

The HDS Press

Issue 30 – Friday, June 3rd, 2022

Truth and Mercy

Head-to-Head MARVEL SUPERHEROS

By: Miles

I took a vote of which Marvel superhero is the best in the opinion of *The HDS Press*. The bracket will have twelve superheroes to vote on: Iron Man vs. Hulk, Black Widow vs. Captain America, Rocket Raccoon vs. Baby Groot, and Spiderman: Peter Parker vs. Spiderman: Miles Morales. The winner is Iron Man!



8 Movie Suggestions

By: Reese and Daniel

Sing!

A koala wants to be a star.

Moana

An island princess is forbidden from exploring the water.

Onward

Two elf brothers go on a magical adventure to spend one more day with their father.

Toy Story series

Toys come to life behind closed doors and we follow them on their adventures.

Mary Poppins

Two children need a nanny, and they get a really special one.

Harry Potter series

An 11-year-old orphan discovers his parents were wizards, making him a wizard too.

Home Alone series

A kid who is home alone tries to stop thieves from breaking in.

Ron's Gone Wrong

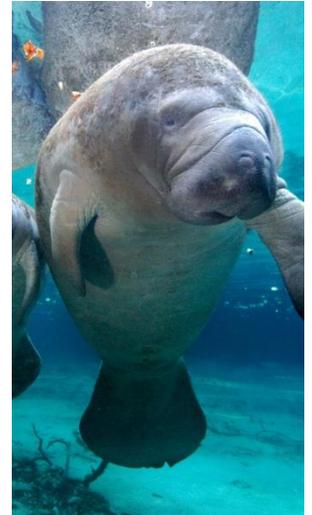
A lonely kid finds friendship in a broken robot.

Animals of the Issue

By: Reese and Shai-Lee

One of this issue's animals is the manatee (or a sea cow)! The different types of manatees are: West Indian manatee, Amazonian manatee and African manatee. Here are some facts about manatees:

1. Male manatees are called bulls, and female manatees are called cows
2. Most of the time manatees don't leave the water but they do come up about every 5 minutes for air
3. Manatees are more related to elephants than they are to other marine creatures
4. Manatees eat about 10 times their weight in a day
5. Manatees usually move at 5 miles an hour and can get up to 15 miles an hour
6. Manatees have a very small brain but are very intelligent
7. People used to think manatees were mermaids
8. Manatees can live for over 65 years.



By: Reese

Today we will learn about eagles. There are many different types of eagles. The list includes Bald Eagle, Golden Eagle, Harpy Eagle, White Tailed Eagle, Philippine Eagle, Steller's Sea Eagle and many more. Here are some interesting facts about eagles:

1. Bald Eagles are the largest North American "actual" bird of prey
2. Eagles have really good eyesight (have you ever been told that you have "eagle eyes?")
3. There are many more species of eagle than the ones listed above, about 60
4. Eagles can fly up to 30 mile per hour
5. The Bald Eagle is our national bird
6. Bald and Golden Eagles are protected in our country



MAD-LIBS

By: Shai-Lee, Luta & Talia

I'm walking my _____ across the _____ to have fun. To take a walk your dog you need to know 5 things.

ANIMAL

NOUN

1. You need to wear _____ on your head for the sun.

PLURAL NOUN

2. You need to let your furry friend _____.

VERB

3. You need to look both ways when crossing the _____, just to be safe.

NOUN

4. You need to stop at _____ Park so your _____ can get some exercise.

PROPER NOUN

NOUN

5. Finally, you need to _____ your furry friend.

VERB

Only after doing these 5 things, can you walk your _____ back _____.

ANIMAL

NOUN

Prose & Poetry

By: Nitai

Kids yearn to learn

By: Nate

I play with rats
Fat rats on mats
The rats wear hats
And so do cats

By: Isaac

I throw a gnome into space
He comes back home as a
disgrace

By: Charlie

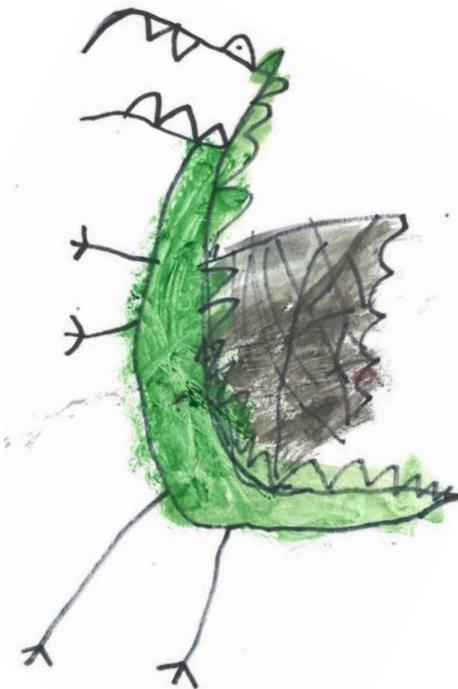
Life is good, food is food,
Just like lasagna is—don't know what it is,
And drinks stink, so life's good

Now what should I order?



Original Artwork By:

Liam (Gan)



Original Artwork By:

Henry (Gan)



The Island of Adventures

By: Nate, Josephine and Gil

This is a preview of the full story. The story will be published in three parts. Check the back of the newspaper for the complete first section. This story is dedicated to Morah Gannon.

The Island of Adventures

Written by Nathaniel Kubiak, Josephine Speyer,
and Gil Rubenstein

Prologue

“Sir Malicae, we have a problem. Our five champions have failed the mission. The dragon has defeated them.”

“Ok, we will just find new ones. I am sure the dragon is seriously injured, right?”

“That's the problem, they didn't get to the heart of the volcano yet and he just came out of nowhere and totally demolished them. After that, the dragon roared so loud it was deafening. We believe it is a call to... others.”

(See back for complete first section.)

Our Favorite Security Guard

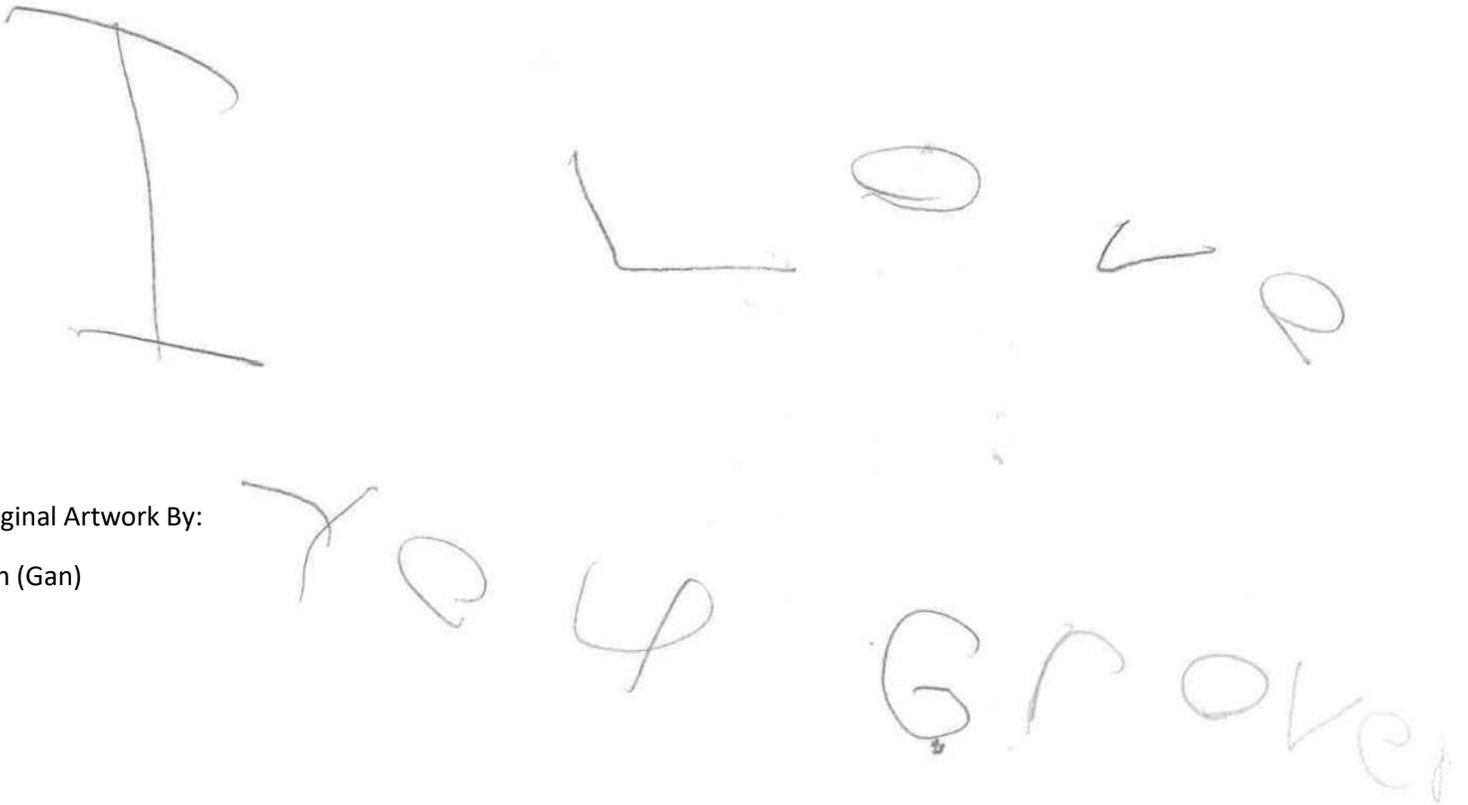
By Talia and Shai-Lee

Grover is a beloved member of our school and community. We admire him very much and (in past school years) we enjoyed his high-fives. To quote Grover, "I miss them."

Grover went to Barton Community College while he was in the military. After retiring from the army, he wanted to find something new. That's when he became a security guard. When the old HDS security guard left, Grover filled in. Then the Jewish Federation asked him to stay. Grover has been working at HDS now for 16 years. There has never been a break-in at HDS on Grover's watch, which goes to show how great a security guard he is.

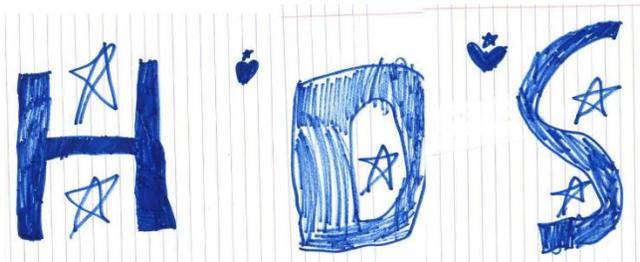
Grover's favorite color is green, his favorite food is pizza, his favorite flower is a daisy, his favorite book is Norman Schwarzkopf's biography, his favorite movie is *Saving Private Ryan*, his favorite high school is Princeton High School in West Virginia, and obviously his favorite elementary school is HDS! Grover says he loves spending time with kids and would jump off a cliff to save someone in our community.

Our favorite security guard is planning to retire after the 2022/2023 school year, so we will spend our time together well, and show our admiration and love strongly. Because there may be plenty of security guards, but there is only one Grover.



Original Artwork By:

Ben (Gan)



Original Artwork By:

Elah (2nd Grade)

The Island of Adventures

Written by Nathaniel Kubiak, Josephine Speyer,
and, Gil Rubenstein

Story by Josephine Speyer
and Nathaniel Kubiak

Edited by Gil Rubenstein, Nitai Jakar, and Josephine Speyer

Illustrated by Miles Lawson
and Anika Austad

This book is dedicated to our 5th Grade Teacher, Morah Gannon, because of all she taught us.

Prologue

“Sir Malicae, we have a problem. Our five champions have failed the mission. The dragon has defeated them.”

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1

My Boring Life, Captain Crunch, and a Poster

“George, wake up!” my mom yells.

I get out of my bed, go to the bathroom, brush my teeth, wash my face, get in the shower, dry off, and choose what to wear. Every morning is the same, with no adventure or journey, unlike the TV shows I watch. Just my normal, boring life. All I wish for is something exciting to happen, even the smallest thing. I go downstairs to eat breakfast. I look at the cereal box.

“I bet Captain Crunch goes on many adventures,” I said.

“What, George?” my mom asks me.

“Nothing,” I say.

“Okay, George, just go get your backpack and put your shoes on.”

“Okay, Mom,” I reply. I get my backpack, put on my shoes, get in the car, and go to school.

Later that day, as I am walking home from school, I see a sign that says, “*Visit an island of mysteries and explore the wonders of the world.*” This was a miracle, my destiny, the thing I have been dreaming about for years and years. My mom would never let me go. Not even if I were an adult. But I must go. It is an opportunity of a lifetime. If I don't go, I will never forgive myself, so I must think of a plan.

The Plan, the Escape, and the
Other Four

When I get home, I run to my room right away. I have exactly six hours to get to the boat because the boat leaves at midnight. It is located three miles away from my house at a dock by the sea. It would take me a little bit more than an hour to get there. But I need to find a way for my mom to not find out so I think of something that could work amazingly or fail terribly. I write a note that says:

Dear Mom,

I will be volunteering at the animal shelter in San Francisco. I will not be home for a few days. Sorry it is last minute, but I just got the message, and they are picking me up at midnight.

Love,

George

I drop it off on the kitchen table, fill up my water bottle and grab an apple, and start the journey.

I am so excited I think about everything I could do. Fight a dragon, ride a griffin, swim in the sea with a sea serpent.

A few hours later I am finally there. I see the boat and I run on there is a huge sign that says:

ONE SPOT LEFT!

I hop on and the ship takes off. It looks like there are 4 other people. There seems to be a four-year-old girl, a boy my age, a teenage boy, and a man dressed as a cowboy. I am here, and ready to start the journey.

The Boat, The Monster, and The Arrival

We wait on the boat for a while. Then the captain yells, “Who’s ready for the adventure of a lifetime?”

“I am!” we all yell back.

We see the island then we feel a huge bump and BOOM, the boat shakes. We see blue scales rising from the water. It attacks the boat and causes it to leak. The boat slowly is sinking. The scary blue monster chomps up the captain whole. It is just us. The boat slowly sinks, and we all jump off and swim to the shore. The little girl can’t make it. I pick her up and carry her there. When we arrive at the island, we are all exhausted. We are safe now but we have no captain and no one to *keep* us safe. We are trapped on an island.

The island looks like it is split into four biomes: a desert, volcano, rainforest, and a lake with a small area of land around it.

The Wizard, the Tower,
and the Challenges

We see someone walking toward us, and it looks like he is carrying a staff. He arrives at the beach and tells us to follow him, and we all do what he says so we don't get in any trouble. He takes us to a tower. In all my life, I have never seen any place so beautiful. There are birds and dragons and all kinds of creatures. We walked up some stairs to a room with five beds. He tells us to take a seat and begins to speak.

"I am the wizard of this island. In order to win a spectacular prize, you must survive all the challenges of the island. The loser of each challenge will be automatically sent back home." Then he yells "No questions! Go to sleep. The first challenge begins tomorrow!"

The Rainforest, The First Challenge, and The Obstacle Course

The wizard shakes us to get up and get dressed. He gives us pancakes to eat for breakfast and then we leave the tower. He tells us that the first challenge is located in the rainforest. We all get on a Pegasus and take off. From this high, I can see the whole island. It is magical. The four-year-old girl is crying and the other kid my age is traumatized. He is grabbing onto the Pegasus' neck super tight. Everyone else looks fine. Wait no, the teenage boy just threw up. We arrive at the rainforest where I see a huge obstacle course. We land on a platform that looks to be about fifty feet off the ground.

The wizard says, "The challenge is to get to the other side of the obstacle course. The last person to get to the other side is out. If you fall you are teleported to the beginning of the stage from which you fell. One, Two, Three GO." First, we have to jump onto pads 5 feet apart. The teenager gets to the other side easily. I bet he is a gymnast. Then I notice that the four-year-old girl whistle with her two fingers in her mouth. A phoenix flies over and takes her to the other side. She sticks her tongue out at me. These games aren't fair at all. It's just me and the other kid my age, the older man who keeps falling.

I finish the first stage. Two more to go. Next, I have to hold on to a rope and climb to the other side. I am able to do this easily because I am very good at the monkey bars at my school.

Finally, a rock wall. I must go one rock at a time. The other boy is on the second stage and the older man is continuing to fall off the first stage pads. I am halfway to the top and then I realize the rocks start fading away. I go as quickly as I can. I have one hand on the top then the last rock fades away. I'm stuck there. Then the little four-year-old and the teenager pull me up. I tell them how thankful I am that they saved me. A few minutes later the boy my age gets to the end. Then within a second, the older man who was behind us disappears. I hope he got home safely.

The wizard congratulates us and tells us to each get on a Pegasus and head to the next challenge. I wonder what it could be. I get on the Pegasus and fly back to the tower.

"On the bottom drawer of your dressers, you will find a swimsuit. Put it on and meet me back out here. I have some great ideas for what the challenge should be." The wizard tells us.

6
The Lake, The Second Challenge,
and The Sea Serpent

When we get outside the wizard is waiting beside four Pegasi. He is sitting on top of a griffin. Without saying a word, the wizard jerks his head at the Pegasi.

“I think he wants us to get on.” The kid my age whispers.

I nod and mount the Pegasus closest to me. The kid my age and the teenager do the same. The little girl whistles and the phoenix swoops down from the sky. She clambers on.

“All right,” the wizard growls. “Let’s get going.”

I catch up to the four-year-old.

“Hey,” I ask. “Why can you call up a phoenix while the rest of us can’t?”

She turns and glares at me.

“It’s my family’s gift if you *must* know, and you shouldn’t act like it’s such a privilege - my family is always scolding me about it!” *Andrea, someday people will find out about us and come to kill us, and do you know who they’ll catch? It’ll be you, Andrea Wyse, because you can’t summon a getaway phoenix fast enough!* So, you see, the phoenix is more of a curse than a blessing, but as long as I have it, I’m going to let Chispa help me *win!*”

She snaps and the phoenix speeds up, stopping just behind the wizard. I stare at her, knowing that I’ve discovered something very important: that the people I’m competing with aren’t just people who signed up for this and got way more than they bargained for - no, they’re human beings, with lives and personalities and problems that they think are just as important as I think my problems are. I look around, carefully studying each person. Andrea has long jet-black hair that seems to be shoulder length. I can’t really tell how long it is, though, because it’s streaming out in the wind. I switch my gaze to the teenager. He has light brown hair and skin. I decided to try to make friends with him.

I steer my Pegasus toward him.

“Hi,” I begin, but he interrupts.

“Why are *you* here?” he asks. “Trying to steal my winning strategy? Well, it won’t work! I’m going to leave you in the *dust!*”

He slaps the Pegasus on the snout, and it whinnies and speeds up, hurtling past me. That kid is a jerk.

We land by a lake. It looks amazing, a deep blue-green color I have never seen before.

“You four will have a swimming contest,” the wizard says. “First you will have to race across the lake until you reach that rock.”

“What rock? I don’t see any rock.” The teenager snorts.

The wizard points with his staff. A tall, pointy rock rises out of the water. “That rock.” The wizard snaps. “Once you get to that, you will see a sea serpent that you must swim underwater to get past. You, little girl, I assume you can’t swim, so I put a spell on you that will keep you from drowning - but don’t get too excited, you still have to do all the swimming on your own. Now, start swimming.”

The four of us leap into the water. I start swimming as fast as I can without looking back. I am a good swimmer, but it still takes me a while to reach the rock. The kid my age is already there, and the teenager is diving off the rock.

“All right,” the kid my age mutters under his breath. “Three, two, one!”

On ‘one’ he dives, and I quickly follow him. I keep my eyes open.

The Desert, the Final Three,
and the Empty Cup

I'm so tired from swimming that I don't think I can pass this challenge. I feel bad for Andrea. She looked so sad when she got eliminated. It is just me, the other boy my age, and that teenager who is over competitive, but I guess he did save me from falling. I guess I have mixed feelings about it. I get dressed in my clothes for the day and walk down the stairs. I go outside and wait for the others to be ready. When they come, I hop onto the Pegasus and take off. A few minutes later I see one thing below. Sand. I wonder what the challenge could be. Sandcastle building. No, that sounds too easy. Well, I guess I'll just have to wait and see! We land in the desert and the wizard hands everyone a little jar six inches tall. He says, "For this challenge, you must search far and wide for enough liquid to reach the red line. The last two will each have to cross these boiling rocks faster than the other. Let the challenge begin!"

I run trying to find a source of water then I realize if I dig a hole or find a cactus I could use the juice - or snake venom, I could use snake venom. So, I search until I find a snake. I can't believe I'm about to do this. I pick it up and push its open mouth against the jar. Black poison squirts out. It is disgusting! Then after walking for an hour or so I spot a cactus. I walk to it and put my thick shirt over my hands and crack it open above the jar. It is a centimeter to the top and then the other boy my age comes over and pours his into mine.

I tell him "Thank you so much but why would you do that? I haven't done one thing for you. I have barely even talked to you."

He responds back saying "I'm Leo and I thought maybe we could be friends?"

"Sure! But you could've just asked. I would have said yes." I tell him

"Oh, by the way I'm George."

The wizard gathers us all together and announces,

"The winner has been decided. George wins! The rest of you must cross this trail of burning coal. "Go" the wizard yells. The teenager and Leo sprint to the end. They are both running as fast as they can and then the teenager trips. Leo takes his chance and sprints to the finish line. Right as his big toe touches the red line the teenager is teleported home.

Now it is just me and Leo, one of us will win and the other will lose. We stare at each other in fear.

8
The Volcano, The Dragon,
and The Dragon Egg

Me and Leo both wake up terrified of the final challenge it is going to be happening in the volcano biome. We walk outside once again and the wizard announces, "I'm so proud of you two that you were able to get to the final two for the final challenge... come with me."

We hop on the Pegasus and fly to the volcano biome. It is so hot! We land a few minutes later. The wizard says, "To win just get to the heart of the volcano and get the dragon egg but expect anything." Leo and I look at each other and then run up the volcano. Spikes shoot out of the ground and balls of lava fall from the sky. A few minutes later I arrive at the top of the volcano.

9
The Hatching, My Family,
and My New Home

"Wait a minute! Did I just win?" I say.

"Yes, you did," the wizard says as he starts going back to the tower. "Now I'm going to teleport your family here.

What are their names?" He asks.

"Emily is my little sister, Fred is my dad, and Laura is my mom." I say.

"Already got it." He says.

Instantly, my family appears in front of me.