

Tales from Darnhill



stories written by children at Darnhill Festival

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Stories for kids, written by children at Darnhill Festival, Summer 2011

with help from Joy Winkler

Illustrated by Stephen Whitenstall

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Thanks to all who took part, and thanks to Darnhill Festival!



The Pig and the Monster

Once upon a time there was a pig called Penny and a monster called Monsty. Monsty liked to eat juicy little boys, but only a bit at a time. Penny liked to eat fairy cakes with lots of mouth-watering pink icing.

Penny and Monsty were good friends. Sometimes the friends used to argue. Penny told Monsty off for his bad table manners. Monsty told Penny off for eating too much fairy cake.

One day, they went to find a new cave for Monsty. The old one was full of bones and had a horrible smell. Monsty liked to live in a high-up cave at the top of the highest mountain in the world. He needed a ladder with five million zillion rungs to reach the cave. He was so tired when he got there, he fell asleep and did monster snores.

Next morning, Penny the Pig visited Monsty in his brand new, high-up cave. She was super fit, and didn't get tired at all. When Penny went into the cave, Monsty was just finishing his breakfast. Penny said, "Can I have some too, Monsty?" Monsty said, "Why, what do you want?" Penny said, "The usual – fairy cakes." When they were eating their breakfast, Monsty complained about how loud Penny was chewing. Penny said, "Let's stop arguing and enjoy this sunny day."

by Leah Riley and Kay



Zoe the Girl Detective

Zoe lives in an abandoned warehouse just on the edge of town. She became a detective because she once lost her dog and she was really upset. So now she helps people who've lost things.

One day, Zak came knocking on her door. He was sad because he'd lost his little sister's doll called Kiki. "Kiki was wearing a pink dress and had long blonde hair," said Zak. So Zoe went to look for Kiki.

Zoe looked first in Zak's bedroom, but Kiki wasn't there. So she went to a beautiful pond in the magnificent park, but Kiki wasn't there either. So Zoe went to the library. They looked down all the aisles till they came to the Teenage Fiction part. Halfway along on the top shelf, Zoe saw a bit of pink fabric. She was tall for her age, and managed to pull the pink fabric off the shelf.

And there was Kiki. Zak was so pleased to get Kiki back, because otherwise he would have been dead meat. And that was another successful case for Zoe the Girl Detective.

by L Grant



Bluey the Monster

This is a story about a monster called Bluey. He has lots and lots of blue long curly hair. Bluey lives in a grey gloomy cave in the forest.

Bluey is a grumpy monster because every time he goes to the well to catch fish for his dinner, the fish have all swum away. He is so hungry, his tummy rumbles as loud as thunder. So Bluey decides to go into the forest for some mushrooms and berries. He finds lots, but when he eats them, he thinks they are disgusting. He thinks he would rather have food cooked in mud, but he makes do with the mushrooms and berries. He goes home thinking, "Maybe tomorrow there will be fish in the well."

The next day he goes to the well but there are only little fish. He makes a friend of a little girl who brings him chocolate every day. He is never hungry or grumpy again.

by Ella Tinniswood



Lions On Toast

Once upon a time there was a black and white tiger called Tigger. He lived right in the middle of the jungle, where he ate lions on toast for his dinner. He was so hungry that he ate everyone and everything in the jungle.

Then he felt so lonely and sad that he came to live with Kian in his house. Kian fed him on rats and meat that he got from the pet shop. And Kian took him out for walks.

by Kian, Kane, and Michael



The Party in the Jungle

Once upon a time, there was a little girl called Ellie who lived in a jungle hut. It was really hot in the jungle, and Ellie had lots of friends like chimpanzees, slimy snakes, and parrots. Ellie lived with her cousins Courtney, Jack and Dean.

Ellie used the trees to make paper, and on that paper she did sums, writing and hopscotch. Ellie was really lucky because her mum had a baby girl.

She lived in the jungle hut for a long time because she had nowhere else to go.

Sometimes they had new people in the jungle and new friends. These people had been homeless in their own towns, and needed somewhere new to live.

On Monday, one of the chimps had a baby and they had a party in the jungle to celebrate. They ate bananas, oranges, strawberries and peas in the pea pods. They drank orange juice, strawberry juice and banana milkshake, and mixed them all together.



by Courtney

Escape

Once upon a time there was a boy called Tom who lived down a hole on Saturn. Every day, he got out of the hole and played football with Googoo, who was a Saturnite. A Saturnite is always blue and black striped. They have three big eyes, two where we have them and one on the forehead.

Although Tom liked playing football with Googoo, he wanted to go home but he was trapped on Saturn. Googoo promised to build him a rocket.

The rocks on Saturn were too big to make a rocket, but Googoo had a special technique and it took him 30 Saturn minutes, which is like a zillion Earth minutes. When the rocket was finished, Tom was sad to leave Googoo but they had a secret handshake that was a promise to see each other again. When Tom took his first step on the rocket, Googoo had a tear in each of his three eyes.



by Harrison

Zombie Horse!

Once upon a time there were two friends who sometimes used to argue. They were called Bob and Nicola. They lived in a draughty hole in a field, but when the central heating was on it was nice and cosy.

One day the friends had been arguing all morning about food, because Bob had stolen and eaten Nicola's breakfast. They needed some fresh air – TIME OUT!

They climbed out of the hole, and guess what they saw? There in the field stood a zombie horse. It was blue and bloated, and it was speaking in a Dalek voice. "I want your brain," it said. Bob and Nicola screamed, and ran away to Florida and never came back. The zombie horse fell in the hole and fried in the central heating.

by Paige Barron, Nicola, Margi and Georgia



The Box in the Wardrobe

In the dusty box in the old wardrobe was an old journal. It was old and falling apart, and the writing was old style and very fancy. I couldn't read it.

So I took it to the old wise woman who lived in the old house at the bottom of my street. She put on her little old glasses and started to read it to me. It said, "June 1889: I have sailed off to sea and I plan to return."

That was the last entry. It didn't have a name so we will never know who wrote it or what happened to them.

by Paige Barron



The Sad Genie

Once upon a time, there was a sad genie called Alex who lived in a really big castle. He was sad because he had no friends. He had no friends because he was rubbish at doing wishes – they never came true.

One day, Simon the Seagull flew into the castle. He was a secret, special seagull full of surprises. In fact, he had a magic starfish of surprise.

One day, a poor bald man came to the castle to see Alex the Genie. "Please, please help me. I would like long brown straight hair and lots of it." Alex tried to grant his wish. He said "Abracadabra!" really loudly. The magic word sort of worked but the hair grew PINK! The man was really cross. "Look at my hair!"

Simon the Seagull came to the rescue. He took out his special starfish shell and rubbed it gently with his beak, and there was a flash of lights and the bald man's hair changed from pink to brown.

The man was happy; Simon was happy; and Alex the sad genie was VERY HAPPY because he had two friends.

By ?? Mystery writer!



Abbie the Duck

Once upon a time there was a duck called Abbie. She lived in a big pond in a big park. The special thing about Abbie the duck was that she could sing loud in a beautiful voice. Every day she woke up all the other ducks by singing The Wheels On The Bus. The other ducks liked this, and they all joined in.

They sang so well, the park keeper gave them a prize. The prize was lovely warm slippers to keep their duck feet warm all winter long.

by Tayvia



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