



The Weekly Falcon

Short Story 1: The Forest Secret (8th Grade Writer)

Quinn Wilder felt numb. He wandered into the dense forest in a dream-like state, knowing nothing of the dangers that lie ahead. A terrible prophecy was to be fulfilled, and he was the one they needed.

In the heart of the forest slept a towering giant. In town legends, a creature similar in description to this giant had attacked the villagers and nearly destroyed everything. The thing that stopped him? A scrawny boy by the name of Benjamin Ceder.

Young Benny had always been skilled with a sword, though he could barely lift one. All it took was a powerful blade made by his ancestors to take on the giant. He was the underdog no one expected to survive; and yet he found a way to channel the ancestors' powers through the sword and banish the giant forever. At least, that's what they thought.

Quinn was nearing the canyon where the giant slept. He felt pulled to the ravine by an otherworldly force. Deep in the chasm an ancient being was using the rest of their power to bring the descendent to them. The giant must be freed and bring chaos to the world again. The spell was working, and Quinn grew ever nearer to the caster. Long ago, Ben Ceder had drawn a magical circle around the sleeping giant that no one other than himself could enter. It was to keep wanderers from waking the monster. Now, Quinn walked straight into the circle and toward the giant. What Ben had not accounted for was his descendant being able to enter. The ancient being directed Quinn to the monster and used the last of their fading strength to wake the giant.

The monster was awake again, and he wanted revenge.

Short Story 2: Friendship In the Desert (8th Grade Writer)

In the place humans called Death Valley, an improbable friendship was formed. Tuesday, a large black scorpion, had just awakened from her morning nap when a small white butterfly landed on the flowers nearby. Acting on instinct, she crept around to snatch it in her large pinchers. Like all prey, it struggled, but this one shrieked, "Please, no, please!"

Tuesday paused.

"How do you know Scorpionese?" she asked, surprised. Butterflies were stupid creatures; how could one speak her language?

"I was taught by a scorpion, now let me go!" the insect peeped. Thinking she would get stories, Tuesday complied.

"Goodbye!" It fluttered away.

"Hey, hold on!" the scorpion hollered. "Here's this: I won't eat you for lunch and you'll tell me how you learned to talk."

The insect hovered in air for a moment while weighing the options, then came to a decision and perched on a bloom far above Tuesday's head. "Okay, fine. But you stay down there!"

Tuesday nodded impatiently. The butterfly rubbed its legs on its antennae and then spoke.

"My name is Fang. I'm a fiery skipper. My mother laid me alone, so after I became an adult, I decided to search for her."

Tuesday stayed silent. Butterflies died soon after laying eggs.

"I was searching near where I was laid when she caught me. She had just lost her child and was heartbroken. I needed a home, so she took me in. She taught me your language, and I comforted her. We were happier together, but she died just two weeks after we found each other. You look like her. I saw you, and it made me happy. I'll go now."

Tuesday's heart twinged. "Fang? You can stay here with me if you want. I need company." Fang smiled gratefully, and a friendship was born.

LAST DAY TO ENTER SHORT STORIES: MARCH 3!

Comix Zone



Passion Project interview by Valentina Mordy with Rebeka Balazsova!

VM: What is your passion project?

RB: My passion project is about creating homemade perfume oils. I will use different flowers to create different scents that correspond with certain moods!

VM: What are you most excited about?

RB: I am mostly excited about learning the properties of flowers and how they affect mood and also mixing essential oils to create great smells!

- Conner Aquitania and Dominc have started a labor business! We'll do all the jobs you need! Contact **775-453-1346** today!
- Come help out and make some emotional support bracelets for kids going through a tough time. We need your help in the library!

Laugh Time

What dog can jump higher than a building?

All of them, buildings don't jump!

How do trees get on the internet?

They log in!

Why don't skeletons fight each other?

They don't have the guts!

Why did the golfer bring an extra pair of pants?

In case he got a hole in one!

Why do ducks always pay with cash?

They don't have the bills!

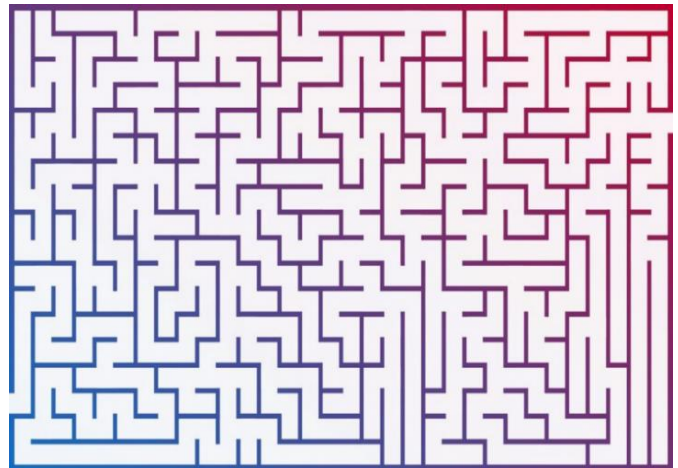
Mystery Master

I have keys, but no locks. What am I?

Piano Florida Trumpet

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Games



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