body now.

It towered over him, far larger than any human Marshall had ever seen. He was horrified by the four tentacles sprouting from its sides. As it crept closer, Marshall knew he had to get out of there fast—or else... well, he didn't know what, but nothing good came from monsters that looked like *that*.

Marshall tried to stand, but the filthy water beneath his feet made him slip. As he turned to run, he lost his footing again and fell hard on his back, his head hitting the floor with a loud *clunk*.

Marshall groaned.

His head throbbed, and he let out another low moan.

"Marshall's awake!" he heard his dad say, just before feeling his father's hand wrap gently around his own.

"You're okay. You're okay," his dad said softly. "You fell, but you're going to be alright."

Marshall squinted, the overhead lights stabbing into his skull. "Uuuuuggghhh," he groaned. "Dad?"

"I'm here. You're safe."

Just then, the compound's medic entered. He checked Marshall's vitals, dimmed the lights, and asked gently, "Do you remember what happened?"

“I was mopping the floor,” Marshall said, rubbing his head, trying to push through the pounding behind his eyes.

“And then... then...” he winced. “I can’t remember!” he cried, panic rising in his voice.

He began to tremble. “Dad...” he whispered, eyes brimming with tears.

His father pulled him into a hug, letting Marshall bury his face into his shoulder and cry.

We read a story with no ending. The campers had to write what happened to Marshall based on what we read and this was my version. I feel like this is the beginning of a story, so there was a lot I could still explore. But thanks for reading!

Author Bio: Emily Wisniewski is a high school English teacher. She loves writing and reading and is so happy to be a teacher for YWYR. She hopes that her campers enjoyed the two weeks together. Outside of camp, Ms. Emily enjoys dancing, coaching color guard, and taking photos.