

THE PHANTOM MANOR

By Joseph Burns



Dear Joseph,

Thank you for sharing your amazing adventure of Lucas and his friends. I was totally entranced from beginning to end. Can't wait for the next blockbuster!

Merry Christmas!

Santa Claus



THE PHANTOM MANOR

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Written by
Joseph Burns

EPILOGUE TO THE ATLANTIS SERIES

HOW MANY LIVES DO YOU GET?

PART ONE

"So you have decided to come! Well let me introduce myself, I am... waitttt what? OH so you don't want to know! Well okay, anyway it builds suspense! Let me warn you camper, this story will make you stay awake at night for the horror inside. OH? So you haven't ran away like everyone else! Let me begin, It all starts with an old man, eighty years old. His name, Leonidas and he is running through the woods we are in right now towards the 'haunted' mansion which used to be beautiful with shining gold...

CHAPTER ONE

FINAL ADVENTURE



60 YEARS LATER AFTER THE PEACE WITH ATLANTIS AND MCF

Leonidas sprinted as fast as his legs could carry him. The moon's light was the only thing showing him the way. Twigs snapped underneath his feet. Sweat poured down his forehead. He was old. He'd had his adventures in Atlantis a long time ago, back then he was young. He had to save Kita. A snap of a branch could be heard as it fell to the forest floor. To fixed on saving Kita, Leonidas was totally in another world than the branch. Leonidas stumbled over the branch and fell flat on his face. He struggled to get up. He was to old. After a while of struggling he pulled himself up. He sprinted like someone's life depended on it, because one or more did. Eventually he reached their beautiful manor. But now it was not beautiful. Screaming and shouting could be heard from inside. Leonidas dashed towards the door and shoved it open. The room was amazing. The two fires were flickering in the corner. A huge stair case was at the end of the room. Two doors next to the stairs were open. But in the middle was armed soldiers. They were dressed in black robes and armed with a shield, spear and countless others. There were five soldiers forming a circle around a man holding a knife to Kita's neck. Leonidas saw the man and looked half amazed and half furious. "Kev" Leonidas swore. "We meet again! as I said before anything you want? Oh and how did you escape heaven? Little lady here!" said Kev cruelly. "LET HER GO" shouted Leonidas. "Were exactly? I'll just send her to HELL! " he screamed angrily. He swiftly

sliced the knife across her neck. He let go of his grip as he dropped lifeless Kita to the ground. Kev kicked her body away as Leonidas dived for it. Leonidas grabbed the lifeless body tears streaming from his eyes. He looked at Kev, fury in his eyes and tears. " YOU EVIL MONSTER I SWEAR ON MY LIFE I'LL HAVE REVENGE AND RETURN YOU TO YOUR LIGHT PRISON!" Leonidas screamed. "What I say, never swear on your life. " Kev said as he pointed his finger at Leonidas. A black swirling smoke shot out spreading around the manor. Laughing, Kev and his team disappeared into thin air. The smoke covered inside and outside of the manor. In a flash of green light the smoke cleared to reveal a different manor. It was covered in ivy and moss. It was no longer gold but black wood. The knockers changed from gold to faces of devils and every soul and body was turned into a ghostly form.

CHAPTER TWO

NEWSPAPER HEADLINES

MYSTERIOUS DEATH AT MANOR
THE SUN

POLICE PUZZLED BY DEATH AT MANOR!
THE GUARDIAN

MANOR IS BANNED FROM 100 METERS AROUND
THE TIMES

STEEL FENCE BLOCKS OF OLD MANOR
THE MIRROR

PLANS TO KNOCK DOWN OLD MANOR
THE EXPRESS

MANOR UNABLE TO DESTROY!
THE DAILY MAIL

CHAPTER THREE

LUCAS THE DAREDEVIL

"Left, up! Smash down! Look right, UPERCUT! Turn around..." "GAME OVER!". Lucas threw down the control in frustration. "EVERY SINGLE TIME!" he screamed. Lucas stood up from the sofa and kicked the control across the room. Lucas' brother Jasper came walking into the room and smiled. Lucas glared at him. "Still stuck on that level?" he asked. "Yep if only I could find something to block the door, then I could attack from above and win the jackpot prize" moaned Lucas. "Well try again but mum will be home soon and your supposed to be doing your school work" said Jasper. Lucas was a twelve year old boy in France. He originally was born in America but moved to France. He lived in a three bedroom flat on the third floor. Lucas was a daredevil. It was almost his daily routine to get into a fight. Lucas had four friends: Adam, Paul, Louis and Victor. His friends were all French but took English classes and done okay. All played pranks on people. One prank was a classic. Step one: Knock on a moody neighbour's door. Step two: put a woopy cushion on the door step. Step three: Run round the corner of the house, out of view. Step four: Watch the neighbour step onto the woopy cushion. I

think by now you can see Lucas' and his friends personality. Although they could fight like ninjas and take down anybody Jasper and his gang always beat them up like they were spiders and he was the spider spray. Lucas and his friends had an arch enemy. His name was Oscar. Oscars ninja skills were the same level as Lucas'. Every day at school Oscar gave Lucas and his gang a dirty look. You may be wondering: How on earth did they become enemies? Well, on a school trip in 5e'me also known as grade 7 they were doing canoeing down a rough river. Oscar was sitting next to Lucas. Lucas was nearest the water. Oscar shoved Lucas of the boat. Also when exploring caves Oscar told Lucas that he found a pile of gold in a tunnel near by. Lucas went while Oscar ran out of the cave. Lucas reached the tunnel to find nothing. He looked at his map and found he was in the forbidden area. The teacher dragged him out and thanked Oscar for telling. All of Lucas friends had similar problems, so the ganged up to take down Oscar. They called themselves the ninjas. One month later they met Oscar on a school trip again. Lucas and his gang was put in a pair with Oscar. Oscar threw a punch at all of them. Lucas attacked back. He kicked Oscar's shins while his gang absolutely punched like they could do nothing else. Again he was caught. So now back to the present. Jasper left the room with a smirk. Lucas groaned. A tiny ping came from the tv. Lucas picked up the control and looked at the screen. Oscar's avatar

appeared in the top left corner. By the avatar of a fox Oscar's account name was beside: OsCaR 123. Lucas was confused. He clicked on the name to reveal Oscar's message:

TO:LUCAS458

FROM: OsCaR 123

MESAGE:

HI ME AGAIN! I'LL MAKE YOU A DEAL. IF YOU WIN ON PHANTOM MANOR VIDIO GAME I DO NOT BEAT YOU UP FOR ONE DAY. IF YOU LOSE WE MEET IN SOUTHFOREST FOR A 1 TO 1 BATTLE. IF YOU ACCEPT MEET ME NOW ON MULTI PLAYER NOW.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO REPLY?

Lucas clicked on the reply box and said he'd accept the challenge. He selected multi player and Oscar. The game started at once. Oscar's character was outside the door

and Lucas' was inside. Panicking Lucas pushed forward the joystick. Lucas moved the character up stairs and into a dead end. Oscar's character drew out a machine gun. Lucas' put up the options and took out a shield. Oscar's character fired at Lucas' character. The screen then said: YOUR SOUL SHALL HAUNT THE MANOR FOR EVER MORE: GAME OVER.

Lucas screamed in frustration. "I'm going to go!" he said to himself. He threw on a coat and ran down stairs. Around half an hour later he arrived at south forest with Oscar. They entered the forest and prepared. "Come on take me down!" jeered Oscar. With anger Lucas ran forward. Oscar, dumbstruck stood still. Lucas hook punched Oscar who fell to the ground bleeding. Oscar turned over and kicked Lucas in the shins. Lucas fell back. Both boys stood up. They charged at each other. Oscar grabbed Lucas by the waist and kneed him in the groins. Lucas stumbled back in pain. Lucas stood up and charged once again. Lucas lept up onto Oscars shoulders. Oscar toppled back with Lucas on top. Lucas punched Oscars bleeding face. Oscar raised his fist and punched Lucas in the face. Oscar stood up. Lucas grabbed a rock of the ground and threw it at Oliver's face. The rock hit. Oscar screamed in pain. He picked up another rock and threw it at Lucas the rock hit and knocked Lucas face first into the nearby lake. Lucas

tried to pull his head out but Oscar was holding it in. Air bubbles came out of Lucas mouth, he was loosing breath. Just when he was about to drown Lucas Kicked Oscar with his leg. Oscar let go. Lucas pulled his head out and ran as fast as his legs could carry him home. Oscar spat in fury blood and scars all over his face.

CHAPTER FOUR

THE PLAN

Lucas' face and body was bleeding and covered with scars. His face was pale white from almost drowning. His head was soaked and injured. Gasping for breath, Lucas ran home and back into his apartment. Unfortunately his mum was there. At first looking angry then shocked. She ran over to Lucas and screamed: "WHERE HAVE YOU BEEN? WHAT HAVE YOU DONE?"

One minute later Lucas was hunched on the sofa with his mum dabbing wet tissue all over him and Jasper with a smug look in the corner. "Jasper, can you pass me more tissue?" she said. Jasper grumpily handed over the tissue. "Now what was you doing Lucas?" she asked. "Oliver beat me up in the woods" he said. "And why exactly did you get into this mess?" she asked. "Phantom manor multi player" Lucas said grumpily. "That's why you homework wasn't done! Your grounded for one week!" she said. Lucas tried to protest but it was no use. One hour later around 9pm Lucas was sat in his room. Lucas' room was a small room, a red sheeted bed in the left corner and a small wooden desk with a small wooden chair in the right. At the back of the room was a small window

looking over South forest. Next door he could see Oscar smirking at him from his window. Lucas shut the torn blue curtains. Lucas sat at his small desk which was covered in paper. Some of the papers were letters from his friends and some were just drawings. Lucas was an excellent drawer. He had drawn a copy of the Mona Lisa. Lucas sat down and wiped all the papers of his desk. He got a pencil from the draw and a piece of blank paper.

He drew the flat and everything and everyone in it. from himself he drew a line going out of the door up towards the burglar alarm, pass the bathroom and kitchen and to the table by the door. Then towards the key and out the door. Lucas smiled. He picked his phone out of his pocket and phoned his friends. He told them to meet them at the bottom of his flat now and bring food and water.

CHAPTER FIVE

ESCAPE!

Lucas put down the phone and threw on a pair of ripped jeans, a phantom manor t shirt, a navy jacket and a pair of brown walking boots. He turned of his phone and slowly opened the door. The door slightly creaked. Silently, he edged out of the door. He found the alarm at turned it into of mode. He creped down the doorway and to the table. He took the keys and opened the door. He creped down stairs. He could hear people snoring and smell a strong smell of garlic bread. He reached the bottom and stepped outside. It was a little windy. Outside stood Adam, Paul, Louis and Victor. Adam, the youngest was carrying a bottle of water and a giant pack of cheese puffs. Adam had short, neat brown hair. He had blue eyes and was the director of fighting in the team. Paul, the second oldest was carrying loads of juice and apples, grapes, mangos and more stuffed in his iron man rucksack. Paul had long wild blonde hair and green eyes. Louis, the second youngest was carrying bottles of orange juice and thousands of packets of Haribo. He had short blond hair and yellow glasses. He had dark eyes. And Victor, had a huge suit case, probably to carry the food and water.

Victor was the oldest and the brainiest. He could crack any problem and was a genius on technology. He had neat long brown hair and dark eyes. "Wat ya wan' us fo" asked Louis. "I'm running away" said Lucas. "Grea' but how?" asked victor. "There's a spare wooden boat by the beach, we can go anywhere!" Lucas said. "Crazy!"

"Ridicu'ous!" "Ma!" "I'm in" They all said. Everyone stared at Adam. "Yyyo'in?" asked startled Louis. "Y's I vant to vet out of here!" said Adam. "Vell if he's vin I'm vin!" said Paul as he put his hand in the middle, so did Adam. "I'll vo!" said Louis putting his hand in the middle. "Vell if I vust I vust!" sighed Victor as he put his hand in. "Thanks guys!" said Lucas as he put his hand in. They smiled and took back their hands. "Vell vut all ve food in vy sui'case" said victor. All the food and water was a squash to fit in but somehow they managed it. "Ver vuys, vow vill ve get to ve veach?" asked Adam. Lucas pulled out thousands of ten euro notes. "VOLY, VERE DID YOU VET VEM FROM?" shouted startled Victor. "Mum's purse was by the key, about 1000 euros" said Lucas scanning the notes.

"Vow much muny does it take to get to ve veach?" asked Louis. "Ten" answered Lucas. Lucas pulled out his phone and dialled a number for a taxi. Within seconds the yellow taxi

arrived. A grumpy looking man with a long beard drove the taxi. The children walked over to the man. "Nous aimerions aller a' la plage" asked Lucas. "je n'emme'ne pas d'enfants dans mon taxi !"shouted the driver. " Je vous en donnerai dix de plus si vous nous prenez!" said Lucas. "Montez dans le taxi !"sighed the driver taking the money." Merci!" Lucas thanked the driver. The drive took about ten minutes. They got out of the taxi and left towards the boat shop. They found the shop. Painted blue and filled with reasonable sized yachts. One was floating gently in the dark water. It was attached by rope. They ran over as Victor pulled out a small pen knife. Silently he cut through the rope. Victor clambered in the boat and chucked the suit case down into the lower deck. The boat was small painted blue and white sails. Made of tough wood. Victor shut the door to the lower deck as everyone else clambered on. "I'v vad vailing levons,i'vl drive" said Adam. Everyone nodded as they prepared the boat. Lucas clambered up the wooden stairs towards the wheel and Adam. "Vere do ve vo?" asked Adam. "Set sail for America south" whispered Lucas. Adam drew a map and pinned it on the chart. Adam turned the boat around and of they sailed into the sunrise. But what they could not see was a pair of ghostly eyes watching from above then flying away.

CHAPTER SIX

MAN OVER BOARD



Once they were away from land and the sun had nearly rose they celebrated. They all whooped and cheered. Everyone was having a good time. Their plan was to stop at Spain to stock up on food, sail across the Atlantic ocean, then south towards Mexico, were Lucas used to live. Lucas remembered when his dad died the owner of a mansion took them in. He was going to thank that man. They celebrated until around nine o'clock. They settled down. According to Adam it would take them a week to reach Spain. Until then they'd be surviving on cheese puffs, water, fruit, juice and Haribo. They settled down. Louis went down below deck to get some cheese puffs. Lucas looked overboard. At first there was nothing, then there was thousands of dolphins. "Who wants to swim with dolphins?" asked Lucas. Adam and the crew looked over board to see the dolphins leaping out of the water. Within seconds the engine was stopped and they dove in. They followed them down holding their breath. Although the salt water stung their eyes the crew carried on down. They reached were the dolphins stopped by a massive shoal of mackerel. They watched for a while until their lungs nearly burst. The swam to the top. Gasping for breath they clambered back on board. "Vat was so cool!" exclaimed Louis reclaiming his pack of cheese puffs. Adam restarted the engine ad slowly moved forwards. After a while it happened. Something that would change the whole story. "Vey vuys! do you vere vat?" asked

Adam. Louis dropped his pack of cheese puffs in shock. Just then, out of the fog was a man, old. He was unconscious holding onto a orange life ring and was holding a brown tattered bag. "MAN OVER BOARD!" screamed Lucas. Paul desperately grabbed a long rope with a hook attached to it. He threw the rope out. The hook caught around the edge of the life ring. "Vice vinking!" said Victor. Paul hauled the rope in. He grabbed the unconscious man and laid him on a towel on board. "Vi vever vid health class!" panicked Louis. "I did!" said Lucas. Lucas starter doing three chest push, one mouth to mouth. After a few seconds the man woke up, coughing a load of water in Lucas' face. "Who are you?" asked Lucas. "Interesting question to start with but I'm Oliver wormwood leader of MCF" said Oliver showing them his badge. "What is MCF?" asked Lucas. "Mythical city finder. an organisation founded by Plato or some call Harry" said Oliver. "Vat are vou doing vout vere?" asked Victor. "I heard my brothers mansion was restricted and he died. His wife to. But it's strange because he died before" said Oliver. "Vere do vou need voo vo?" asked Adam. "Mexico" answered Oliver. "Us too!" exclaimed Lucas. "Vel ve can take vou vere!" said Paul. "Here I'll go get you some towels to dry of, you can sit on the bench by the side" said Lucas. Lucas went down deck for towels while Oliver sat down on the bench. After a while all of them heard a shout from Adam: "LAND AHOY!"

CHAPTER SEVEN

SPANISH TROUBLE

Everyone looked over board to see Spain. "Here children, take one from my bag!" said Oliver. Confused Lucas reached into the tattered old bag. He felt cold metal and a handle.

He pulled it out by the handle. "Holy..." he whispered. In his hands was a small black pistol. He twiddled it in his fingers. "Is this real?" asked Lucas. "Yep. finest make, six bullet, fastest shot, Pure steel and not a single rust in it!" said Oliver proudly. "Why would I need a pistol now?" asked Lucas. "You don't know Spain as well as I do" said Oliver. Lucas told everyone to grab a pistol. With surprise they did so and hooked their boat up on the nearest dock. After about a mile walking they reached a Spanish town full of restaurants.

It was almost dark. This was not a nice town. Drunken people wandering everywhere. Shouting, People throwing others out of windows, guns firing everywhere. "This is like Tortuga from pirates of the Caribbean!" cried Lucas narrowly missing a gun shot. "Well

it used to be the place where it was filmed. The locals loved it but took it too seriously and turned it into a place of madness!" shouted Oliver over the noise. "Vis is mad!" cried Louis. Suddenly a circle formed around them and a drunk fat man with a bottle of rum and pistol. "DUCK!" screamed Oliver as a bullet came from the drunk man. They ducked and ran down a small alleyway. They looked back to see if the drunken was following. He was. Lucas raised his pistol and pulled the trigger. The bullet flew towards the man and hit his head. He fell back and dropped the glass of rum. "I just killed him!" whispered Lucas in shock standing still. "I've killed more people than that so follow me before more drunks come!". They started running again but now they had almost ten drunks on their tail. Bullets narrowly missed the crew as they ducked and ran. Adam shot his pistol and shot one drunk man in the chest. "DEAD END!" screamed Oliver. It was a dead end with a bar on the right. The drunks charged closer. Oliver signalled everyone to go in the pub. They all ran in the pub and hid behind the counter. Bullets soared over their heads. Victor jumped up from behind the bar and shot one in the stomach. The bullet shot through the first man and to all the rest standing behind. All toppled down, Victor looked shocked. "Nice move kid, now out through the drain!" screamed Oliver as more men came. They opened the drain and climbed down the ladder. Oliver locked the hatch. "Come on! I know a village far from this town!" said

Oliver as he walked down the huge drain to the left. After a while they reached the village. They opened the drain to find morning sunlight beam down on them. Lucas looked around. He was in a peaceful Spanish village in the middle of a hilly countryside. Farmers were carrying hay bales and milking cows. The small houses were made from wood and had thatched roofs. Chattering people wandered by as the crew walked over to a market stool. "Two sacks of fruit please! Oh erm you don't speak English..." stuttered Oliver. "Oh no vwe vwo. Vwat vwould be fiftin euros." said the market seller with a Spanish accent. Lucas drew the thousands of ten euro notes and took out two of them. "Have twenty!" Lucas said as the man handed over the bags. The bags were the size of bin bags, in fact they were black bin bags stuffed with a wild range of fruit. Inside were, apples, mangos, peaches, oranges, pears, bananas and more. The bags were incredibly heavy so Oliver dragged them along. "I know a fresh water stream to fill up some of our empty bottles" said Oliver drawing about five water bottles from his bag. They reached the stream just outside of the village. Small hares bounced in the grass. The water was crystal clear and lovely and cold. The crew each took one bottle and filled them up. For an hour the crew sat there while some of them took a nap since they hadn't slept for one day. Once they were ready they headed back through the drains, guns drawn. They reached the mad town but

followed the drains further to the dock. Once out of the drains more guns were fired at the crew. They dashed on the boat and took of for Mexico.

CHAPTER EIGHT

THE STORM



It had been seven days since they had come from Spain. They were past the Caribbean islands and now about two days away from Mexico. The food and water had nearly run out and everyone was in a grumpy mood, even the weather. "vooks

vike a storms voming!" shouted down Adam from the wheel. Louis sat savouring the last crumbs of cheese puffs. Lucas felt a trickle of rain run down his cheek. Within minutes it was pouring down and louis' glasses were unable to see through. Lucas heard thunder rumbling in the distance. " Storm Kye" whispered Oliver to himself as he sat next to Lucas. " What storm?" asked Lucas. " Storm Kye the most violent storm in history. Never happened before but that means Atlantis has fallen. Suddenly a messenger pigeon landed on the boat carrying a letter with the red wax Atlantis seal. Oliver took the letter as the pigeon flew away. Oliver opened the letter and read aloud:

DEAR OLIVER

MCF

TOPIC: ERGENT NOTICE

HI OLIVER, URGENT NOTICE. I DON'T KNOW HOW BUT KEV IS BACK! HE'S DESTROYED ATLANTIS AND KILLED NEARLY EVERYONE. I'M IN HIDING IN THE

SECRET ROOM OF THE CASTLE. THEIR COMMING, FIND LEONIDAS AND BRING HIM BACK. I'LL EXPLAIN WHY WHEN IT HAPPENS.

JO

[MCF SOILDER]

" Oh dear" whispered Oliver. He folded up the letter and stuffed it in his pocket. Lightning began to strike as huge waves crashed down onto the ship. The ship was rocking side to side. The boat was almost turning over. Adam desperately clang onto the wheel. Lucas was shaken over board as he just grabbed the side of the boat. But the waves were to strong as they took Lucas down into the sea. Adam was losing grip on the wheel. A bolt of lightning struck his hand. Adam let go in pain as he toppled into the sea. The rest clambered low deck. What they did not see was the ship was crashing into a rock. The ship turned over as the rest of the crew fell out of the smashed window into the sea.

CHAPTER NINE

THE MANOR

ONE DAY LATER

The boiling sun shone down on Lucas and Adam who were unconscious. The wrecked yacht lied beside Lucas' hand. The window was smashed open and blood on shards of glass. Oliver hung out of the wrecked window, bleeding and loosing blood fast. Paul, Victor and Louis' body's lied on a rock in shallow waters. There was little beach but a huge forest behind stretching for miles. Lucas woke up with a groan. His memory was hazy and his eyesight was blurry. Lucas sat up and looked around. He saw their wrecked yacht and ran inside the half fallen of door. Struggling, he walked down deck to find only Oliver hanging out of the window. Lucas with great struggle pulled Oliver on to the sand. When Lucas was about to collect the rest, Paul, Victor and Louis woke. Once they realized what happened they trudged through the water and to shore. They had all lost their shoes therefore their feet were bleeding. Adam stirred and sat by them. Oliver though was weak when he woke up. He jolted up and grabbed Lucas hand. " Find my brother, here in this mansion..." he whispered. With his final breath he

fell back, dead on the ground. His eyes closed he lied there. Lucas and the crew wept. " He's dead? But I'll find the manor around this wood. " Lucas thought. The crew sadly dug a huge hole and gently laid Oliver's body down in it. They filled in the hole and only there was a lump in the beach. The crew found a smooth stone and with Oliver's blood they wrote his name short: O.W. Sadly the crew left the body and entered the wood for food and water. They sadly walked into the forest. Birds tweeted in the treetops. As they went in further it started to rain. They ran under a tree for shelter. A fallen branch was lying in the middle of the road. After a while the rain would not stop so they leaped over the branch. A sudden chill came over the crew. After a while the trees cleared to reveal a wooden tall manor. A dirt path closed in with iron gates led up to the door step. Small lanterns hung guiding the way through the rain clouds. But there was one problem. A steel gate was circling the manor guarding it. " Hey guys, I always keep a splinter of wood in my pocket, it should be..." said Lucas reaching into his pocket. " Here!" he exclaimed pulling a splinter of wood out of his pocket. Lucas grabbed the lock and twisted the splinter a couple of times in the hole. The rusted lock fell to the ground. Almost magically the gates swung open. Fallen autumn leaves crunched under the crews feet. " I von't vink vve should ve vear!" whispered nervous Louis. " Ve vill vonly ve in vere vill the vain stops!" said Victor calmly. " No, I will do as

Oliver said" whispered Lucas shivering in fear. " you vink vis is ve vlace?" asked Adam, shaking. Lucas did not reply. "You would vont to vive vere?" asked Paul. They reached the front step. Two faces of devils were calved into the wooden knockers. Lucas grabbed a knocker. They were large and heavy. A great boom came from the knockers three times it banged. " ENTER!" boomed the right knocker. " Cool! Maybe this is some sort of YouTube prank!" Whispered Lucas. " Oh really Fred? That's just exaggerating!" said the other knocker in a high pitched voice. " OH COME ON ERNIE I HAVENT DONE THIS IN AGES!" moaned the right knocker in it's low voice. " Come on your making them scared!" said the left knocker. Indeed the crew were staring in shock at the arguing knockers. " BUT THAT'S MY JOB! ANY WAY YOU KNOW WHAT'S INSIDE!" boomed the right knocker. " Oh shut up! Kid's this isn't safe flee!" screeched the left knocker. " COME INSIDE KID'S IT'S SAFE" taunted the booming knocker. " Don't go in" "GO IN" "Don't go in!" " COME ON IN". But Lucas had had enough. He ran over to the right door and shoved it open. The knockers were still arguing as the crew stepped inside and shut the door. A golden glass chandelier hung from the ceiling lighting the dull place. A long hallway stretched out. A torn red carpet covered in ash stretched along the floor. Two fire places were opposite each over still blazing. Cobwebs hung in the corners of the ceiling as huge hairy spiders crawled in

them. A large wooden stair case was at the end of the room going left and right. Two doors next to the stairs were wide open, both leading to long abandoned tables. Two oak doors stood behind the stair case. " Vell vis is veserted!" exclaimed Paul looking around. " Come on! right door behind the stair case!" said Lucas. The crew ran behind the door to see two oak doors with brass handles. " Vare you sure vot ve vleft vone!" whispered nervous Louis. " I always say right is always the right way!" said Lucas pushing open the door. No light was in the room. Lucas pulled out his phone and put on the flashlight. Pictures were hung on every wall of a corridor. The crew nervously walked down the door way. One picture was of a handsome man with a moustache, standing on a hillside. A flash of lightning could be seen out side the window. While the lightning struck the man turned into a skeleton with red eyes standing Infront of the manor. The crew jumped back in shock while screaming. They calmed themselves down and carried on down the hall way. Another picture was a lady sat on a hillside on her hands and knees. At first she was normal smiling but when you went further on and looked back, she was a wolf. They screamed when they saw the snarling evil eyed wolf. They ran on running through all the pictures. At the end of he door way you could turn left but also a wooden wardrobe was at the corner. Victor stepped forward to the wardrobe and opened the large door. A bright light shone inside. Victor was

hypnotised to the spot, staring at the light. A young lady's head and hand appeared from the light. The head and arm was also made of light. The smiling lady waved her finger towards the wardrobe she was in. Victor was hypnotised as he stepped forward closer to the wardrobe. " VICTOR! STEP BACK!" "VICTOR VNO!" " VON'T VOI IT!". But Victor took no notice. Lucas tried to pull Victor away, but it was too late. Victor was standing in front of the light and his hand touched it. The lady disappeared and turned into a devil with skin peeling off and covered in blood. The light turned to a black and red smoke devouring Victor. Victor was snapped out of the hypnotism and screamed. Pain shot through his body. A light version of Victor was coming out of him - his soul. Victor's soul and body were screaming. Desperately Lucas ran over to the wardrobe and slammed the door shut. Victor's soul was slammed back in his body. Victor fell back unconscious. " Vare you vokay?" " Victor vake vup!". " Shhhhhh! He's not going to answer he's just almost had his soul ripped out!" said Lucas. The others fell silent. Lucas bent down over Victor. After about a minute of silence Victor woke with a gasp. " You okay Victor?" asked Lucas. " Vy soul valmost vat vripped vout! veacause vof vou vi valmost vied!" screamed Victor angrily. " Ve vis vright! vou vade vus vome vere!" shouted Louis. " Do you really think this? I saved you Victor! I killed a man for your safety! I got you here!" exclaimed Lucas. " Ve vonly vent vere vecause ve viked vou.

vous vave a virtvag!" shouted Adam. Everyone glared at Lucas. " Ver vuys! vat vasn't vere vefore!" exclaimed Paul. The crew, still angry with Lucas turned to see in the place of the wardrobe was a door and the left wall was a wall. " Voly moly!" exclaimed Louis. Adam reached for the brass handle and pulled it open. Immediately a man and woman ghoul shot out of the door. The man was a skeleton wearing a torn black jacket, black trousers and a black top hat. He was the man from the photo. And the lady wore a white wedding dress and veil. When she sprung in the way of the window she became the wolf from the picture. The male skeleton flew through Paul's body. Paul felt pain like no other. He fell to the ground unconscious. The wolf lady flew into the moonlight and became the wolf. She gave a deathly howl as more ghouls came flying from the door. The others ran for cover but the ghouls had got them...

CHAPTER TEN

THE DREAM HAUNT

Lucas was standing on the clouds. He could feel the sun beaming down on him. Birds flew over head and everything was calm. A sudden rumble shook Lucas and the cloud. Grey clouds covered the sun turning the world into darkness. The clouds turned red and began raining red rain. The rain trickled down Lucas' face as it became heavier. Lucas licked the side of his face to taste the rain. He spat it out immediately. "Blood!" he whispered silently. The rumbling grew louder as Lucas turned around. A great red smoke with faces of ghouls in was heading for his cloud. He put his arms up to try to shield himself. The smoke devoured him. Lucas felt an incredible pain. He fell to his hands and knees. His shoulder ripped open to reveal hair, brown hair. Then his hair was ripped of his head making his head bleed. Instead brown shaggy hair was put in place. He looked at his nails. They were growing and getting grubbier. Uncontrollably, his nails tore into his head and pulled of skin. To reveal the face of a wolf with blood stained teeth...

CHAPTER ELEVEN

THE WELL

Lucas woke up with a scream. He remembered the dream like it was happening then. "So real, I could feel the flesh coming off!" thought Lucas. He looked around. He was cramped in a small cage in what looked like the basement. The basement was made of oak wood and had no windows. Only a single grubby lightbulb hanging in the middle of the ceiling. From the dim light he could see a door in the top corner of the right hand side of the room. Millions of other cages were piled untidily, full of other children of all ages. All were silent sitting back and looking glum. "You got the dream?" asked an Asian girl next to Lucas who looked about ten. "You got it to?" asked Lucas. "They force a different one every day down your throat, and if you refuse you are brought to the leader of this place who force an everlasting pain in you!" she whispered scared. "An ever lasting pain?" asked Lucas. "yep! when you drink it you fall unconscious and into a nightmare. You feel a horrible pain, like your dying very slowly. He undoes it after a minute but if you get it three times you get put in an everlasting version and your body is left out for the crows!" said the girl. "How do you know this?"

asked Lucas. " The minute pain I had once and the everlasting one the guards told me about, they threatened me if I did it again with the everlasting!" she whispered nervously. " How long have you been here?" asked Lucas. " Mmmm...hard to say... about two years" she said. " TWO YEARS!" exclaimed Lucas. " Shhhhhh... The guards will hear you! Yes two years of nightmares every day!" she whispered. " How do you manage?" asked Lucas. " Just got used to it!" said she said. " What is your name?" asked Lucas. " Ava, what's yours?" asked Ava. " Lucas" said Lucas. Lucas looked around. Most of the children were hunched miserably against the back wall of the cage. He spotted his friends glaring angrily at him. He pretended to ignore them. " Fuuuuud!" came a raspy voice from an evil looking ghost carrying some bowls in the centre of the room. The ghost looked like it used to be a butler before. Almost magically it teleported over to Lucas cage. It shoved it's hand through the bars as if they were water. The metal parted around it's hand holding the bowl of green mushy gloop. " Eeeaat!" it said in a raspy voice. " NO!" screamed Lucas as he tried to punch through the solid metal. His hand did not pass through, instead it hit the metal painfully. The ghost magically pulled open the door and pulled Lucas out. " LET ME GO!" screamed Lucas. The ghost's grip grew tighter around his wrist. The ghost flicked his finger in the air. Lucas felt a horrible sensation. It was like he was being squeezed to death. He could hardly breath while

the ghost looked perfectly fine. After a second or two they arrived. They were standing in the backyard. Thousands of gravestones were planted all over the enormous space They were standing by a Victorian well in the middle of the garden. Crows pecked the gravestones slavering food. A man dressed in leather black clothing stood by them. Lucas stood in fear as the man examined him. He jumped back when he found the pistol Oliver gave him. " TIGHTER!" screamed the man in an English accent. The ghost's grip pained Lucas' arms. The ghost pinned his arm's behind his back. The man stared at Lucas with piercing black eyes. " Friend of Oliver wormwood then? He killed me!" said the man calmly. " With the knowledge he's probably taught you! You know to much!" said the man. " Where is the C2501?" asked the man. " I swear i do not know what you are talking about!" panicked Lucas. The man made a han signal to the ghost. The ghost immediately pulled Lucas head over the side of the well. " One last chance, where is it?" asked the man. " I swear I do not know!" said Lucas. The man made another hand signal to the ghost. Immediately the ghost threw Lucas into the well.

CHAPTER TWELVE

THE GIRL

Lucas' screams echoed down the well. He fell for a while still screaming. After a while he hit water. Almost immediately the water drained away to leave Lucas standing at the bottom of the grubby well. " SORRY! RY! RY! RY! YOU KNOW TO MUCH SO YOU WILL DIE DOWN THERE! ERE! ERE! ERE!" came the man's echoed voice from the top. With that the man walked away. Lucas looked around. In one of the corners sat a hooded girl. She was not tall and her face was hidden in her cloak. She was sitting holding her knees. Beside her was a torn old white book. " Who are you?" whispered Lucas still wet from the water. The girl did not reply and just pushed her hands further over her head. Silently Lucas crept towards the tattered white book. He grabbed and sat in the opposite corner. He opened the book on the first page. It read:

ONCE UPON A TIME LIVED A PRINCESS WHO LIVED WITH HER WICKED AUNT IN A CASTLE.

THE PRINCESSE'S NAME WAS SNOW WHITE.



Lucas sighed. " A book of fairy tales! What could be lamer?" said Lucas aloud. Lucas flicked to hundreds of pages further on. It read:

R.A.T.1.

SNOW LAID IN HER GLASS BOX.

THE DWARVES LOOKED AT HER WITH SADNESS.

Lucas looked confused. He looked at the extra S on glass. " Glass doesn't have three S!" whispered Lucas. The extra S was made of wood and stuck out. Lucas also studied the words: R.A.T.1. Lucas stroked the S like a fluffy dog. He traced his finger all the way down to the bottom of the extra S. He gently pushed the sticking out S back in the page. Suddenly Lucas heard that sounded like a strong wind. Suddenly the words on the page disappeared to be replaced with:

I'VE FOUND THEM. SAILING TOWARDS SPAIN. I BELIVE THEY HOLD IT. THEY HAVE FOUND OLIVER,THE BOY WHO KILLED YOU BEFORE. IF YOU TAKE THE YOU

KNOW WHAT FROM THEM YOU COULD OPEN YOU KNOW WHERE AND TAKE OVER YOU KNOW WHERE.

ELIJAH.

Lucas crawled over to the hooded girl. " Were did you get this?" asked Lucas. The girl did not answer but her hands shot out of her cloak, palm facing Lucas' eyes. It was horrible. On her hands were eyes. Only dark brown eyes. Lucas jumped back in shock. The girl stood up. Her dusty cloak hung over her as her hood fell down. On her face was no eyes, bald head and a huge smiling mouth with yellow, blood stained teeth. " I've waited to long for meat!" she said in a raspy voice. Lucas stood paralyzed in fear. The girl got one of her hands and pulled one of it's eyes out. In place was a huge dent. The same with the other. She put them in her head which made a dent too. Then her face went orange and long orange tentacles started to sprout out of her mouth. There was eight tentacles coming out of her mouth after a while. Lucas ran back against the wall. He turned round ad tried to push the wall for secret passage ways. The octopus girl walked closer. Lucas then saw a lose brick in front of his eyes. He shoved it back in.

All of a sudden the floor beneath Lucas gave way. Lucas started falling watching the girl smiling above. He started screaming through the darkness. Suddenly Lucas hit hard dirt. His head clocked the dirt as he was knocked unconscious.

CHAPTER THIRTEEN

CLOSE ESCAPE

Lucas woke with a groan. His head throbbed with pain. The last thing he could remember was falling down a huge well and onto dirt. With pain, he sat up to see he was in a giant hole about three meters deep. The hole was made of dirt and a massive pile of dirt was heaped in the top corner of a room above the hole. A brick shaft was hung above the hole. The rest of the room [above the hole] was pure dirt. It was badly made and looked like it could cave in at any moment. A long pipe stretched along the left hand side of the hole and up to a glass box full of dirt. With great effort, he stood up and attempted to climb up the pipe. But he was weak. No one could save him. When he looked around more, above the tunnel stood three people. Two ghost. One human. The human looked like the man who threw him down the well. And the ghosts were the bride and groom

[wolf and skeleton]. " Sorry it had to end this way!" shouted down the man. Lucas gave an angry stare. The man smiled and waved his finger at the glass box of dirt. Immediately the glass shattered and dirt fell rapidly from the box. The might of the dirt

hit Lucas sending him too the floor. More dirt came from the pipe as more dropped. The dirt was already about five inches deep. Lucas could not get up no matter how hard he tried. The dirt had now covered his face. Dirt filled his mouth and lungs. He was struggling to breath. " Buried alive!" thought Lucas with worry. He was about to take a last breath when the dirt stopped falling. With no time to think he looked left to see the pipe was growing fatter. The dirt had blocked it. Without warning the pipe gave way. Dirt was blown above ground along with the people. The explosion of dirt shot every thing and one above ground. The force of the dirt blew Lucas onto the ground outside. He felt two human arms grab him and pull him away.

CHAPTER FOURTEEN

C.2.5.O.1

Lucas could hear gulls over head and the sea crashing on the shore. Lucas sprang up. Two people, man and woman were digging at a point in the beach. Lucas stood up to see the wrecked yacht he and the crew rode on. The same beach. The same forest. The same yacht. The same grave... With his anger rising, Lucas ran over to the people digging up Oliver's grave. They did not notice him pounce in the air. They remained still. Lucas pounced on them but missed and landed on the opposite side of the grave. Oliver's skeleton was rested at the bottom of the grave. His arms folded and shaggy remains of his bag around his neck. The two people raised their faces. They were the two ghouls! Only human. " Who are you? asked Lucas angrily. " I am Leonidas!" " and I am Kita!" they said. " How are you not ghouls any more?" asked Lucas. " Errrrrm! Okay! I am not a ghoul!" shouted both. " Then what are you?" asked Lucas. " We are humans but used to be a cross between a ghost and a ghoul!" cried Leonidas. " What's the difference between a ghost and a ghoul? NOTHING!" cried Lucas angrily. " Alright! A ghost, or spectre or phantom, is an apparition of a dead spirit or a soul. The

descriptions of this apparition varies from invisible presence to a translucent, albeit visible shape. A ghoul is an undead monster which eats human flesh. It's an evil demon who is able to take the form of an animal often a hyena, but also the form of the most recent person whom it has eaten" said Kita. " Not the point! why are you digging up someone's grave?" asked Lucas. " He was a friend of us. He holds something we need to save every one!" said Leonidas. He reached in the grave and pulled out Oliver's bag. " Kid, do you have any weapon?" asked Kita. " I have a gun but all the bullets were lost in a storm" said Lucas glumly. " Good thing I have one to spare!" said Kita handing over a tiny golden bullet to Lucas. Lucas shoved the bullet in the gun. "Thanks!" said Lucas. Lucas looked at Leonidas to see him pull out a tiny glass bottle with only a quarter left of gold water. " What's that?" asked Lucas. " C.2.5.O.1" said Leonidas. He drew out a rusted gun from the bag and emptied a hand full of gun powder into the bottle. It turned black. " Sorry to ask but how did you die?" asked Lucas. "First eaten by a cockroach, then Kita used some of this C.2.5.O.1 to bring me back. Then that man- Kev- Killed me and Kita by fog" said Leonidas. " What's the story behind Kev?" asked Lucas. " He was a villain sworn to destroy Atlantis. Killed by an angel and put a prison of light. Unfortunately when Kita saved me some of the liquid leaked and Kev escaped. He's looking for this bottle and has sent a GHOUL to find it named Elijah. He is weak

so if he gets his hands on this he opens Hell and takes over earth" said Lucas. " To get stronger he needs blood. Your friends are now in a ritual to be killed by head slicing by Elijah. This liquid will make Kev weak when I throw it on him. You once it's on him shoot the pistol to kill him and all the other ghouls" said Leonidas putting the bottle in his ripped jacket. Without a word Leonidas placed the empty bag back in the grave and covered it up. Together they walked back into the woods towards the manor to kill Kev.

CHAPTER FIFTEEN

KILLING KEV

They climbed over the steel fence and to the knockers who were still arguing. " GO IN!" " No don't!" " COME ON IN!" " Do not go in!" they shouted. They barged through the doors. Still the same as before. " Upstairs!" whispered Leonidas. They crept up the stairs, making muddy foot prints on the torn red carpet. On the second floor they crept too the left and to a large door like outside. Again sat two devils. " These are the outdoor knockers cousins!" whispered Kita. Lucas groaned. " RITUAL BEING PREFORMED MUST NOT ENTER!" boomed the left. " Comown frank!" said the right one in a cowboy voice. Ignoring the door Lucas peered through a hole in the wood. Louis was on the chopping block, the axe ghoul ready to slice. Leonidas kicked open the door. The block was in the middle and ghouls on all the other sides. Kev stood at the end of the room beside the others. Kev stood shocked. Kita ran forward with fury. Kev stood still and waved his finger. Kita was put in the air unable to move. The ghouls laughed. Louis, without warning kicked Elijah in the shins. He fell backwards. Louis ,handcuffed, sprung up and ran too Lucas. The others did so. It was like Kev let them. As

in plan, Lucas ran too the left and into the ghouls. Kev distracted by Lucas was the perfect time for Leonidas. He ran forward and sprang on Kev. Leonidas attempted too drop the potion on Kev's head. Kev knocked the potion out of Leonidas' hands. He shot Leonidas back unconscious. Lucas was almost touching the bottle with ghouls trampling over him. He grabbed the bottle and threw it towards Kev. It flew over the ghouls and poured over Kev's head. The ghouls and Kev were shot back now weak. Lucas sprang up and pulled the trigger of the pistol. The bullet sored to Kev as it hit him in the chest. The moment the bullet touched his chest everything went blank.

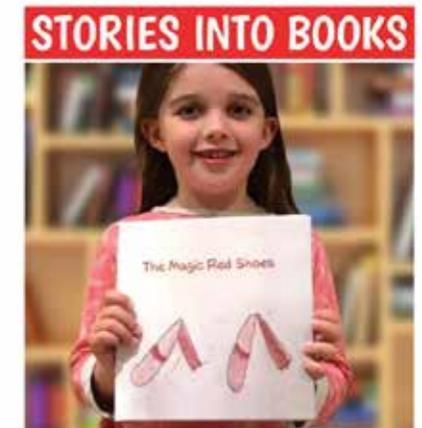
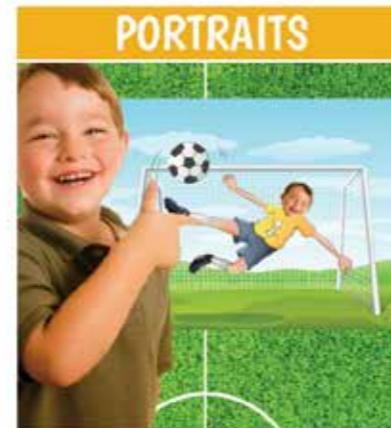
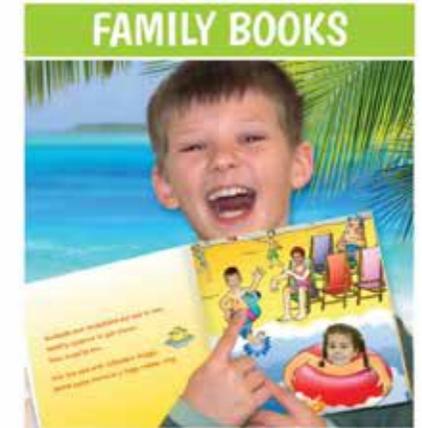
CHAPTER SIXTEEN

A NEW BEGINNING

Lucas looked around to see the remains of the manor below him. He was floating. He looked at himself. An angel he realised. He saw all his friends their too. He landed on a cloud were another angel stood. " What happened?" asked Leonidas behind Lucas. " When the bullet hit Kev the force exploded the manor. He has been wiped out of existence and banished to the bottom left corner of the universe" said the angel. " Can ve vo vack?" asked Victor. " You can but you have to be in the form of an animal. The form is chosen by me of which animal suits you most. You all suit a lion. Fearless and ready too help others" said the angel. " I agree" said the others. " Very well!" said the angel. The angel flicked her hand and they were back on earth. On earth they met more brave souls. Oliver, and others. Lucas shared his story with Oliver as Oliver shared the story of Atlantis..

The end.

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