

# *Fantasy World Monthly*



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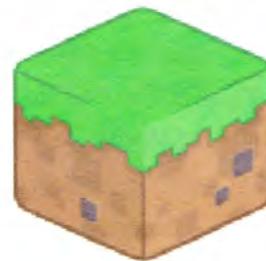
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## About the Author



My name Onycha Schreiner. I am in 6<sup>th</sup> grade and am home schooled. I am 11 years old. I like to read, draw, play the flute, and play with Lego Friends.

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## Amazing but True...

### A Portal Near You!

Did you know that most communities have portals to other worlds? These exciting places can transport you to the worlds of super heroes, mythical creatures, fairies and much more. Come with me and explore some popular fantasy worlds at your local library.

Let's make our way to the fiction section. There are many book series about fantastical places. Some of my favorites are the 100 Cupboards trilogy, the Never Girls, and the Chronicles of Narnia. How do you know if you've picked a good fantasy book? When you close your eyes and you find yourself in the author's magical world.

Another way to travel to other worlds is through the eyes of super heroes. Would you like to soar with Superman to Metropolis, a futuristic city with shiny skyscrapers? Or zoom around in the Batmobile through Gotham City, a dark, creepy place, overtaken with crime? We could go back in time to see the unlikely hero Hiccup. His home, Berk, is a frigid island where hardly anything grows. Despite the cold weather, I would love to visit Berk and glide through the clouds on the back of a giant, winged reptile.

Even reluctant readers can get sucked through the portal of Graphic Novels. The illustrations can wake up a reader's imagination. A great series of Graphic Novels is Geronimo Stilton. Readers can travel to the past and save history from being altered by the Pirate Cats.

Fantasy books are a great way to help your imagination grow. Libraries open doors to exciting, new worlds. If you are in Wautoma, consider stopping at the very special library at Riverview Elementary School. You may be greeted by a Minion, or you can curl up with your favorite fantasy book in The Magic Tree House.

## Poetry Corner

### *Cinquain:*

*Fairies  
Pointy-eared  
Tinkling voices only  
Heard by believing children  
Magical*

### *Acrostic:*

*Pulling like a vacuum to  
Other worlds.  
Racing heart.  
To where am I going?  
Around me all is blurred  
Lost, lonely.  
Scared of who I might encounter.*

### *Found Poem:*

*BB-8, a little robot alien.  
A new Star Wars movie character,  
The spinning drone.  
Controlled with your Smartphone.  
His shape is spherical,  
His head seems to magically levitate.  
Moving in any direction on the horizontal plain-  
holonomic.  
On my Christmas list BB-8 is the most  
prominent.*

## Finding Friendship

Beep, beep, beep be-. "Ugh, is it seven o'clock already?" Emma SparkleWing groans and pulls her lavender covers over her head.

Five minutes later Sparkle's mom flies in, "Get up Sparkle, you're going to be late for the first day of school," Mom says.

"Can I just sleep ten more minutes?"

"No, now get up. Your brother is patiently waiting for breakfast. You have to get ready."

"Okay Mom, I'm coming." Sparkle hurriedly throws on the clothes that she laid out last night, runs a brush through her hair and smooths her covers. Then, wings flapping, Sparkle zooms downstairs to breakfast.

"Morning Lucas," Sparkle says to her brother, "excited for the first day?"

"Not really," Lucas groans.

"I am! I can't wait to see my friends again," comments Sparkle.

"Kids, hurry and finish breakfast so can brush your teeth," Mom calls, "Oh, and Lucas, take a quick shower."

Half an hour later, Sparkle soars out into the brisk autumn day. A cool breeze tussles her hair, but the sun feels wonderful on her wings.



Sparkle flies three blocks to Gemstone Middle School and slips into her seat just as the final bell rings.

"Good morning class," Mr. Winkle, Sparkle's science teacher greets them. "We have a new student with us today, Danielle DaisyHeart. Please welcome her to Gemstone Middle School. Today we will be studying the periodic table of fairy dust. You must

understand what elements fairy dust is made of, so..."

Just then, the principle pages Mr. Winkle, "Mr. Winkle, please come to the office now."

"Class while I am gone, please read pages forty-one through forty-six. We will discuss it when I return."

Sparkle tries reading but starts thinking about Danielle. "*I wonder how she bent her wing like that?*" Sparkle thinks. "*I wonder if she'll want to be my friend?*"

Then Sparkle notices a few fairies snickering and pointing at Danielle. They walk over and start to tease her. "*Should I speak up or not?*" Sparkle wonders, "*I want to but then people might laugh at me then too.*" So she quietly sits in her chair and pretends not to notice as more fairies join in to humiliate Danielle.

Just then Mr. Winkle returns and everyone scrambles back to their seats.

Class drags on and seems to take forever, because Sparkle feels guilty about not standing up for Danielle. "*After the bell rings I'm going to apologize,*" Sparkle decides.

After class, Sparkle rushes to catch up to Danielle. "Danielle, I'm sorry I didn't stand up for you. Can we be friends?"

"No," Danielle says shortly, "How do I know you're not trying to humiliate me more?" She turns on her heel and leaves.

All through morning classes, Sparkle keeps thinking about Danielle and how to make it right.

Later, during recess, Sparkle asks her best friend, Lauren GentleTouch, what to do.

"I think you should try to prove to Danielle you don't want to embarrass her," Lauren says.

"But how?" Sparkle asks.

"I don't know yet. I'll have to think about it."

"Maybe you can come over after school and we can brainstorm."

"Good idea. I'll see you then."

At three forty-five on the dot, Lauren shows up.

"Let's head up to my room," Sparkle says. "I tried reaching out to Danielle, but she gave me the cold shoulder. I don't think she's used to fairies being nice to her."

Lauren says, "Maybe we could give her a gift."

"That's a good idea," Sparkle agrees. "Can you help me make a friendship bracelet?" They gather supplies and diligently work while they talk and giggle about other things that happened that day.

After a while Lauren says, "Oh, look at the time. I have to get home. See you tomorrow."

The next day, Sparkle flies up to Danielle. "Here," Sparkle says, "I made you a bracelet."

"Thank you." Danielle says briskly, "But no thank you." She leaves Sparkle holding the bracelet, stunned.

Later, at recess, Sparkle tells Lauren what happened.

"Wow," Lauren says, "That was really cold."

"No kidding," Sparkle replies, "What do we do now?"

"Let's ask her to play with us."

"Great idea," Sparkle agrees. The two girls walk to the corner of the playground where Danielle is sitting. "Hi Danielle, do you want to play with us?"

"No," Danielle snaps, "Just leave me alone!"

"Fine, we're going," Sparkle retorts.

At the end of recess, as Sparkle flies back to class, she hears the bullies teasing Danielle more. Sparkle realizes the only way to prove herself to Danielle is to stand up for her. The rest of the day, Sparkle battles her internal fears. "What if she still doesn't like me and I stand up for her for nothing? Other fairies might start laughing on me as well." Finally Sparkle resolves to do the right thing, no matter the outcome.

After school, on the playground, Sparkle sees a group of fairies laughing at Danielle's bent wing, "This is my chance," Sparkle thinks. She takes a deep breath and declares, "Hey,

stop laughing at my friend." The group disperses, leaving the two fairies.

Danielle says to Sparkle, "That was really brave. Thank you for being a friend to me, even when I pushed you away. Do you want to come over to my house later so we can get to know each other better? By the way you can call me Dani."

"Okay Dani. Can my good friend Lauren come too?"

"Of course, good friends are hard to come by," laughs Dani.

"Let's go find her," Sparkle smiles, and the two new friends fly off to find Lauren.



*Hunter Brown Book Trilogy*  
By the Miller Brothers  
An ordinary kid with extraordinary experiences



*"The Way will guide you,  
The Truth set you free.  
A new life is written  
For those who believe."*

*Look for them at your local library today!*

## Book Review

I recently listened to the best book on CD ever. I think everyone should listen to 100 Cupboards by N.D. Wilson. The story line includes mysterious portals to other worlds, an attempted murder, and a mythical creature that looks like a little rhino with wings. If you like books like the Chronicles of Narnia, you should definitely check out the 100 Cupboards trilogy.

100 Cupboards is the story of Henry York. Henry goes to spend the summer with his uncle's family in Kansas, while his parents are on a bike trip in South America. In Henry's attic bedroom, he finds 99 Cupboards on the wall that have been hidden by plaster. Henry and his cousin, Henrietta, discover that the cupboards are little doors leading to other worlds.

In 100 Cupboards, the author, N.D. Wilson, paints a clear picture of the struggle between good and evil. Evil is portrayed by Nimion, a witch who sucks the life out of any living thing to increase her strength. Throughout the story, Henry learns lessons about bravery and heroism.

100 Cupboards is very well written. The author, Wilson, does a terrific job helping the reader visualize and the setting and feel what the characters are experiencing. The book makes me wish there were magic cupboards in my room!

I am so glad I discovered 100 Cupboards. It was hard to walk away from, to go back to my ordinary life and things like schoolwork. I hope you get to experience the magic of 100 Cupboards too.

## Movie Review



For those of you who like fantasy worlds, there are more ways to see them than just books.

Recently I saw a movie called *Inside Out*. It was about a girl's emotions that lived inside her head.

The creators of *Inside Out* turned emotions into microscopic people named Joy, Sadness, Anger, Fear and Disgust. The brain was pictured as a fantasy-like world with a headquarters for the emotions, personality islands, and a giant maze of memories.

The emotion Joy, keeps the girl, Riley, happy; Anger keeps things fair. Disgust keeps Riley from getting poisoned, and Fear keeps Riley safe. The emotions are not sure what Sadness does.

Riley moves from a small town in Minnesota, to San Francisco, California. Not long after, Joy and Sadness get sucked out of headquarters and into the maze of memories. Left alone, Fear, Disgust and Anger try to be Joy and make Riley happy. After that fails, they influence her to make some bad decisions.

Meanwhile, Joy and Sadness are trying to find their way back to headquarters. This journey helps all the emotions realize the importance of Sadness in drawing Riley back to the people she loves.

*Inside Out* shows the importance of how emotions work together in the different seasons of our lives, while creatively showing us the workings of our brains.

## How to Build a Fairy House

Do you believe in fairies? Have you ever wanted to see one? Build a fairy house, watch carefully, and you just might be able.

The first step is to decide what you want your house to look like. Then sketch the design on paper. Next, make a base if you want to keep your fairy house indoors. I used a small Styrofoam tray, but you could use a sturdy paper plate.

Then, figure out what you want to build your house out of and gather the materials. I chose to use Popsicle sticks and hot glue for two reasons. Firstly, I just got a hot glue gun for Christmas and was excited to use it. Secondly, it was winter when I made my fairy house, and I didn't have access to outdoorsy things like sticks and pinecones.

Start with the walls and roof. To make the walls, glue the Popsicle sticks similar to a pallet: two vertical Popsicle sticks, with five horizontal, equally placed. Do the same thing for the roof but use nine sticks instead of five.

The next thing is to paint the outside of your fairy house if you want. I did red and white stripes but you can use any colors you like. Let the paint dry at least ten minutes.

You can also add a hammock. Glue a rectangle of fabric, about 4x6 inches, to the inside of the middle stick of each wall. Then, glue the walls to the base and hold them until they stand up. Next, glue the ceiling onto the top of the walls.

My fairy house turned out more like a fairy cabana, but oh well.



## *Letters To and From Our Readers*

DEAR GEORGE,

I REALLY ENJOY READING FANTASY BOOKS AND AM ALWAYS ON THE LOOKOUT FOR NEW ONES. I WANT TO KNOW HOW TO TELL IF A FANTASY BOOK IS WELL WRITTEN.

SINCERELY,

*Onycha Schreiner*

DEAR ONYCHA,

THERE ARE MANY WAYS TO TELL IF A FANTASY BOOK IS GOOD. YOU COULD ASK A LIBRARIAN. THEY HAVE A BROAD KNOWLEDGE OF MANY SUBJECTS. ALTHOUGH LIBRARIANS HAVE NOT READ EVERY BOOK, THEY LOVE BOOKS AND HAVE ACCESS TO RESOURCES YOU MAY NOT.

ANOTHER THING YOU CAN DO IS READ AN ONLINE BOOK REVIEW AT WEBSITES LIKE AMAZON AND GOODREADS. REMEMBER, YOU WON'T KNOW MOST OF THE REVIEWERS PERSONALLY, AND THEY MIGHT THINK DIFFERENTLY THAN YOU. ALSO, MIXED REVIEWS CAN BE CONFUSING.

YOU CAN ALSO VISIT THE AUTHOR'S WEBSITE. SOME WEBSITES MAY LET YOU READ AN EXCERPT OR WATCH A BOOK TRAILER. DRAWBACKS ARE THAT THE AUTHOR MAY ONLY POST FAVORABLE REVIEWS.

SINCERELY,

*George*

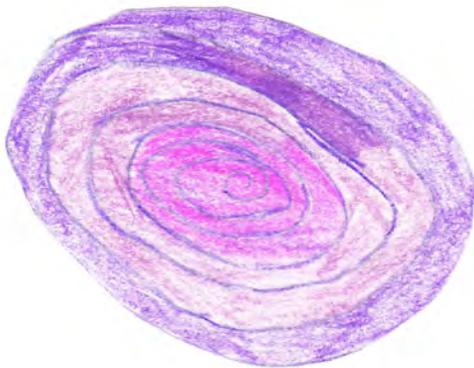
## A Journey of Magic

When I turned ten, I thought I was too old to believe in portals and fantasy worlds. Little did I know is that when I turned eleven, I was going to see how wrong I am.

I groan as my alarm clock rudely beeps me awake. I am not ready for another day of school. I stayed up late studying for a difficult English test.

"Lilli, get up!" my mom yells, "You're going to be late for school!"

"Okay mom, I'm getting up," I say. I open my closet to find some clothes, but instead of my dresser, there is a swirling, purple something!



I walk a little nearer to get a better look at the thing. Oops, bad idea. It starts pulling me closer. I try to resist, but it is no use. I'm being sucked in!

I hear a whoosh as I fall to the ground. As soon as I land the thing closes behind me. I quickly notice two things. First, that I am wearing a ghostly, flowing, lavender dress that reaches my ankles. I also realize I have no clue where I am.

A strange, blue ship comes toward me and purple dogs with pointy teeth and flippers grab me and drag me into their ship. They tie me up and throw me in a pitch black room.

After a while, the purple beasts drop me in the middle of nowhere. "What was that all about?" I think. "None of this makes sense." I look and see nothing that resembles civilization.

I gasp as the earth beneath me crumbles. I squeeze my eyes shut as ground comes rushing toward me. Then, everything goes black.

When I come to, I find myself at the bottom of a deep gorge. I am surprised to see that my dress is not torn. In fact, it is not even dirty. Weird.

I look for some way to get out of the gorge. Right away I spot a section that looks sort of like a rock wall. Even though it will be dangerous without a harness, I start to climb anyway.

The gorge wall is slanted, so it is easy to climb. I pull myself out, only to come face to face with crocodiles with glowing, white wings.

The leader of the flying crocs comes toward me, promising that if I don't run away I will not get hurt.

I decide to take the risk and make a break for it. Too bad I trip over my long dress. The crocs grab me and I get forced into a ship. "Not again," I think to myself. This time they take me to the most secure fortress I can imagine and lock me in a damp prison. I smell mold. I lean against the slimy wall and wonder how I am ever going to get myself out of this mess.

An hour later a girl with straight, shoulder length brown hair and hazel eyes comes towards me. Her pale pink dress reminds me of my own.

"Who are you?" I ask.

"I am Stella. I am a prisoner working as a jail guard," says the girl.

"What do you want with me?"

"As I said, I am also a prisoner," she lowers her voice to a whisper, "I am here to help you escape."

"Why?" I ask.

"I would like to escape as well," Stella says.

She unlocks the door, and we both run for our lives. Soon after we dash out of the fortress, we realize we are being followed by the crocodiles. We run as fast as we can, but the crocs are gaining by the second. They grab me and lunge at Stella but miss.

"Go Stella, run, run!" I scream.  
"But what about you?" she yells back.  
"I'll be fine, now run!"

Stella tosses me something. It is a purple, star shaped necklace. "Take this. It will help you get home."

The head croc snarls for his crew to let Stella go. They take me back to their fortress and take me to the judge. He sentences me to be thrown into the Pit of Spikes immediately!

The Pit of Spikes is deep, but not so deep you cannot see the spikes.

"Throw her in," the head croc growls.

They push me towards the edge. The crowd of crocs is chanting, "Toss her in! Toss her in!"

Suddenly I lose my balance and start falling into the Pit of Spikes. I scream and clutch Stella's necklace as the spikes come nearer. Suddenly I see another swirling, purple thing. I hear a whoosh as I land on my bed. I wake up drenched in sweat and breathing hard.

"Hey," I think, "that was all a dream; I am too old to believe in fantasy worlds."

I look down because I realize I am holding something: Stella's necklace.



*Family Movie Night Recommendation:  
Prince Caspian*



*Get pulled into a Good Movie*

**Fairy Toadstool Snack Recipe**

*Ingredients:*

- 4 mozzarella string cheese sticks
- 8 cherry tomatoes, room temperature
- 2-3 TBSP cream cheese, softened

*Directions:*

Cut string cheese into 1 inch sections. Halve the tomatoes. Put the cream cheese in a pastry bag with a small tip. "Glue" the cut sides of the tomatoes onto the end of the string cheese pieces with the cream cheese; one tomato piece for every string cheese piece. Stand them up on a plate. Dot the tops of the tomatoes with cream cheese.