



## THE KIDS' CANCER PROJECT WRITE A BOOK IN A DAY

### Parameters Form

#### Team Details

STATE: VIC  
DIVISION: Upper School (Required word count 3500 to 5000 words)  
SCHOOL/GROUP: St Francis Catholic College  
TEAM NAME: SFCC Melton 6  
TEAM ID: 1383

#### Parameters and random words

##### Parameters

Primary character 1 Teacher  
Primary character 2 Mountain guide  
Non-human character Magpie  
Setting Lake  
Issue Nowhere safe to cross the road

##### Random words

novel  
goosey  
yam  
plunge  
homework

#### Instructions

- Start no earlier than **8am**
- Write an original story:
  - based on all **five parameters** (above)
  - including all **five random words** (above) as written, and in bold type
  - with some identifiable **Australian content** (in theme or setting or characters, etc)
  - keeping within the allowed word count (remember every word on every page counts)!
  - include this parameters form in your book **immediately after the front cover**
- Remember: **Every** word on **every** page counts. This includes your front cover, back cover, blurb, acknowledgements and copyright form.
- **Be sure to give yourself enough time to submit your book and complete the following checklist before 9pm**

Log on to the Team Coordinator Portal to:

- ☐ Check the spelling of your team name and team members' names  
(how these are spelt on submission will be how they are displayed on certificates)
- ☐ Complete the Declaration
- ☐ Submit your finished book in **both** PDF and plain text format by 9pm

Name: SFCC Melton 6:

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### **Dedications and Acknowledgments**

This book is dedicated to everyone in the world, we're not exclusive like that. And Leland would like to thank our mums. We would like to thank butchers, bakers and candlestick makers across this beautiful country. We would like to thank our radical teachers for supporting us throughout the day. We would also like to thank our mums. Love life, or don't, you do you boo. On behalf of And Leland, we would like to thank all who donated to support The Kids Cancer Project and all the superstar kids. We hope you enjoy our book.

To Karina, we miss you pookie, wish you were here with us xo

## **Acknowledgement of Country**

We acknowledge the Wurundjeri people as the traditional custodians of the land which we live and work on today. We pay respect to Elders, past, present, and emerging.

## **Reviews:**

“That book sound interesting” - Your Mom

“So amazing so diva” - Anonymous

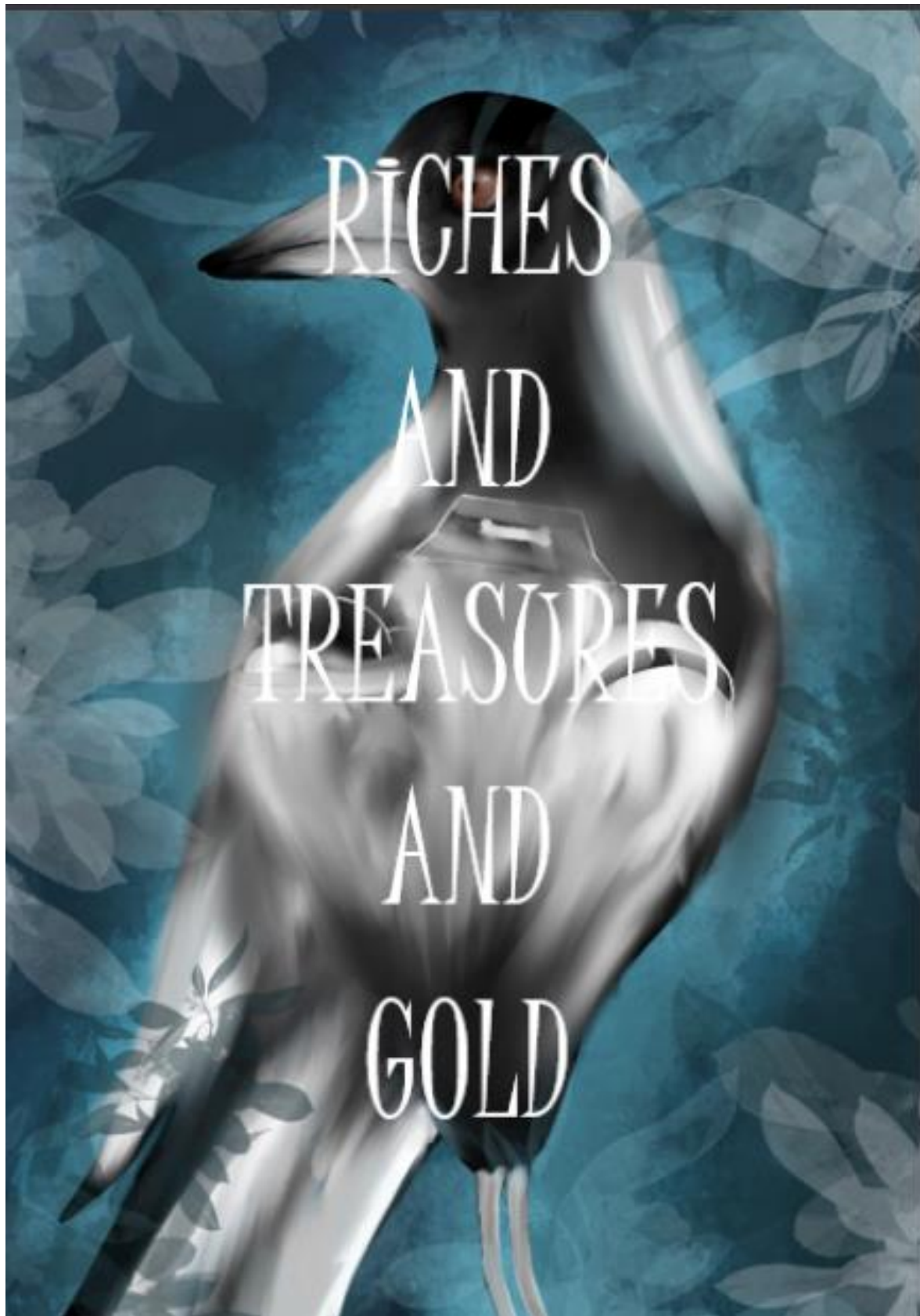
“Unrealistic” - Anonymous

“You feels things when you read this” - Anonymous

“Tears in my eyes” - Anonymous

“I wanna see it on a stage show” - Anonymous

**From the Authors:** Throughout the whole experience it was really very difficult to try and ‘maintain humbleness’ because we had really great writing, but ya know, we try. I love the summertime, you can eat ice cream and go surfboarding.



## Riches and Treasures and Gold

### Chapter 1:

“YES, this is going to be the best camp ever, I'll make sure of it” exclaims Arvin eagerly “We’re finally old enough to sleep under the stars, the big 1-0, double digits, nothing can stop us”

"The wheels on the bus go round and round, round and round, round and round, the wheels on the bus go round and round all day long" the students exclaim eagerly as they arrive at the camp.

“Settle down, settle down” replies Sam Leland, “remember not to disrupt the wildlife okay.”

This wasn't just an ordinary day for the year 4s, it was their first day of freedom. Arvin was especially excited after hearing about his older brothers' experiences from the previous years. They spoke of dangerous adventures, from swimming with sharks, running through caves and scaring snakes away at camp. This was his chance to create his own tale of chivalry and danger, to prove himself as a Chippy.

The sky was crystal clear, reflecting the different hues of blue with soft white clouds in all different shapes.

Not so eager is Simone who spent the night before begging her parents to let her skip the trip (of course failing to) and frantically researching the dangers of outside. She rarely touched grass, spent her time constantly finishing **homework**, and when she finished, she gave herself more work. With paranoia on her side and a notepad in hand she stared outside the window, watching all the luscious green hills pass and cows mooing, dreading their arrival.

“Teo, please quiet down at the back” Sam sighs.

Sam Leland is their favorite Irish teacher. Matter of fact, he was their only Irish teacher. He was their typical 30-year-old educator who no one knew much about.

“HEHEHEHEHEHEHEHE GUYS LOOK AT THOSE COWS GETTING RIZZYYYY” Teo yells “are we there yet, are we there yet, are we there yet, are we there-”

"Teo, please stop talking," Simone replies irritably.

“Boy bye”

“I'm a girl”

## Chapter 2:

Stepping out of the bus, the sweet sounds and melodies, entering the ears of both students and teacher. Planting themselves onto the dirt covered surface. Each eye exploring the endless greenery surrounding their entire view, decorated with beautiful displays of colour, and the harmonious chorus of the creatures that lurk nearby.

Sam Leland, turns around with a joyous expression, “Well guys we made it, come around so that I may hand out your cabin numbers!” With the command, all the students begin to hastily swarm around the guardian.

The sound of gravel sounds behind Sam, turning around, his eyes widen in shock at the sight before him. A man stands but a few feet away from him, one that he recognises all too well, even through the years they have been apart. Blade Brogan, a Collingwood guy, a mountain guy and a very special man. Sam can’t help but feel his heart quicken its pace. They stand parallel to each other, seconds going by, with the only sounds being the chittering animals amongst the area.

“Well... Hello my happy campers, I’m Blade Brogan and will be your cabin guard for the next 3 days!” breaking the silence, a quite whisper amongst the students begins to blur out the silence. Sam exhales, regaining his lost composure, still tense from the moment the two had shared earlier. “Ah yes, I’m Sam Leland and this is my group of students, do you have the list of cabins on you?”

“Ah! I totally forgot about that, follow me this way!” With that Blade runs back towards the rows of wooden cabins, with the class on his tail. Sam can’t help but feel his nerves bubble up, with every step they all take, his anxiety heightens.

As Blade enters one of the buildings, Sam turns around to his students, looking over them to make sure no one has been lost so far. Reassuring himself that everyone was together, he turns back around to meet with Blade’s gaze, before spotting the clipboard that is in his grasp.

Blade strolls back towards Sam, closing the proximity, and whilst holding his gaze as he hands over the clipboard. Sam shakily goes over to grab the board, the tension increasing with every second. Once Sam has a grasp on the board he rips it hastily out of Blade’s hands, before quickly turning around and exhaling in relief.

“So, it's time for your cabin allocations!”

### Chapter 3: Afternoon at Camp

The courtyard in the middle of Camp Chipmunk was warm and sunny. Pine trees stood tall all around like giant guards. After lunch, the kids had free time, and each picked something different to do.

Arvin kicked back on the bench with a basket of **yarn**. His knitting needles clicked and clacked. Sometimes he dropped a stitch or made a knot. “It’s part of the design,” he said, looking over at Sam, grinning ear to ear. When all of a sudden Arvin saw a magpie **plunge** down from the sky and land on the other side of the bench. Arvin looked at the magpie curiously, hearing a whisper in the air. “Gold is near, on the other side of the road.” Arvin was so confused but watched as the bird flew off into the distance.

Simone wasn’t thrilled about leaving the courtyard. The short trail twisted between the trees, shady and cool, but she shuffled along more slowly than the others, clutching her latest mystery **novel**. She hopped over roots and ducked under low branches with a reluctant sigh, stopping to watch a squirrel dart across the path, anything to delay moving forward. At the top of a little hill, she peered at the camp courtyard below and let out a small, relieved smile before heading back down.

Back in the courtyard, Teo dragged a heavy shovel. “I’m going to dig for dinosaur bones!” he shouted. He picked a spot and started digging fast. After a few scoops, he stopped. “I found one!”

Arvin leaned over. “That’s... a stick, Teo.”  
“It’s a fossilised stick!” Teo argued.

A few minutes later, he held up a weird-shaped rock. “A dinosaur tooth!”  
On the way to the hike Simone walked past and laughed. “That’s just a rock.”  
“Maybe to you,” Teo said, dusting it off carefully.

Teo dug and dug until he was sweating. Finally, he dropped the shovel and flopped onto the ground. “Dinosaurs sure buried themselves deep,” he muttered.

Just then, Sam and Blade came over. They stopped and stared at the huge hole.

“Teo!” Sam said, hands on his hips. “What did we say about digging up camp?”  
Blade shook his head, smiling a little. “This isn’t a dinosaur park. Fill it in before someone trips.”

Teo sat up. “But I was so close! I nearly found a T-rex skull!”  
Sam sighed. “The only thing you’ll find is detention if you don’t tidy this up.”

Grumbling, Teo picked up his shovel. “Fine... but if I find a fossil, I’m keeping it.”

Later, as the sun sank, Simone met the others on the trail back from the woods. Simone carried her notebook. Arvin had yarn sticking out of his bag as Teo stumbled behind them, heading back to the main part of Camp Chipmunk.





#### Chapter 4:

The sun had set into a single amber sliver, fading across the rough and rugged mountain plains. The fire was on a steady crackle, with stray embers flickering out every so often, illuminating Blade's golden mop of hair. The students enjoyed their dinner of frozen lasagna slathered with a thick layer of **gooey** cheese, while Simone had her unidentifiable dairy and gluten-free vegetarian food product. They then huddled around eagerly awaiting the spooky campfire story Blade had promised them.

"Okay, okay I'll tell you a story, but first a real tried and true campfire ditty." He said picking up his well-loved banjo, the children started to clap along, following along to the beat.

*One day my mama she said to me,  
Well son, your Dad and I were talking,  
You need to be proud and out and free,  
You know, rowing, running, walking.*

*You've been cooped up in here all day,  
And son, it breaks you old ma's heart,  
Be where you can dance and play away.  
In a place right for a young boy's start.*

*So we drove on down the potholed road,  
Past the long windy, windy, riverbend,  
Where birds sang and crystal water flowed,  
And every critter was treated as a friend.*

*And now you know this tired guide's story,  
This was now, the only place that I'd call home,  
Reflecting on my wild, youngin' day's of glory,  
Living off bush berries and the sweetest honeycomb,*

*I'll be here till I'm old, and mad and ragged,  
Carve my name on the top of each worn bunk,  
And this was and forever will be the ballad,  
Of our beloved Camp Chipmunk."*

An applause rang through his audience, "Alright, alright, I'll tell you your story now. Did you ever wonder what lied beyond this campsite, there on the other side of the road? Well listen in campers and I'll tell you the tale of how bright-eyed kids like yourself let their curiosity catch up with them." The children leaned in to listen closer. "It was a dark and stormy night, the wind gushed, the thunder howled and there was a bird. On the far side of the camp just across 'Dead Man's Walk' better known as Applebee Road, they've had the bush roped off with tattered caution tape and rotted wooden planks and also there was a bird. After being egged on by his friends, Little Johnny Johnson tried to cross the road on a dare, he garnered up his courage and clutched his polaroid camera to document his triumph. By the time night had come, his friends still hadn't seen Johnny emerge, they began to worry, time trickled on as slow as the drip of a waterspout, drip drip drip, tick tick tick, still no Johnny, but there was a bird. When the policemen searched the grounds, all they found was his broken camera, emptied of it's film. Every summer some brave soul tries to go searching for Johnny, and every time, they have their fate sealed the same way, disappearing never to be seen again!" He flickered his torch light below his face, making the students scream and shake each other.

"Alright everyone, time to get to bed." Sam said, sitting up and clapping his hands together. Groans travelled through the chilly night.

## Chapter 5:

Simone can be seen rocking back and forth from the story, but it was at that time she had remembered, there was **homework** to be done and thought about the perfect studying spot by the lake under the comfort of the moon. As Simone was thinking, all Teo could think about was his beloved fossils and remembered the news, that there were Ankylosaurus fossils found near the campsite. So Teo hatched a plan to leave the campsite at dusk, it was at this moment that he looked across him through the smoldering flames and saw Arvins' eye wide open with a smirk across his face. The reality being that some people around him say how brave someone would be to go to the lake, so the decision was made for him.

He was to set off to the lake at night he had picked up the moment when his teacher Mr. Leland was distracted talking to Blade about the journey tomorrow, so then it was his time to leave however coincidentally he wasn't the only one attempting to leave as he saw Simone and Teo also attempting to leave. With Teo saying how he was in awe with the chance to find his favorite dinosaur's remains and Simone in a timid tone, mentioning how she had math **homework** that needed to be completed, therefore all three decided to head over to the lake all together as they were all going to the same destination anyway.

Upon a tree you can see a mysterious magpie laughing as she can see the three kids leaving the campsite as the unknowing teacher and mountain guide continue to converse about their childhood. A cold chill runs down Arvin's back causing him to swiftly look behind himself only seeing the distant lights emitting from the campfire, Simone hearing a twig brake to the side jumping in fright falling backwards into Teo almost dropping her, the forest was cut in two by a long road that had an aura being lit by the crescent moon all three hear the sounding of the howling trees as they continuously shake throughout the night and the magpie surveying the three from above, studying them seeing Arvin take charge while Teo and Simone uncaringly listen to him talk about how to get to get towards the lake but the road being surrounded by a various amount of trees.



## Chapter 6:

With the wind flowing through Simone's hair all three set out on a mission to reach the lake. Suddenly Arvin runs off without saying anything and Simone is stopped in her tracks by monstrous shadows behind her as Teo was frightened because his new friends had disappeared without a minute's notice.

Arvin lost within the forest suddenly hears random movements of a numerous amounts of unknown creatures of the night, Arvin with his guard up ready's his fists for any altercation that may occur, frightened by the possibilities of the night and the unknowing nature of the forest.

Simone still as if she had been turned to stone at the monstrous sight of the shadows of what can only be described as nightmarishly horrific, her breathing mimicking hyperventilation she was in shock, in the distance she can hear Teo screaming "Simone, Arvin where are you." She wants to scream back but she is unable to and it's agonizing for Simone, lost in the woods petrified by shadows. Just then Teo comes out of the woods and yelps in excitement "OH MY GOD BLUE TONGUED LIZARDS. THERE SO COOL." he picked them up as the shadow trapping Simone disappears the explains to Simone "that blue tongues are harmless."

The shriek from Teo could be heard from anywhere which gave that dastardly Magpie a chance to leave without a trace and hide Teo's miny shovel, Arvin's head on a swivel moves to the sound of Teo's voice, seconds later Arvin's body followed suit as he sprinted towards Teo's voice as they unite to the sight of Teo's shovel shining from the glistening moon.

The three children accompanied by the mischievous magpie they all explain "wow the moon is fluorescent and beautiful." Teo says.

"The Moon is rebounding of the water beautifully akin to the light spectrum." Says Simone.

## Chapter 7:

Sam lets out a small ‘oof’ as he sits back down on the log by the campfire, a few feet between him and Blade. “The kids are all asleep now.”

Blade gives a small hum in response and looks back to the marshmallow he’s roasting on the campfire. A mosquito lands on Sams leg, and he slaps it on instinct.

“I don't know how you do this every day...” He mutters, wiping his hand.

“Do what?” Blade asks, glancing up at him from the fire.

“Spend every day outside like this, in nature, in the heat—bugs everywhere.”

Blade gives a small laugh. “It’s not all bad. There’s something calming about nature.”

“Yes, well,” he pauses to wipe the few beads of sweat rolling down his forehead. “*I* don't see the appeal”

“Right, well... You were always like that. You didn’t like the last hike you were on either, did you?”

Sam tilts his head to the side, his eyebrows furrowing slightly in a confused look. “Which hike?”

“Uh,” Blade looks back to the fire. “Our hike. Remember? Last year.”

“... Oh. Right.”

An uncomfortable silence washes over them as they both stare into the fire, all the memories from their past resurfacing.

“I didn't... *hate* the hike, by the way.” Sam was the first to break the silence

“Really?”

“Yeah. It's not my *first* choice for a first meeting but... It was nice.”

“You enjoyed yourself?” Blade asks with a growing smile on his face

“I did, well- despite the mosquitos, and all the climbing, and tripping on rocks at least a dozen times...” They share a short, easy laugh. “I enjoyed it, despite all that.”

“Well... going off the fact that I never heard from you again after that... I assumed you hated it.”

Guilt washes over Sam, and he couldn't help but look away from Blade and down at his fidgeting hands. “Right, I, uh-” he chewed on his lip. “That wasn't because of the hike. Or you.”

“What was it then?”

Sam presses his thumb into his palm, hoping it will ease his nerves. “Me. I got nervous. Scared.”

He didn't look up from his hands, waiting for a response from Blade. All he could focus on were the sounds coming from the mountains surrounding them. The rustle of wind through the tree leaves, a frog or two croaking in the distance. And also, a bird.

Sam is pulled from his thoughts when Blade shuffles a bit closer to him on the log.

“Are you still scared?” Their eyes meet, locked on each other, and Sam's brain races. Lots of things scare him, heights, bugs, magpies, sometimes his students even scare him--

His heart stops as he remembers his students. *He forgot to check one cabin.*

He quickly shoots up from his seat and runs over to Arvin, Teo and Simone's cabin. He swings the door open to find their beds completely empty.

“Arvin.” He says to himself, annoyed.

“Arvin!” He yelled out into the black abyss surrounding them.

“ARVIN!!!!”



## Chapter 8:

The trio blazed through the shadowy dark alleys of tall oak trees as the wind howled through the branches. Above them the stars shone bright with a silver light piercing through the swaying leaves. The full moon glistened down casting a luminous glow on the kids, painting a trail on the bark and moss to lead them to the lake.

“Oh, guys hurry come on, we’re almost there” Arvin exclaimed “hurry, hurry!”

“Ermmmm guys, are you sure this is safe. I think we should go back. Please, I just want to go back to camp” Simone cautiously replied

“Simone, can you stop yapping. We’re almost there. You know we only get to have year 4 camp once, make it count, let's explore, have an adventure... have fun for once”

“I can feel the owls and spiders staring at me on the trees, its spooking me out”

“A LAKE, I CAN SEE THE REFLECTION OF THE SKY”

They ran towards the rippling water with high expectations. Perhaps it contained Jewels? fossils? Or even gold.

PLOP An orange leaf trickles down into the water, splashing on Simones shoes.

“EWW, see there's nothing here. I don't know what you were expecting”

“Where's the gold? We were promised gold!”

The sight of stones and dirt looked back at them. No gold, no relics, no treasures, just plain water and the occasional ripple from the breeze. The 3 looked over the edge with shoulders slumped

“It's just water” Simone replied, kicking a pebble into the lake “and a few scattered sticks”  
sigh

“let's go back now”

They turned and walked back in disheartened defeat.



## Chapter 9:

“Arvin, Teo, Simone! Where have you been?” Sam cried in relief “I have been worried sick, you can’t just go running off whenever you want! If it wasn’t for Blade comforting me, I would have...well I would have...I...” Sam looked up at Blade in flustered admiration.

Arvin kicked at the ground, “Sorry Mr. L, we heard Mr. Brogan’s story, and we just couldn’t help ourselves.”



“We minded for diamonds Mr. L.” Teo explained lying on the floor in exhaustion, “the creepers gon’ creep.” He shrugged.

“I told them not to go Sir, I told them not to, I only went to bring them back.” Simone interjected, raising her finger and pushing her glasses up the bridge of her nose.

“Well, it’s alright now, you’re safe and that’s what matters kiddos. Just don’t go off on your own again.” Sam said, putting his arm on Arvin’s shoulder.

“They weren’t alone Sammy.” Blade pointed up at the solitary magpie piercing black eyes glaring down at them from the nearest eucalypt. She arched her sharp, glossy wings, raising them high above her slim, toned neck – she keeps fit. She beat her wings, making strong snaps against the air.

“Hey girly pops. Yeah, it was me, hashtag messy. You’re probably wondering why I did it. I knew Blade was hopeless, I mean Sam was his only match on EligibleEducators.com, like before he ghosted him...I knew I needed to get them alone, so I hacked into the campsite’s mainframe and bypassed Blade’s newly installed security systems he put in place after a few students from the last camp accessed his Hawaiian cruise vacation photos, hashtag embarrassed-for-you.”

“How did you use his computer, you’re a bird?”

“Um...my beak duh? Idiots.” She rolled her eyes and continued.

“When you all got here, it was clear that you three were going to get in my way, so I had to send you on a little detour, like I did it for the plot, the lols, the laughs. I mean dinosaurs, really? dinosaurs are lame, yeah.”

“Lemme at her! Steve’s gonna turn you into lava chicken!” Teo started barking at her, while Sam, Simone and Arvin held him back.

“You did all this...for me?” Blade asked in astonishment.

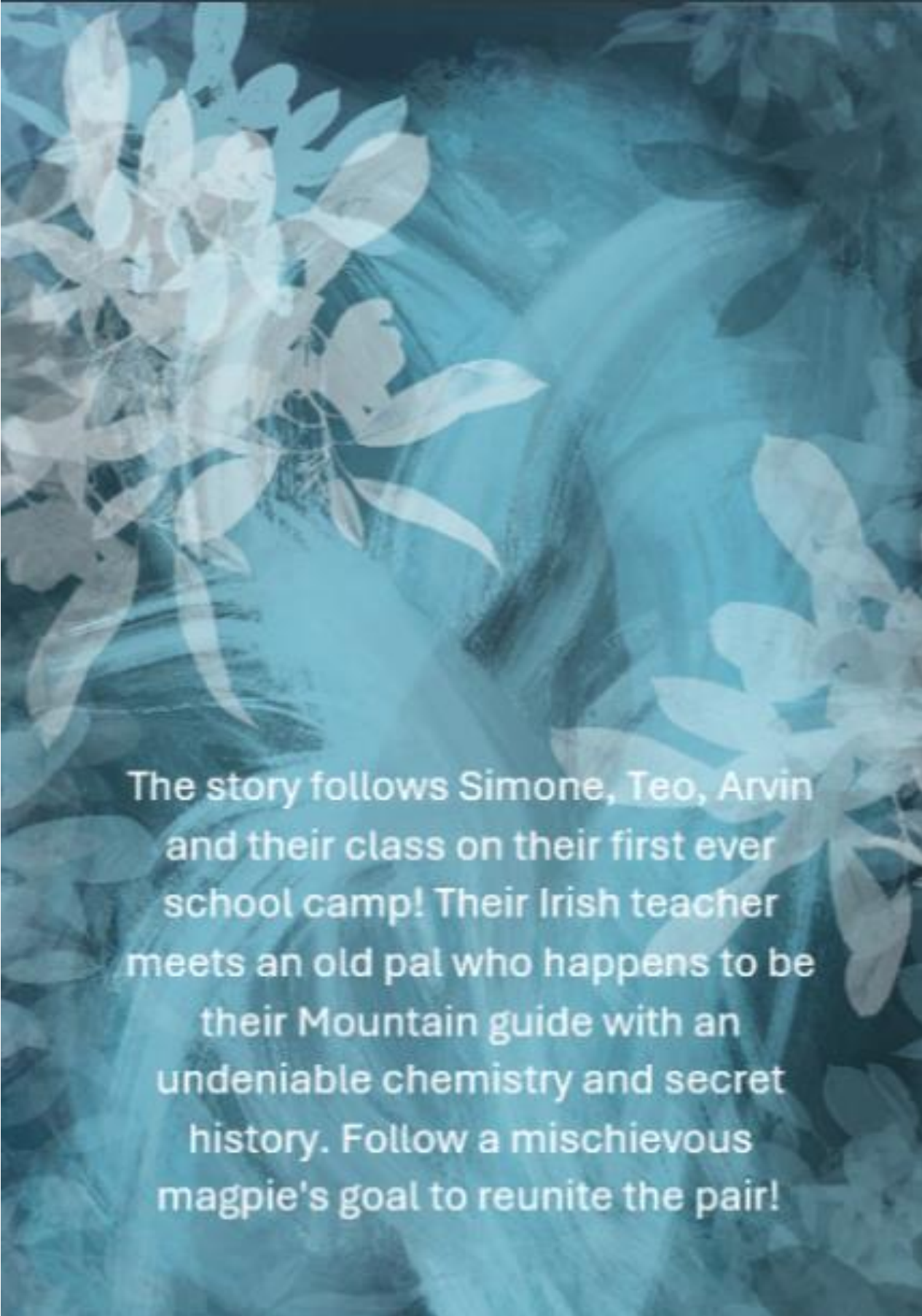
“Of course bestie, I got you boo.” She winked and flew into the starry night sky never to be seen again.



### **Epilogue:**

Well, Sam and Blade still have a lot of feelings to work through, but they facetime every day to work through what they need to. Blade's magpie has been locked up in a maximum security prison for reasons unrelated to this story that cannot be disclosed at this time. Arvin, Simone and Teo are still plucky as ever and have installed Dino Club as an official team within their school. All is well xoxo.





The story follows Simone, Teo, Arvin  
and their class on their first ever  
school camp! Their Irish teacher  
meets an old pal who happens to be  
their Mountain guide with an  
undeniable chemistry and secret  
history. Follow a mischievous  
magpie's goal to reunite the pair!