

THE FOUND VOICE



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10+ age recommendation

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team 4 would like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which this book was created, the wurundjeri of the kulin and pay our respects to Elders past and present.

Team 4 would also like to acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of the land on which this book will be read. We pay our respects to Elders past and present.

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Published by Team 4, .

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Chapter 1 The beginning of the end.

Once upon a time, there was a small but loud town tucked away on the far outskirts of Western Australia. Though it wasn't large, the town had a loud vibe and the sounds of everyday life. Surrounding the town was a large bushland, where

hundreds of wild animals roamed freely. Kangaroos hopped gracefully across the open land, koalas laid sleepily in trees, echidnas waddled through the bush, and many other unique creatures called the land their home.

There were a few museums around the town but mainly there was a national park which included most of the exotic animals in all of Australia. In the whole of the town there was about 5,000 residents living there. The national park had many visitors every day, to walk through wildlife and spend time with the animals. In this town there resides the few expert paramedics and nurses, the lead nurse, Evelyn and the lead paramedic Nate, took care of the residents of their town. In the national park the animals were the purest and nicest animals you can find in the whole of Australia. Evelyn grew up in this town then moved to America to study nursing. Nate moved to Victoria to study being a paramedic then came back after getting a degree in being a paramedic. Nate had always been curious about the animals that surrounded the town, especially the ones that people didn't talk about as much. one sunny day, while sitting on his porch with the bright sun shining on him, Nate picked up a **novel** she wrote for **homework** about echidnas. At first, he thought it would just be a boring book, which would pass the time. But the more he read, the more fascinated he became. He learned about their spines, their long sticky tongues, and gooeythe way they could dig into the ground so quickly it was almost like they disappeared. He found this so interesting that he wanted an echidna of his own. He did some research and found that he [could](#) go to the national park and ask to adopt one. So he went to the national park and adopted a small sharp echidna. He [didn't](#) know what to name the echidna so he went and asked his friend Evelyn, Evelyn didn't know what to name him either but told him to name the echidna of something that Nate loved. So Nate named the echidna after his late grandpa Rustle. The following day Nate took Rustle and went over to the national park to have Rustle

meet his friends again. They spent a few hours there, then a park ranger ran over to Nate and said there was an emergency. A person had fainted from the strong shine of light from the sun. Nate ran over and started Cpr on the person. The person wouldn't wake up but after a few more moments, Nate successfully revived the person. Then Nate left Rustle in the park for a few more hours while Nate went to work. Then the following day Nate had a free day and decided to take rustle and Evelyn to the park again to chill.

Chapter 2:

The sun shone over the Australian terrain while civilians enjoyed the day of sunlight in the national park, and Nate and his pet echidna, Rustle. Rustle, normally silent and reserved, was fidgety, almost irritable today. Nate had warned him to be on guard, but he couldn't keep Rustle too far behind or he would be lost.

Nate allowed Rustle to go for a walk in the park and enjoy the freshly cut grass. Nate had called him after a few minutes but received no reply.

Nothing happened at first. Yet, something strange happened.

Rustle's small body grew tall and turned into a huge monster.

There, tourists and visitors were speechless. No one could move or speak because of the severe shock of the growing beast.

Nate's heartbeat was going up really fast, and he felt scared and confused since his pet had been transformed into an alien. Rustle's massive claws were digging into the ground, and trees started quaking, and the weather started altering due to Rustle's spiritual pressure.

Evelyn, who had been in the bathroom, comes out to the commotion brought about by Rustle. She is shocked to the core, but she does not lose her composure and looks for Nate.

Evelyn is running as quickly as possible and keeps up with the pursuit of Nate while nature is self-destructing and innocent people are losing their voices second by second. Evelyn sees an enormous beast roaming inside the National Park and observes it stealing people's voices one by one. She realises that she is the next one to get cut down and decides to run faster so that she can find Nate and leave the place.

Nate is seen hiding from Rustle as he sees Evelyn running quickly and shouts her name, "Evelyn!" She turned to find out who had shouted at her and saw Nate. Evelyn would then hurry to him and find out what was happening.

Nate and Evelyn talk for some time and eventually resolve to run and try to get to safety.

The erstwhile vociferous park was now eerily still, as if the universe itself were winded. The gigantic Rustle advanced, his gigantic claws tearing furrows in the earth. The breeze shifted in a hurry, charged with an odd electric current that sent

the hairs on the back of Nate's neck standing on end. Trees capered wildly as if blown by a storm that carried no rain, only raw, unaccountable force.

People who just a moment ago had picnicked or taken photographs now clung behind trees or ran wildly away from the advancing quiet, devouring their screams. The creature seemed to be sucking the sound out of the world, scream by scream, lost scream by lost scream. Nate's mind reeled. How did his pet become his friend this time? Was there anything that would reverse it?

Evelyn's face was pale but determined as she elbowed through fallen branches, searching for Nate amidst the chaos. She had no clue what was happening, but she did know that hugging together was all they had to survive. Her heart thumped within her bosoms as she dodged between terrified civilians, their expressionless faces looking up at her because they could not scream or shout out for help.

When Nate said her name, it was the only sound that seemed to pierce the smothering quiet, and she ran towards him in renewed hope. The two of them had brief words, their breathing in stertorous gasps, the weight of the moment heavy between them. The sun overhead was hidden by the boiling clouds, and the air was thick, filled with something primitive and explosive.

They didn't bother with conversation; survival was the goal. They hatched an escape plan together to get as far away from this place as possible, to find somewhere away from the unrelenting force of Rustle.

Chapter 3:

Nate and Evelyn go back to a hideout and plan to take down Rustle on the way. They devise a plan to take down Rustle before he makes the world mute. They discovered that Rustle takes away people's voice through the power of the moon. He possesses it, and it makes an Echidna form. We speculated that Rustle is an alien from outer space that took the form of an Echidna to infiltrate Earth. He also wants to silence the world because his species is unable to speak, so he wants everyone to feel the pain he has endured his whole life. Evelyn and Nate discuss ways to defeat Rustle and end the misery of millions of lives across the world. Nate talks about the town's urban myth of special enchanted rocks that can phase through the toughest of materials that were buried and hidden by a banished wizard from thousands of years ago. Evelyn doesn't believe the myth she had heard about her whole life, but the situation was dire, and they were running out of time fast. They look around for any hints or clues to the treasure of the rocks, but they are out of luck. As Nate is slowly losing faith, wind bursts throughout the room as a poster flies in front of the pair and shows a treasure map with an X. Nate and Evelyn have no other choice but to follow the map and go to the bright red X. On their journey, it's extremely windy and starts to pour heavily as the duo walks, regardless of the conditions. Evelyn says to Nate, "This is a lost cause, we should just head back. We are drenched." Nate replies to her, saying, "We have no other choice, people are dying, families are unable to communicate, and the world is crumbling. We must do something about it with our untouched voices." They are at the X location and look around for anything that would hold enchanted rocks. Evelyn notices a different type of grass that is not following the pattern of the other grass. Nate spots a shovel and digs it out, whilst the pouring rain goes onto his jacket. Nate has fully dug out the patch of grass and sees

a hidden chest at the bottom of the pit. Evelyn and Nate both pick it up simultaneously, and they slam it in the trunk of Nate's car. They arrive back at the hideout, and they place it on the table. Evelyn opens it up to reveal purple glowing rocks as they scream in joy. Now they have something that Rustle cannot silence. They rush to find that giant beast.

Chapter 4

They try to find him and defeat him, but he is too powerful with his speed and strength

Evelyn and Nate went to look for the Echidna; they were searching for him, and they went to a city. There, they see some wounded people asking for help. Evelyn runs up to them to check, and instantly, a loud buzzing noise is heard. The Echidna is behind them, super large. The Echidna launches a dive attack. It dives into the ground and destroys the ground. Nate is shaken, but he grabs rocks and throws it at the Echidna, which does absolutely nothing. The Echidna itself stops in place as both throw rocks at it. The Echidna is surprised that it's their way of fighting. The Echidna comes back to its senses and dives into the sky again. This time, it hits a person, completely knocking them out. Evelyn and Nate run. They run into the city as the Echidna chases them. They see a building that looks like it won't fall over if they walk in, so they do so and run into the basement of the building. "What do we do?" Nate asked, "I'm not sure, it's too powerful. It took us so long to track it down; we should find a way to track it easily." Evelyn responded, "Is that your worry right now? This is life or death, we'll worry about that later, can we at least get out of this situation?" Nate said angrily. Evelyn went quiet; she did not know what to do. They

made a major mistake; they not only caused others to get injured but also got themselves stuck. There would be no way out of here as the Echidna would be waiting outside. Evelyn asks Nate to go check outside to see if it is there. Nate goes ahead and walks to the lobby; the lobby is destroyed. He walks outside and hears nothing but silence, no yelling or crying for help, no loud buzzing noises, no destruction, just pure and complete silence. A silence which is scary, Nate was not relieved, he was quite scared, he would rather hear destruction than complete silence, as he had no idea where the Echidna could come from and just strike. Nate goes back and tells this to Evelyn; they decide to just make a run for it. They go outside and run, they run as fast as they can, faster than they ever have, adrenaline rushing through their veins. They both run faster than ever, maybe even faster than Usain Bolt. They reach the end of the city, and it is still completely silent. Maybe it was in their head, maybe the Echidna had left and moved on to someplace else. A forest is near the city. They reach the border between the forest and the city, and they decide to enter the forest and get out of this place. Evelyn and Nate traverse through the forest, eventually reaching a place far enough away, a place they could call safe.

Chapter 5

Evelyn and Nate escape and drive to their father's lab in their newfound Aussie-manufactured Ute. They find it covered in cobwebs. Nate and Evelyn both step inside and look around for parts. They find wires, metal scraps and some computers. They decide to first make a rough sketch of how the robot will look and how it will work. They plan the systems and everything; after hours of planning, their plan and draft are completed. With this, they decide to act. They put in wires and code up the robot; this takes them months to do. It wasn't something they did in a few hours or minutes. About two months later, they can create the robot exactly as they planned. Every wire is set, every code is set, and now it is time to activate the robot. They turn the robot on, and it flickers before the inside of the robot fries up, and it completely turns off with no sign of life. Eventually, they are on the brink of giving up before they decide to remake the robot. They open the robot up and they check the insides. They have placed a few wires in the wrong areas, they replace the wires, and this eventually leads to them getting to a point where they aren't able to find any more errors. They turn it on again, and this time, they realize they still must code the app that will help the robot understand what they are trying to find. Nate decides to pull multiple all-nighters to code this app, which tells the robot where to go and what to track. Eventually, the app is completed, and they ask it to track their car.

Nate hops into the car and drives it about 900 meters away from their current location. Evelyn uses the app to tell the robot to track the car, the robot instantly lights up and starts walking. It walks right over to the car and takes Evelyn there. They put the robot in the car, and they take it back to the house, they eat pizza for their success. The robot is now functioning. The robot is turned on by a button on its back and from the app. You simply need to type in what you want to track, describe it

and it will start tracking it. This may seem broad, but remember, there aren't too many giant echidnas causing mass destruction out in Australia, so it works. The robot, when turned on, displays a green light coming from its mouth. When it is off, the light is off, when it has malfunctioned, the light is red, when it is tracking, the light is blue. Nate and Evelyn get themselves ready to fight against the dangerous echidna that is going to destroy Australia. They start up the Ute to find out that the car is not starting. Nate quickly lifts the bonnet to find a rat chewing up the wires to the car battery. Nate flicks off the rat from the battery **yarn** the wires together with tape. The car starts and starts their journey back to defeat the echidna.

Chapter 6 - Evelyn and Nate activate the Robot; the Robot turns on and the cooling system of the Robot starts spinning loudly. Evelyn and Nate instruct the Robot to find the Echidna, with this, the Robot starts moving and creating way. Nate had an instruction book with him for everything, it was as large as a professional **novel**, the robot had quite complicated features. The Robot transfers its way onto an app on Evelyn's mobile phone. They start following, after a few hours of walking,

they reach the Echidna. They see destruction, smoke, explosions and Nate yells, "Face us, you coward!" Right as Nate yells that, everything goes silent, even the smoke seems to freeze in place. The Echidna flies over, grown, it does not speak, it instead, silently, strikes. The Echidna flies fast at Nate and Nate is hit, he stumbles around before passing out. Evelyn is frozen in place, they didn't think this far. Evelyn decides to just take some action, she jumps onto the Robot and as the Echidna tries striking Nate again; to kill him, Evelyn jumps onto the Echidna and grabs it, she pulls its skin and grabs its antennas. The Echidna is not the one to give up so easily, it does not try and resist Evelyn too much, except it continues focusing on Nate, he is an easy target. The Echidna does not want Nate to wake up as it focuses on Evelyn, so it decides to use all it's might to kill Nate as Evelyn tries to stop him. Evelyn manages to do nothing against the Echidna's might, the Echidna gets high in the sky and dives towards the unconscious Nate, Evelyn must think. She decides to check her pockets, and she realises that she has her phone and that robot app. She pulls it out and marks Nate as the robot's next location, the robot starts moving towards Nate as the Echidna gets closer. The robot reaches Nate's location and towers over Nate. The Echidna not only gets confused as to who is who but the Echidna is also has to be more precise to hit Nate as the robot is covering him. The Echidna locks onto the robot, assuming it's Nate and hits it. The robot gets hit and stumbles far away, the Echidna focused on the robot, assuming it's Nate, launches another strike. As the Echidna gets closer again, the robot explodes due to heavy damage, heavily injuring the Echidna. This is where the Echidna realises that it had focused on a mere robot, not Nate. Nate starts gaining consciousness, he looks around to see a wounded Echidna, a bunch of metal scraps and a girl who is heavily damaged. Nate gets up and runs over to her and realises that it's Evelyn, he asks what happened

and she tells him about how she got a **plunge** after the Echidna hit the robot. Nate was confused, why did the Echidna attack the robot? Why was he there?

Chapter 7-

Nate is filled with rage seeing his best friend, Evelyn in pain so he attempts to end it, once. And for all. Until he realises, that the echidna is also in pain, Nate has a kind heart, as bad as the echidna was, Nate knew that this wasn't the right thing to do. So he came to a conclusion, he had to help both. He ran to his hospital where he works, grabbed the medicine and the tools needed, he performed it on Evelyn first, he saw her cuts and they were bad, blood puddles everywhere and her veins punctured. He knew this was going to be hard, downright impossible but he didn't care, he would do anything for his friend. He did everything possible just so that the procedure would be successful, he stitched the veins, and even injected his own blood into her. He kept trying until eventually he finally succeeded. He made her rest and now it was time for the echidna, as much as he didn't want to do this, he knew he had to. The echidna was small again and there was a massive cut through the stomach, he was struggling to stay alive but Nate would try his best to save the

echidna, he stitched his scars, gave the echidna food and drink and put him to rest, everything was happy. Evelyn woke up and was so thankful of Nate.

3 years later.... Nate and Evelyn were together, their special day, was today, their marriage. Going from best friends to lovers and now they were getting married. While they were putting rings on each other's fingers, the crowd got quieter, and quieter, voices went silent, the sky.. is dark... the moon looked.. similar? Shaped like an echidna, red and black, colours....**goeey** they couldn't speak, they both knew, what had happened, he... was.... BACK!!!!!!

Rustle the Echidna has a unique power that allows him to turn into a giant and steal people's voices, leaving the town in silence. Just when all seems lost, Evelyn, a courageous nurse, arrives to restore hope. With the help of Nate, a dedicated paramedic, they work together to reverse Rustle's spell and return everyone's voices, demonstrating the strength of teamwork and compassion in overcoming adversity.

Ages: 10-16

