

The Forbidden Forest

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The Forbidden Forest

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Aged 10

This book belongs to.....

Chapter One: The Calling

"Help me!" squeaked a tiny voice from far away.

One turbulent murky evening, a curious boy named Ben, who was as small as an elf, looked out of his window to see who was calling for help.

He lived in a palace of dreams, consisting of a dining-room full of shimmering chandeliers, an indulgent swimming pool and a hallway as long as the M1 .

Moments later, while Ben was getting ready to go to bed, he heard a strange sighing noise.

"Whooo!"

What was that he wondered.

"Whooo!" There it was again.

Then after a couple of minutes of deep thought, he realised that the eerie noises materialised from the FORBIDDEN FOREST.

With his heart pounding powerfully, he was so eager he could burst.

'Tonight is my night', he thought.



Chapter Two: The Forbidden Forest

Later that evening, Ben swiftly shook off his fluffy duvet and put on some appropriate clothes.

Quietly, he unlocked his double-glazed window and surreptitiously slithered down the drainpipe like a snake.

As he visualised his path into the eerie forest he knew he was ready.

The palm trees swayed from side-to-side as the wind picked up.

Slowly, Ben ambled deeper and deeper into the crooked forest.

"Ca car, ca car " the black crows cawed .

The tears of the sky dripped along Ben's worried forehead.

He was dying in thirst so he cupped his palms together and sipped on the refreshing, cool water from an oasis.

As his sole touched the earth, his toes were bathed in the newly bequeathed rain. It gurgled, bubbling as he walked, soothing in its coolness.

Thud! Thud!

Strange footsteps reverberated along the ground.

The lightning hammered down fiercely onto the soaked ground.

As Ben was trying to find a secure part of shelter in the deserted forest, he could smell a majestic aroma which was east of his body.

So, he turned my body 180 degrees and followed the mythical path.

He walked and walked and wanted to stop but he knew that he had come so far from this point onwards. After half an hour, Ben finally arrived at his destination and was gobsmacked.

Chapter Three: Rumble Ruins

He moved an elongated bramble and witnessed a moment of history that, up until now, he had only ever heard about - **Rumble Ruins**.

Rumble Ruins was one of the world's most famous landmarks since it was discovered in 1987.

It was believed to have come from a meteor that destroyed the Stone Age.

Recently, people had needed to evacuate the area due to a scorching inferno that destroyed everything in its path, no matter how much effort it took to stop it.

Many people stated that it tasted like a bonfire.

"Ha,ha,ha!"

Instantaneously, the sighing noise came forth once more and Ben knew it was his time to shine.

With courage, Ben trudged carefully into **Rumble Ruins...**

As Ben entered the jilted temple the blustering wind blew against his face.

The weak sunlight was replaced by the dim lighting from a torch from the corner of the crackled wall.

Layers of moss were seen on every single corner of the damp, ancient, stone structures.

Decay, rot, briny algae, sweat, methane gas bubbles came rising through the puddles made by the storm.

All of a sudden, Ben glimpsed something small, moving in the vines hanging from the ceiling.

Ben's shadow laid flat on the wall, following and mimicking his movement.

The sound of footsteps echoed deep into the temple.

Ben tried as hard as he could to blend in but at some point, he knew he had to scramble or he would be noticed.

Then, Ben noticed something very peculiar about the vague shape: it had bloodshot eyes as if it hadn't had any sleep before.

It was bizarre because it looked familiar.

"What's that?" it exclaimed.

Ben tried to keep his cover.

"Show yourself!

"I can hear you!" clamoured the opaque shape.



Chapter Four: The Escape

As time wasn't on his side, Ben knew he had to act fast.

With adrenaline flowing through his veins and his heart pounding powerfully, one feeling he had was fright but another thing he had was an idea...

But Ben's mind went blank and he forgot his idea to escape this torture as he was very nervous about the outcome.

"OK," said Ben to himself, "just go for it!"

In that moment, that space, that time, he went for it.

The bloodshot silhouette noticed him in the shadows and tracked him down.

Ben was so tired that he was like a panting dog.

The "thing" kept on gaining more ground but that didn't stop Ben.

He tried and tried but felt that he was going in a time continuum.

Branches snapping underfoot, ripping his shoes, the smell of evergreens, the sting of branches hitting his face took their toll on Ben's body.

And then, silence occurred in the forest; a stillness that was very unusual.

So, as he turned his head 180 degrees anticlockwise to check out what was happening, he stopped.

He gazed out into the glistening twilight and perceived that nothing was following him anymore.

With that, Ben sighed with relief and swiftly travelled home.



Chapter Five: The Homecoming

Ben crawled back up the drainpipe and entered his majestic room as relief washed over him.

He put his adventure duvet cover over himself and snuggled into bed, completing a reflection about his day:

'Next time' he thought, 'next time I will be ready'...



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One night, a curious 10 year old boy, Ben, looked out onto the Forbidden Forest and ended up having a night of adventure.

Should he have gone there?

Read on to find out whether he got back alive...