

Dangerous Times

The Disappearance of a Good Friend

Written & Illustrated by
Lucas Parsons-Ferdinand



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CHAPTER 1: ELISE'S BIRTHDAY

“Happy birthday, Elise!” Alfie and Theo shouted as Elise’s mum came out with the cake.

This would be a memorable birthday, but not for the right reasons. They all had a great time at Elise’s house. They did many fun activities such as: a water fight, playing monopoly, playing football and they were only a few of all the activities they enjoyed.

“What was your favourite thing we've done today, Theo?”

“What was yours Alfie?” Elise asked them, “Mine was football.”

“Just because you won, Elise and my favourite thing we did was Twister because it's easy to win.” replied Theo.

“I did win football, it was a two versus one match. I was playing on

a team with just me on it and I still won with fourteen goals and you only got one goal just because I let you have one. Anyway, what was your favourite thing, Alfie?"

"Probably getting to choose what music to play. I think I have a good taste in music," Alfie said.

"I did like that Centuries song by Fall Out Boy," Elise said to Alfie.

Alfie played that song and Elise danced to the tune.

"Happy birthday, Elise," Alfie said to Elise as he handed her a present.

CHAPTER 2 : THE VANISHING

"I'm going to have to go now, Elise," Alfie said as he grabbed his torch, "It's getting dark."

"Okay that's fine," said Elise, "Bye."

"Bye," replied Alfie as he walked out of the door.

The pathway that Alfie was walking on was gravelly and bumpy. "AAAAARGH!!!!" Alfie screamed. In the distance stood a creature six feet tall. It was hard to see it properly in the dark, but Alfie could see a few features: it was skinny and it had long, sharp claws.

Alfie dropped his torch and ran the other direction but he was too slow, the monster ran on all fours speeding towards him. He tripped on a rock. "Help!" Alfie shouted, but nobody came. The beast pounced on Alfie- but didn't kill him, he was still breathing and then everything went black.

When he woke up the land had somehow changed. The sky was still black but Alfie thought it would be day now and what had once

been a city was now woodland. Alfie, who was lying on the grass, wondered where he could be.

Behind the trees, it felt like shadows were spying on him. Alfie could see a monster in the shadows with three pairs of flaming red eyes staring at him. Alfie whispered, "God help me!"

Meanwhile in the real world, Alfie's mum, Minnie, was worried about Alfie. It was now two o'clock in the morning and Alfie still hadn't come home. "Right, I've had enough, I'm ringing the police," Minnie said to Alfie's dad, Henry.

"Okay. Do what you want." Henry replied.

Later on, Minnie got off the phone and told Henry, "The police will look for him in the morning. We just have to wait."

"Okay, that's fine," replied Henry.

In the morning, the police sent out a group of ten officers to look for Alfie. For the first two hours no one had found anything, but in the next hour a police officer found a torch on the floor. "This is Alfie's!" Minnie said, picking up the torch.

"Well we've found something. We will carry on looking tomorrow." said the Chief of Police.

At Theo's house, Theo grabbed his phone and called Elise, "Hi Elise, we've got to look for Alfie tonight. We will meet where they found his torch."

"Okay, I'll come. Bye," Elise hung up, confused.

Later on that day, Theo and Elise met at the street where they found Alfie's torch. "Why are we here so late?" asked Elise.

"My mum didn't want me to go missing," explained Theo.

Behind them thunder crackled and lightning struck.

Then two kids formed from nowhere.

"Hi," they both said in unison.

CHAPTER 3: THE SUPERNATURAL TWINS

“Hello,” one of the kids said, “I am Amy and this is Lewis. We know where your friend is.”

“Where is he?” Theo asked.

“He is in another realm. He's all around us,” Lewis replied.

“Okay, but we've got to find him,” Elise said, “Where did you two come from?”

“We have strange powers, we can control the wind, make people see things they don't want to and we have telepathic abilities,” Amy said, “we can show you your friend.”

Right then, Amy created a window to the realm Alfies in. “Alfie!” Theo and Elise shouted.

“Hi,” Alfie said weakly, “there's monsters around me all the time and there's a monster growing stronger until it's strong enough to kill me.”

“We're looking for you, we will help you. Soon,” Theo said.

“Hurry,” Alfie replied before he fainted.

“We need to find a portal. Can you two not make one?” Theo asked.

“No,” Amy replied, “But we know where to find one.”

CHAPTER 4: THE DARK REALM

Meanwhile in the dark realm, Alfie could sense an evil presence lurking, so he ran as fast as he could but he couldn't escape it. It was the same monster that brought him to this hellhole with no eyes on its face and sharp teeth. Breathing heavily, Alfie ran away from the monster and hid behind a tree.

In the real world, they had no luck finding a portal, until Theo spotted something. A red glow shone and caught his eye.

A special tree.

They decided to go in.

"Why is it so cold?" Theo asked.

"How would we know," Elise said as a beam of lightning zapped the tree next to her, "That was close."

Thunder roared like a lion and lightning flashed like an eagle swooping for its prey.

At that moment Alfie ran towards them.

CHAPTER 5: THE MONSTER

ground, except for a black outline that stayed where the beast had been killed.

After that, they decided to kill the monster that's been trying to kill Alfie all this time. So they went to the part of the forest Alfie remembered seeing it in. Carrying sticks, made to look like spears in their hands, the group shouted to get the beast's attention.

Then it came out of its lair, a monster with three lizard heads, bat wings, teeth and claws like daggers, spikes running in a line down its back, four big legs, a long tail and three pairs of flaming red eyes. The group considered if this was such a good idea after all?

Alfie was the first to charge at it, followed by Lewis and Amy who held the monster back as the rest stabbed at its yellow underbelly. "AARGH," Lewis and Amy shouted as they tore the creature apart limb from limb, until it was just a torso and head.

Alfie ran up with his stick and stabbed the beast in its eye. A mighty screech pierced the air around them and it fell to the ground. BOOM! It all turned to black dust and it sank to the

CHAPTER 6: HOMECOMING

“RUN,” Alfie shouted as he dropped his stick and ran for his life. The tree that brought them to this place had been destroyed, so Amy and Lewis had to use their powers to make one, which caused Lewis to pass-out.

Elise and Theo got out safely with some of the dust, followed by Amy carrying Lewis, but Alfie had tripped on a rock.

“Hurry! Get up!” They all shouted.

He got up, stumbled and began to run, but he was just too slow. As he stretched out with his hand to reach his friends, the portal closed in front of him.

“Save me,” he said quietly, as he disappeared from his friend’s view.

The group walked to the nearest road and were greeted by Theo's family, Elises mum, Alfies parents and the chief of police.

“Don't ever do that again,” Theo’s mum told Theo.

“Hi, mum,” Elise said.

“And who are you? Where are you from? Who are you holding?” The chief asked Amy with Lewis still in her arms after passing out.

“I'm Amy and this is Lewis. We're twins and we're from a military base in the countryside. We ran away, we don't have anywhere to stay,” Amy said.

“You better come with me,” the policeman said as he took Amy and Lewis away. As he turned, the twins noticed something peculiar about the Chief, something not of this realm. They looked at each other with a sense of fear as they followed behind the Chief to his police car. Lewis and Amy smiled nervously at Elise and Theo as they left, “See you around,” Amy said, as Elise and Theo nervously smiled back.

The twins felt their troubles may not have ended just yet as they shuffled into the back of the Chief’s car, door slamming behind them.

“Hang on, where's Alfie?” Minnie asked as she noticed he wasn't there...

I guess the moral of this story is to hold on to hope, stay positive and always be there to help friends.

EPILOGUE

In the dark realm, Alfie could see something new in the distance. Something that wasn't there before. He walked there and found an old fashioned house, like the ones you would find in a ghost town. Alfie opened the door and heard muttering. It was too quiet for him to tell what it was saying, so he went in and he found a body.

It was too dark to tell what it looked like but it had loads of big snakes around it. The body stared at him with its soulless, piercing eyes. Alfie fainted.

We hope that you and your family and friends enjoy the book that you have created.

This project was co-ordinated and facilitated by Clare Ford, Founder of Switched ON! the global online academy which is re-defining education beyond academic success.

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Have you ever been taken by a monster to another dimension?

Well probably not but this is a story about a boy that has

Read on to see if he makes it back to this dimension.