

Immersive Tales

Presents:

Stories created by the children of years

2 and 3

Carlton Road Academy

Boston

Summer 2025

The authors created these stories in:

Blenkin Memorial Hall,

Boston

Acknowledgements:

The stories in this book were written by children attending Immersive Tales' story writing workshops in summer 2025. Immersive Tales' mission is to support children's developing imaginations and literacy skills through story writing.

Many people were involved in the making of this book. Firstly, the children from both schools who worked really hard and with great enthusiasm and the brilliant teachers who walked them to Blenkin Memorial Hall and stayed throughout the workshops to support them.

The staff of the host building who welcomed the project into their space and supported the workshops all the way:

Chris Ladner, Blenkin Memorial Hall

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Midnight versus the Zombies.



In a Wolf Hotel in the forest there lived a lovely wolf called Midnight. Wolves are usually quite solitary creatures and, when they do make friends, it's usually just with other wolves. Midnight, however, had a most surprising friend; a little dragon called Galaxy.

It was good that Galaxy was a little dragon or when he breathed fire the Wolf Hotel would be in danger of burning down. As it was, he used to breathe just enough to start little camp fires in the garden of the hotel that the wolves used to enjoy gathering around on cold and frosty nights when they all used to sing together in a howly wolfy way.

Everyone at the Wolf Hotel, and Midnight and Galaxy in particular, used to make sure that the trees in the forest were healthy and that the animals and birds who relied on them were happy and healthy too.

So, life in the forest continued happily until one day...

Midnight and Galaxy were going on one of their favourite walks when, suddenly, Midnight stopped and sniffed the air.

"Can you smell burning?" he asked.

Galaxy stopped and sniffed,

"Yes," he replied "and it's not me."

"We must investigate," said Midnight.

They moved forward cautiously and quietly, stopping from time to time to sniff the air and moving towards the smell of burning.

After a while they could hear the crackling of fire and, to their horror, ahead of them they could see a row of trees on fire and amongst them dark shapes moving.

“Who are they?” whispered Galaxy.

“They look like Zombies to me,” answered Midnight.

“Go and get help,” said Galaxy, “I’ll slow them down.”

Midnight ran back to the hotel to get help and Galaxy stepped out of his hiding place to face the Zombies. He puffed himself up to look as big as possible and roared in his biggest voice,

“STOP!!!!!!”

The Zombies were so surprised they paused and turned towards him.

“What do you think you are doing and why are you doing it?” he roared.

One of the Zombies grunted,

“Destruction, it’s what we do,” it eventually said.

While Galaxy kept them talking, Midnight alerted everyone at the Wolf Hotel to the danger they were in. Everyone ran to the river nearest to the fire and buckets of water were now being used to put the fire out.

As the fire died down Midnight ran up to Galaxy,

“We’ve stopped the fire for now,” he whispered, “but we need a plan to stop the Zombies for ever”.

“They are too strong and there are too many of them for us to win by fighting them,” whispered Galaxy.

“They’ll expect us to fight because destruction is all they know,” said Midnight, “we need to do something they won’t expect”.

He thought for a little while then whispered in Galaxy’s ear.

Galaxy looked really surprised.

“It’s worth trying,” he said, although he sounded very doubtful.

Then to everyone’s surprise, including the other wolves and the animals and birds of the forest, Midnight and Galaxy began to dance.

They hopped and bounced and twirled about, they fell over their own paws and each other but got straight back up and carried on. They danced in the moonlight and the starlight as it shone through the tops of the trees and their dancing made huge moving shadows that made their dance look even funnier.

The Zombies couldn’t believe their eyes.

Suddenly, one of them made a strange spluttering sort of noise. Then another and another joined in. They didn’t know what this strange sound they were making was, or why they were feeling they way that they were. They just knew that they liked it.

“Look,” said Midnight breathlessly, “the Zombies and everyone else are laughing.”

“Great,” said Galaxy, “let’s keep going.”

They carried on bouncing and twirling and falling over and the Zombies, the animals and the birds carried on

laughing until the Zombies were all rolling around on the ground laughing and giggling.

Eventually Midnight and Galaxy were so tired they flopped onto the ground.

“What was that?” one of the Zombies asked when he could catch his breath.

“That was the Goshie dance,” replied Midnight, “and you have been laughing.”

“I’ve never laughed before,” said the Zombie, “it’s a really good feeling. I like it more than setting fire to things. I want to do it some more”.

“We’ll teach you the dance if you promise to stop trying to destroy our forest and go back to your homes”, said Midnight.

The Zombies all promised and, after everyone had a little rest, Midnight and Galaxy taught them the dance.

The Zombies were quite clumsy and fell over a lot but this just made them laugh even more.

By the time morning came everyone was completely exhausted but very happy. The Zombies had enjoyed dancing so much that they asked if they could be friends with Midnight, Galaxy and all the wolves in the hotel and the wildlife in the forest. Above all else, they wanted to dance with them again.

So, it was agreed that Midnight and Galaxy would teach the Zombies more dances to practice at home and that once a year, to celebrate their friendship, the Zombies would come back to the forest for a great big dance off.

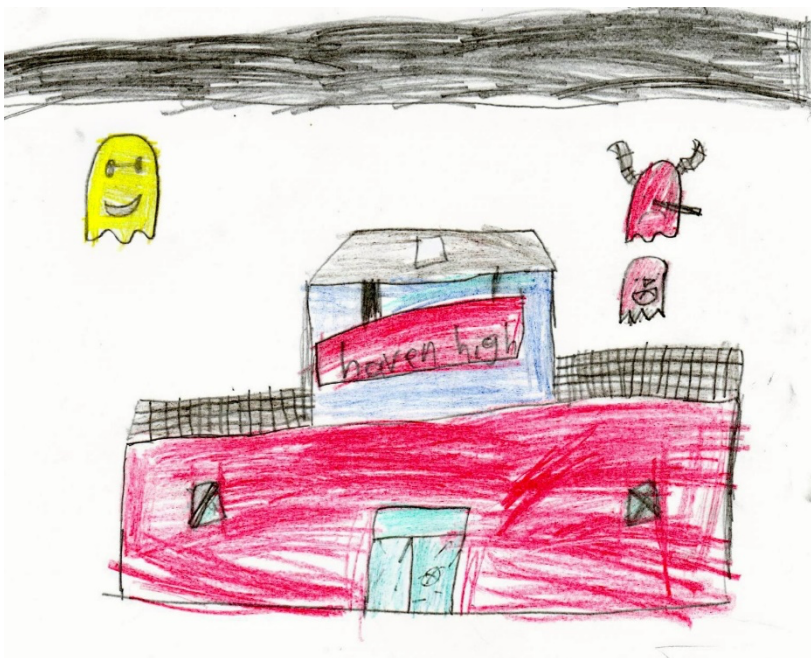
The winners would be given lots of apple and pumpkin pie.

So, rather than the Zombies and the animals and birds of the forest fighting each other Midnight and Galaxy had used laughter to cure evil and to help very different communities of beings to be friends.

The End



Good Ghost, Bad Ghost



Haven High was a school that was slowly being abandoned. Once it had been full of the noise of children but, slowly, it was becoming quieter and quieter and no-one knew why or how it was happening. They only knew that, one by one, children were disappearing.

Another thing they didn't know was that in the school there lived a good ghost called Ginger. She was 12 years old. She had a friend who lived there too, Mrs Drury also known as SUPER CARROT!

Ginger and Super Carrot were really worried about the disappearing children.

“Where can they be going?” asked Ginger.

“I don’t know,” said Super Carrot “maybe we should each chose a child to follow and, if they disappear, we might see it happening and know what’s causing it.”

They agreed and each set off.

For a few days nothing happened.

Then, one morning, the child Ginger was following turned a corner and went into an empty dark corridor. When he got to the end of it a black shape appeared and, suddenly, snatched him and both he and the shape disappeared without a trace.

Ginger told Super Carrot what she’d seen,

“Oh no!” said Super Carrot, “that sounds like the work of the Black Demon.”

“Who?” said Ginger, “I thought that was just a story.”

“Sadly, no,” replied Super Carrot, “but I thought he’d disappeared long ago. He hides in the shadows and he drags children to his Demon world.”

“We have to stop him,” said Ginger resolutely.

“Not just him,” said Super Carrot “he always works with his friend Boo the Ghost.”

“I’m surprised anyone is a friend of Black Demon,” replied Ginger.

They decided that they needed to know as much as possible about Black Demon and Boo to plan the best way to defeat them. So, they went to the library and did lots of research.

When they had a plan, they put it into action.

First, they asked the teachers to make sure no-one went down any empty corridors.

Second, they went to the school kitchen and asked the cooks for all the carrots they had.

Third, they disguised the carrots as children shaped sweets, especially as little babies.

Finally, they went into an empty corridor, putting the lights on first so there were no dark corners, and put the carrot babies into a corner. They tiptoed away, turned the lights off and hid just outside the corridor to watch and listen.

“OOH!” they heard, “Big fat juicy baby, yummy for my tummy.”

They saw Black Demon pick up a carrot baby and pop it into his mouth.

Suddenly, he yelped,

“Help me Boo! I’m turning into a carrot.”

Boo just stood there. Black Demon ran away turning orange as he did so and went to hide in the toilet.

Quickly Ginger locked him in and told some children to stand guard and make sure he didn’t escape. The children were so surprised at being told to do something by a ghost that they quickly obeyed.

Meanwhile Boo was trying to run away but Super Carrot was in hot pursuit. Soon Ginger joined her and they cornered Boo.

“Please don’t hurt me,” said Boo pitifully, “I don’t like being Black Demon’s friend but he frightens me.”

“Well,” said Ginger, “he won’t be able to frighten you anymore. He’s turning into a carrot and he’s locked in the toilet.”

Boo was amazed and very pleased. Now he knew Black Demon couldn’t bully him again he drew a big sigh of relief and seemed to grow taller.

Ginger cemented her new friendship with Boo by offering him some sweets. Real ones, not the ones made from carrots.

Ginger, Super Carrot and Boo decided it was time they went to see what was happening to Black Demon and relieve the children of their guard duty.

As they were walking along there was a sudden POP! And a child suddenly appeared in front of them.

POP! POP! POP! And three more children appeared.

Before long there were children appearing all over the school. They were all the ones that Black Demon had snatched and taken to Demon World.

Their friends were so excited to see them again.

Meanwhile, Ginger, Super Carrot and Boo had arrived at the toilet where Black Demon was hiding.

They unlocked the door and there, on the floor, was nothing but a carrot.

Super Carrot picked it up and took it to the kitchen and washed it. Then she ate it in one big CRUNCH!

So that was the end of Black Demon.

From that day to this Ginger, Boo and Super Carrot have all remained friends and Haven High is now a happy school and no longer being abandoned bit by bit. They all help to look after the school and Boo is particularly good at making sure there are no dark and dusty corners where a child might disappear.

All the children coming to the school learn all about how Ginger and Super Carrot solved the mystery of the disappearing children and how Black Demon was defeated and Boo became a good ghost like Ginger.

So, they know that it is important to stand up to evil things but also to try to make friends and help people, and ghosts, to become good.

The End



Candyman Learns to be Kind



It all started as a normal day in Space School. Space School isn't a school on earth where you learn about space, it's an actual school IN space. The children who attend Space School study all the subjects you do, but they also learn to fly in a space suit, to pilot rockets and how to shake hands with an alien even if they have eight hands to shake.

One morning Noomey the chocolate cat, one of Space School's most experienced teachers who possesses all knowledge, was working with her fellow teacher, Veruqua Stitch. Veruqua was the fastest flying teacher in Space School and she was preparing to teach a class of year 3 students flying techniques. The class had been doing quite well but some were still not very good at flying in curves. Sometimes they bumped into the side of space school when they were chasing each other.

They were just about to start the lesson when a child said:

"Miss, a star's just disappeared".

"What do you mean, stars don't just disappear?" replied Noomey who, of course, knew all about stars.

"There goes another one!" said another child.

Noomey looked up just as a star blinked and then disappeared.

Then another one.....

And another.

In place of the stars there loomed a huge black shape.

“Oh no!” thought Noomey, “I’ve heard of this happening in other parts of space but I thought it was just a story”.

She looked across at Veruqua.

“We’d better get the children back inside quickly”.

They hurried the children back into school, helped them to change out of their flying suits and then ran to talk to the other teachers.

“We’ve got a big problem. The only way stars could be disappearing like that would be if the Evil Candyman and Jeff the Robot with his great big hammer hand are coming this way!”

The other Teachers’ eyes opened wide in fear.

“What can we do to keep the children safe?” asked one.

“We can’t fight as Candyman and Jeff are too powerful,” replied Noomey, “so we need to be cunning”.

“What does Candyman want?” asked Veruqua.

“I’ve heard that he wants to steal all the stars and turn all the children into sweets and eat them,” said Noomey.

“OH NO!!!!!!!!!!!!” said all the teachers.

They called all the children together and told them that they would need to be very brave.

Just then there was a great, big, THUMP as Candyman’s Spaceship locked onto the school.

All the teachers and children gasped.

“Quick, we must hide in the kitchen,” said Noomey, ushering the children into the corridor.

“I’ll distract them to give you time,” said Veruqua bravely.

They could all hear smashing sounds. Veruqua quickly flew towards the sounds as flying was her special power.

Candyman was striding towards them. He was brightly coloured all over in all the colours of all the sweets that have ever been made. Jeff strode along behind him using his hammer hand to break everything he passed.

Veruqua flew up to them and, before they could do anything, she started flying round and round their heads really fast to make them dizzy. It slowed them down but it didn’t stop them.

As they turned a corner, Candyman saw the last of the children running along the corridor after the others.

ZAP! A light flew out of his fingers and the child stopped as though turned to stone but he’d been turned into a brightly coloured sweet. Candyman picked him up.

“I’ll eat you later,” he said, “when I have turned all of your friends into sweets as well”.

He strode on.

In the kitchen, Noomey had an idea,

“Quickly, get me all the vegetables you can find,” she said to the children, “and find me some string”.

The children did as she asked and soon the tables were heaped with all sorts of vegetables.

“Watch me,” said Noomey, “and then copy what I have done”.

She quickly used the string to tie a large cauliflower onto the top of a bag of potatoes, then she made strings of carrots and tied them to either side of the bag like arms and then strings of parsnips for legs and, hey presto! there was a model of a child made from vegetables sitting at the table.

All the other children and teachers hurried to help make more vegetable children and sit them around the table.

Then they hid.

Suddenly, Candyman and Jeff strode into the kitchen. There were no real children to be seen.

“What are these?” asked Jeff, pointing to the vegetables, “they look a bit like children, but they don’t move.”

“Humph,” said Candyman, “I think someone has been here before us and made the children into something strange. I wonder what they taste like?”

With that he picked up the nearest one and bit its cauliflower head off in one bite and then chewed his way thoughtfully through the rest of it.

“I rather like this,” he said to Jeff “it makes a change from sweets. You try one.”

Between them Candyman and Jeff ate all the vegetable children.

“Phew,” said Candyman sitting down, “I couldn’t eat another thing. For the first time in ages, I don’t feel sick and I usually feel sick after eating children.”

“I’m full too,” said Jeff, “and I don’t feel sick either”.

While all this was going on, Noomey had been listening from behind the door.

Carefully she opened it and slipped into the kitchen taking care that the real children couldn't be seen.

Bravely she stepped forward,

"The reason you don't feel sick is that you have been eating vegetables and not sweets. Too many sweets make you feel sick and they can make you feel cross too. Vegetables are full of good things to make you feel good and healthy."

"How do you know that?" asked Jeff rather rudely.

"Because I am a teacher and I know everything," said Noomey, "because I had an education."

"I didn't get an education," said Candyman rather sadly, "because I didn't go to school".

"I went to school but I was bullied," added Jeff, "and that made me want to smash schools up".

Well," said Noomey, "it's never too late. If you promise to put the stars back into the sky, and change the child you caught back into a child and not eat him you can come to school here."

"Really? Do you really mean that?" said Candyman and Jeff together.

"Yes, I do," said Noomey, "and I'm sure everyone here will help you."

Candyman and Jeff agreed and put the stars back and turned the child back into a real one.

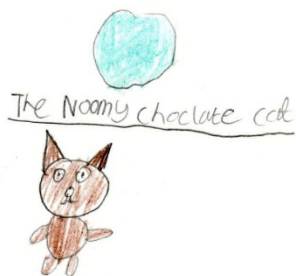
After that they joined in with the children's lessons and became very good students. They still ate some sweets but not ones made from children. They only ate them on Saturdays and they cleaned their teeth very carefully afterwards.

They liked being at space school so much that Candyman eventually became a teacher who knew lots and lots about all sorts of things, though he never knew as much as Noomey. He remembered what it had been like when he hated the idea of school and was especially good at helping children who were a bit unhappy when they first arrived.

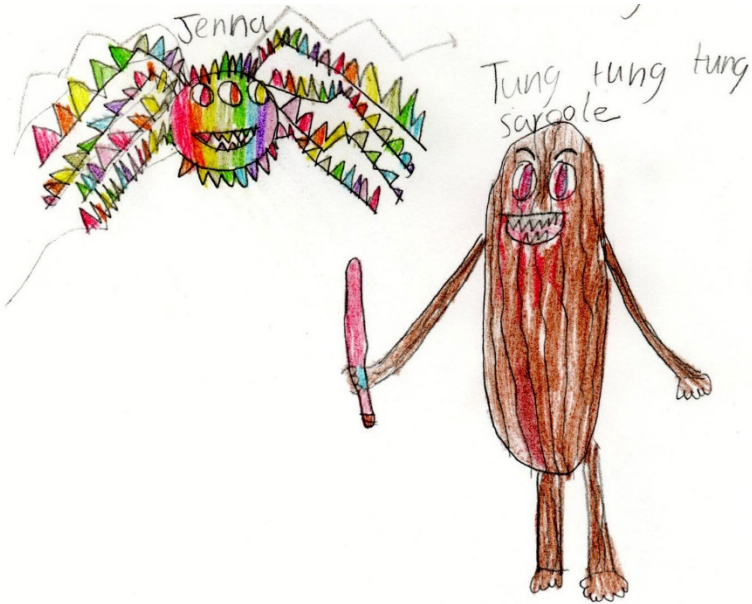
Jeff didn't want to become a teacher so he became the guardian of the school and kept everyone safe and built new classrooms and furniture instead of smashing everything.

So, the moral of this story is that it's good to try new things like vegetables and to be kind, as the teachers and children were kind and gave Candyman and Jeff a chance to be better.

The End



Spider City in Peril



Once there was a city where spiders lived called, not surprisingly, Spider City. All the citizens were kind hearted, loving and friendly with the inhabitants of other communities.

For years everyone had lived peacefully together, protected by a Magic Diamond. The most important job in the whole city was to keep the Magic Diamond safe as without it the city would collapse.

Chief of the guardians of the diamond was a girl tarantula called Jenna who, although no-one else knew this, was a secret super hero. She was helped by another tarantula called George. He could be a bit grumpy at times but

was kind hearted underneath and had his own superpower – his eyes could shoot lasers.

So, for a very long time, life continued peacefully and happily and the spiders spun their webs in beautiful patterns. When they got bored with a pattern, they would tear their webs down and spin new patterns, just like humans redecorate their houses.

Like all good things, it was too good to last.....

One day, while all the spiders in the city were going about their ordinary lives, an alien spaceship landed in a remote area. No spiders noticed them.

Tung Tung Tung Saroole, the leader of the aliens, came out of the spaceship and ordered his followers, the Slime Guardians, to set up camp and unload all of their weapons. He had an evil plan.

“Slime Guardians, stay here and guard our camp. I will go and find the weakest point of Spider City and then we will attack.”

“But you’ll get caught,” warned one of the Slime Guardians, “you’re so much bigger than even the biggest spider they are bound to see you”.

“No. they won’t,” said Tung Tung Tung Saroole and, right in front of them, he spun around and around and when he stopped in his place was a spider.

The Slime Guardians were astonished; they hadn’t known that Tung Tung Tung Saroole had the power to turn into a spider.

“Yes Sir,” the Slime Guardians said, “we’ll guard the camp Sir”.

Tung Tung Tung Saroole went off to spy on Spider city taking just one of his Slime Guardians with him. He wanted to find out exactly where the Magic Diamond was kept and the best way to steal it.

It was a lovely morning and Jenna and George were out and about enjoying the sunshine.

“What’s that?” said George suddenly pointing to a mark on the road.

There was a slimy sparkly trail on the road just like a snail trail but much bigger.

Jenna bent down and touched it

“Yuk,” she said “it’s all sticky. Let’s see where it leads in case it’s something important.”

They followed the trail and, a little way ahead, they saw a strange spider with an even stranger companion. The companion was long and brown and the slime trail was coming from him.

“Quick,” said Jenna, “hide behind this bush and let’s see where they go. I don’t like the look of this.”

They crouched down to watch and listen.

“Come on,” said Tung Tung Tung Saroole, “it’ll be dark soon and I want to find out where they keep the Magic Diamond and look at its defences”.

“Ok, I’m coming,” grumbled the Slime Guardian and increased the speed at which he slimed along.

Jenna and George looked at each other. They were horrified. For years Spider City had existed peacefully and happily with no threats from outside. Now here was someone wanting to steal their diamond.

“We need to act fast,” said Jenna “you stay here and keep watch. I’ll go and call together the spider council.”

“OK,” said George and then watched astounded as Jenna suddenly jumped into the air and flew away. He hadn’t known she could that.

Jenna quickly called the Spider Council together and told them what she and George had heard and seen. They decided on a plan.

1. They would send out patrols to see if there were any more aliens in their land,
2. they would continue to watch what Tung Tung Tung Saroole and his companion were doing, and
3. they would make a plan to catch them and ask them what they were doing sneaking around in their land.

They split up into 3 groups but kept in touch with each other by tapping on a network of spider threads in morse code.

The first group spotted the aliens’ camp and let everyone know that there were a lot more of the slimy creatures.

The second group followed Tung Tung Tung Saroole and tapped back information about the direction they were taking.

The third group took that information and decided to get together and spin the biggest, strongest spiders' web ever to catch them.

As Tung Tung Tung Saroole and the Slime Guardian approached the west gate of Spider City, they were surprised to see that the gate was open.

"Careless of them," said Tung Tung Tung Saroole and he and the Slime Guardian crept up to the gate all the while hiding in the shadows and unaware that they were being followed.

As they crept through the gate suddenly, like a giant net, the huge dense spiders' web dropped on top of them and was pulled tight so that, however much they struggled, they could not escape.

Jenna and George confronted them.

"Who are you and what are you doing sneaking into our city?" Jenna demanded.

"We're just travellers from afar who have heard about your city and wanted to see it for ourselves," lied Tung Tung Tung Saroole.

"I don't believe you" said Jenna and told them that they had been overheard planning to look at how the Magic Diamond was protected.

"Oh, alright I'll tell you the truth," said Tung Tung Tung Saroole grudgingly "I want your Magic Diamond so that I can be king of my own universe and be happy and I don't care if that means the end of Spider City."

“That is really sad that you feel like that,” said Jenna, much to George’s surprise who expected her to be angry “I don’t think becoming a king by destroying others will make you happy. Did anything happen to you to make you feel like this?”

Tung Tung Tung Saroole thought for a while,

“I’m not happy now,” he said “I don’t remember ever being happy. I don’t like spending all my time with just the Slime Guardians for company. My parents used to leave me alone all the time and I was bullied at school so the Slime Guardians became my only friends”.

“If you give up your plan of stealing our Magic Diamond and causing us to perish, we’ll be your friends,” said Jenna, “and I’m sure we could find something really useful for the Slime Guardians to do too”.

“Really!!” said Tung Tung Tung Saroole in disbelief. He’d been expecting to be put into Spider City prison at the very least.

“Of course,” said Jenna.

Tung Tung Tung Saroole and the Slime Guardians agreed to give up their evil ways if they could become citizens of Spider City and join in with everything.

After a few months Tung Tung Tung Saroole decided to become a teacher and help the young spiders to learn how to be good citizens and he was especially good at dealing with any bullying.

The spider children really liked playing with slime so the Slime Guardians made lots and lots and gave it away to all the children.

There's a moral to this story, which is to love your enemies. By doing so Jenna stopped the Magic Diamond being stolen and helped Tung Tung Tung Saroole and the Slime Guardians to be helpful and happy.

The End.

