

Luan Chang and the Battle of Beetlejuice

Written and illustrated
By Aaria Mistry



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Acknowledgments:

I would like to thank my Dad for enrolling me on this course and my Mum for encouraging me and finally my friends.

Dedications:

I would like to dedicate this book to Karen Finch, and my baby cousins – my little bundles of joy.

Chapter 1 - Beetlejuice Comes to Town

Luan Chang, a young girl, was waiting for her father to come home and tell her what had happened in Middlesex that day.

As Luan was partially sighted, she often relied on others to help her understand the world around her. One of her eyes did not work and was permanently closed.

Although she was very good at using her other senses such as her hearing, taste, touch and smell, her parents helped, as

did Peugeot, her much-loved, scruffy pet cat.



Her remaining senses, all known as her 'super senses' were heightened.

The residents of Middlesex seemed very strange and on edge and Luan was curious about what had changed and what was going on.

She was listening to an audio book that she liked until her ears tingled, and she heard the door creek wide open. It was her dad who was panting and looked horrified.

He gasped and said, "Luan, Luan, I found out why the people in our county are acting so weirdly."

"Why dad, why?" asked Luan.

"Because my dear child, Beetlejuice has come to town!" he gasped.

"Who in the world is Beetlejuice and what does he look like dad?" asked Luan.

"He is a mighty villain from the planet Cruelto, the daring land of SUPER VILLAINS!!

He wears a mighty suit of metal and he is hypnotising everyone to become his servant so he can control the city.

His skin is as pale as a ghost's, his eyes are red and bloodshot, with hands that have claws that are pitch black and so sharp that they could cut through any



metal on our planet like it's nothing. And worst of all, his cursed carrot coloured hair is so bright, it shoots deadly flames if you get too close!"

Chapter 2 The Outfit

"But someone has to do something dad!" exclaimed Luan.

"Well my child, the only person who could stop Beetlejuice is Master Jed, but sadly he is too old to fight a beastly monster like him."

"Well, I can do it as I have been training under Master Jed since I was born," cried Luan.

"It is too dangerous my child," gasped her dad, sweating heavily despite the night being extremely cold.

"I'll fight that monster if I have to."

Luan muttered under her breath angrily.

She stomped upstairs to her bedroom.

"I'll become the greatest kung-fu Jedi warrior the world has ever seen," she thought.

Her tummy was bubbling like a hot pot of soup.

She asked her Mum to help her find a suitable outfit.

Mum started looking through her sister's wardrobe for old clothes that she could use to make a costume with.

But that wasn't enough, so they started digging through every cupboard in the house. First, they found a black top and hoodie, then some black leggings and added some cool black sunglasses. Luan had the coolest glasses the world had ever seen. Mum also found some black roller skates which she knew would give Luan speed to help fight Beetlejuice.

Lastly Mum made a black and silver starry waistcoat for Peugeot.

For the rest of the day Luan practised her kung fu skills that Master Jed had taught her.

Then they waited for darkness to fall.



Chapter 3: The Fight

Night fell, she put her costume on, barely able to contain her excitement, and she helped Peugeot into his.

They set off hunting for Beetlejuice.

Dad told her that he hung out by the city sewers. It took her at least half an hour to walk there with Peugeot as her guide.

It wasn't hard to find him, he was down by the sewers in Chester Valley. No-one else was there, just him. She could smell his powerful stench from five yards away.

"Who are you?" he thundered.

"I am Luan Chang, and I have come to defeat you!" exclaimed Luan.

"A little kid like you can't defeat me," bellowed Beetlejuice. "Go on then give it a try."

Thwack! She punched him in the stomach. She started kicking him and punching him everywhere she could.

But Beetlejuice was just too skilled for her and blocked every punch and kick she made.



Disheartened, she wondered what to do next.

"I can't just walk away," she thought...

The sky darkened and the moon peeped out behind the clouds, shining brightly like a gigantic beam.

She looked up into the sky and an idea popped into her mind.

She grabbed her special torch from her pocket and shined it at Beetlejuice. His sensitive eyes couldn't withstand the glare and he fell to the ground, screaming and writhing in pain.

But then she saw the most gigantic hand she had seen in her life, blocking the beam! Now Beetlejuice was able to stand up and he punched Luan in the face and everything stopped...

She fell to the ground.



Chapter 4: Rising Up

She couldn't handle it any longer. He had won. Then she heard an evil voice.

"Ha ha, you couldn't beat me Chang! To be honest, I think you should just give up now kid. Middlesex is in my hands, not yours. I mean, look at that bruise on your face, you wouldn't want to risk having one of those again would you?"

Luan couldn't speak, her mouth was shut tight with pain. She couldn't believe it, she had let the whole of Middlesex down.

She just walked away. The flow of anger and courage had left her. Her brain was dead... until she had the most amazing idea...

There was one man in Middlesex, who could help her regain her strength.

Master Jed.

Chapter 5: Training

As soon as the fight had fully stopped, she ran to Master Jed for guidance.

“Luan, Luan, fancy seeing you here!” he exclaimed.

“Master Jed, I need your help. I tried fighting Beetlejuice but I had no chance,” cried Luan.

“I can see that my child, look at the bruises on your body. Come on, let’s get to training” he said. “If you are going to fight a monster, you need to work hard.”

As usual, Luan broke all twelve beginner wooden chopping boards.

“If you are going to fight Beetlejuice,” said Master Jed, “then you are going to have to master the Black Board. And you will need to put your kit on for this.”

Luckily, Luan had her gear in her superhero backpack. She always had it on her in case she had an unexpected lesson with Master Jed. So she quickly put it on, whilst Master Jed was setting up the training equipment.

When she came back to the training room, she was ready - the energy was pulsing through her. Her eyes were focused on the board like lasers.

The power she felt in her was increasing as fast as the speed of light.

She felt as if her heart were about to burst and break into a million pieces as she stood to take the shot and...THWACK... she broke the black board into hundreds of pieces.

"Next," explained Master Jed, "we will need to work on your reflexes. I will swing

the punch bag towards you and it is your job to defend yourself."

Luan got into position and waited for the bag to swing...

As it flew towards her, Peugeot meowed loudly to warn her. As soon as she could feel the air coming at her, she jumped up, spun around six times and kicked with all her might.

The bag flew straight back into Master Jed.

“Bravo, bravo!” he said. “Luan you are doing well, but there is one last thing you still need to master, the Fatal Flip of Death”.

“This move involves seven flips, six spins, five punches, four blocks, three split jumps, two side swipes and one big backward spin.”

She spent the rest of the day practising with Master Jed, then night came.

Chapter 6 : The Fatal Fight

Luan was ready, the energy inside her was wild. She knew where to find Beetlejuice now. She headed down to Chester Valley with Peugeot, and once again she smelt his powerful stench from five yards away. Only this time it was stronger.

“Hello Chang,” he said, “fancy seeing you here! I had a feeling you might come back and try again.”

“Go on then, you old Beetle” threatened Luan. “You beat me last time. But this time, it won’t be so easy.”

Just as the words left her mouth, Beetlejuice shot up into the air and tried kicking Luan in the shin but she dodged it gracefully.

She knew she could beat him now, the power inside her was running like a steam train on loose tracks.

Thwack! She used her chopping skills to burst through his metal suit.

He was left exposed and worried.

Then he tried to hit her back but she dodged him speedily. THUD! she kicked him, leaving him hurt and wounded.

Then we heard the greatest ...

“Hi yaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa!!”

followed swiftly by;

“I am Luan Chang, the greatest Kung Fu Jedi Middlesex has ever seen!”

It was then that the hours of practice with Master Jed paid off. She used the powerful “Fatal Flip of Death”.

It was over. He was DEAD!!!

Chapter 7 Coming Home

Luan had done it, she had defeated Beetlejuice! Pride flowed within her like a fast-flowing river, knowing that everyone was safe.

As she rushed back home her Mum and Dad greeted her.

“Congratulations Luan! We can’t believe you did it. You saved the city from Beetlejuice and we can rest safely at night.”

“We are so proud of you.” said Luan’s Mum.

“I can’t believe you held on till dawn,” said Luan’s Dad, amazed. And with that, they gave her a big hug and she had the biggest smile on her face. Peugeot purred softly and brushed his whiskers against her face.

She whispered to him softly, “I could get used to this action packed way of life. I wonder what our next mission will be, Peugeot?”

And with that, they both snuggled up on the sofa, dreaming of their next wonderful and daring adventure.



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When a young girl called Luan Chang hears about a mighty monster coming to destroy her town she knows she must beat him. She makes a costume and takes to the streets with her trusty cat Peugeot by her side.



Mystery City

*Written and illustrated by
Shraddha Renjith*



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Written & illustrated by

Shraddha Renjith

Aged 11

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Chapter 1- The Beginning

One calm Saturday evening, Amy, her best friend, Olivia and her mum, Jenny were watching TV in the living room.

They were watching a movie for about two hours sitting spellbound together on a vibrant, coloured sofa with a very curious and cunning cat for company, which had beautiful, soft fur and long divine whiskers, named Tina.

Amy and her mum, Jenny are inseparable. They always look out for each other. If anything were to happen to her, she'd melt down.

While Amy and her friend Olivia were just lying on the sofa, Jenny sat on the floor to give them space. That is one of the reasons that Amy loves her so much - she is very kind.



Chapter 2- Together No More

As they were watching TV, the power suddenly shut off. It was pitch black and it felt like a void. When the power came back on, Amy's mum was gone.

"Where did she go?" asked Amy with a petrified voice.

"I-I-II-II don't know," replied Olivia, afraid.

Amy gasped.

"Wh-whe-where would she have gone?" she cried.

"I don't know," whimpered Olivia.

Amy broke down in tears. Knowing that her mother was missing; her whole world shattered. Her mother was everything to her. With her gone, Amy would fall apart, but she is lucky she has a good friend to help her stay strong.



"Thanks for being here, Liv." smiled Amy.

"No problem, Amy." comforted Olivia.

Chapter 3- Clues

It was extremely hard for Amy knowing that her mother had disappeared, but she needed to keep moving and find other clues to figure out where her mother had gone.

While Amy shed tears, Olivia discovered something. A note! Written in Amy's mother's handwriting.

"Let's read it" exclaimed Amy.

The note said:

Hey Amy,

If you're reading this then something has happened to me.

I need you to listen to me.

All you need to find me is in this note.

Do not lose it!

Please don't lose hope and stay strong.

I love you and I hope we will see each other again soon.

Take care.

Love, Mum xx

As soon as Amy read that note, she bent over and cried and cried and cried until there were no more tears left to cry.

When she finally calmed down, she gathered up her courage and went with Olivia to solve the puzzles and riddles needed to save her mum.

Although it would be tricky for most people, Amy and Olivia had a lot of experience in solving puzzles and riddles so this should be a piece of cake for them.

Chapter 4- A Big Mystery

Amy and Olivia had been travelling for days searching and thinking and so far, they had only found a couple pieces of paper that have letters written on it. H, I, K, P and another P.

Amy and Olivia couldn't make sense of them.

"I don't get it." said Amy, confused.

"Me neither," replied Olivia.

They were getting riddles and puzzles of all sorts. Some easy and some hard like:

"What's the third vowel in the alphabet?" or

"What's the seventh number of pi?"

Some of them were really personal, like the second letter of Amy's birthday month.

It was definitely a very strange day for both of them, and a tough one.



Chapter 5- Last Riddle

It had been five days since Amy's mum disappeared. It looked like they only had to do one last puzzle or riddle to find her.

The riddle said:

I run, but I have no legs,

I wait, but I have no patience.

*I am underground and above,
but I'm not a worm or a slug.*

Who am I?

It was definitely a tricky one.

"I got it!" exclaimed Olivia.

Really, what is it?" asked Amy.

"It's a train," said Olivia proudly.

"Of course, a train! It runs but doesn't have legs, it doesn't have patience. It goes underground and above but is not a worm or a slug." replied Amy.

They ran to the local train station and started rummaging through it, searching, and searching, and searching.

"I found it." said Amy enthusiastically.

"Really? show me." replied Olivia.

In Amy's hand was a small piece of paper with the letter, L.

When Amy and Olivia finally brought all the clues together, it looked like they were forming a sentence of some sort and one of the tricky puzzles showed them where the letters needed to go.

It took some digging until they finally figured out the sentence and were in complete shock.

It was a distress message from Amy's mum, which said:

HELP. I'M KIDNAPPED. PLEASE HELP.

I AM BY THE OLD OAK GRUB ALLEY.

Chapter 6- Distress Message

They looked at each other for a moment.

"What are we going to do!" cried Amy.

"Wait a minute, do you remember your mum used to take us to those karate classes?" asked Olivia.

"Yeah, what about them?" said Amy, confused.

"Let's use our karate skills to save your mom. After all, we were black belts," smiled Olivia.

"Of course, how could I forget," said Amy cheerfully.

"Then tomorrow, we will save your mum." Olivia proudly explained.

"No," said Amy in a sudden voice.

"Huh," confused, Olivia said, "What do you mean no?"

"No. I don't want to wait until tomorrow to save her. Who knows what things they will do to her tomorrow? I don't want to wait!" exclaimed Amy.

"Fine. Let's go now," replied Olivia.

Chapter 7- Rescue Mission

While Olivia was grabbing their nunchucks, Amy put a photo of her and her mother in her pocket for good luck.

"Come on, let's go save my mum," said Amy with a slight smile.

At the Old Oak Grub Alley, Amy heard a slight sound saying,
"HELP."

"This way!" yelled Amy

They both chased the sound. There she was, Amy's mum was just sitting on a chair with her mouth taped, and her arms and legs

roped to the chair. The masked kidnappers were standing behind her.

Her mum had an aghast expression on her face.

By the time the masked kidnappers noticed, Amy and Olivia already smacked their faces and karate-chopped them and Amy's mum's expression changed immediately when she saw them.



Chapter 8- Victory Celebration

Amy's mum was very pleased with them, especially their courage and bravery.

"MUM!" screamed Amy.

She ran over to her mother, untied her from the ropes, and removed the tape from her mouth.

"Mum, are you okay?" she asked with a frightened voice.

"Of course, darling." Amy's mum smiled.

"Thank God!" exclaimed Olivia, "now let's get out of here, this place gives me the creeps."

"Agreed," admitted Amy.

They went to an ice-cream parlour to celebrate. Amy's mum allowed them to get any flavour they desired.

It was an extraordinary ending for all, except the masked kidnappers.



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

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Amy and Olivia are best friends who would like to live peacefully but Jenny, Amy's mum, suddenly disappears.

Amy and Olivia have to solve some puzzles and riddles on how to locate her. Will they find her?
Will they ever find Jenny?