

## Writing competition

Reading is magic and can transport you to amazing and curious places.

Write a short story about a wonderful and magical place.

One stormy night, May, who looked for new species of magical creatures, ~~walked through the magical forest of Oakspell~~ <sup>searched for the world</sup> walked through the magical forest of Oakspell. The milk white moon sat in the dimly lit sky. The bright ~~sh~~ twinkling stars sang softly in the inky black sky. Clouds gathered in the night sky, blocking out the shiny stars and the moon, as round as a rice cracker. May shivered in the heart freezing cold. The clouds were nearly as dark as the sky itself.

It's definitely going to storm, thought May. I'd better find somewhere to shelter.

She scanned <sup>the area</sup> ~~around~~ <sup>self</sup> her. All she could see ~~was~~ was trees, plants and... more trees. She trudged through the damp undergrowth, tripping over patches of leafy green moss. Every ~~to~~ ~~to~~ now and again she would glance upwards at the leafy trees as though a hut would suddenly appear between their chocolate brown branches. Finally, May stumbled into a clearing. In front of her ~~was~~ was a towering, vast mountain. It stretched up to the sky, surrounded by an army of storm grey clouds.

## Story - Continued

Maybe there will be somewhere I can rest, thought May. Like a cave ~~or~~ or a group of rocks I can ~~hide~~ huddle under.

A trickle of rain spashed in front of May. It was only sprinkling, but ~~it~~ it was getting worse as the minutes ticked by. A long time passed. After what seemed ~~like~~ like 45 years but was ~~an~~ actually way less than that, May reached a small cave. She checked for any evidence that some kind of dangerous animal, ~~There were~~ zero terrifying creatures. She walked into ~~the~~ <sup>lived there</sup> cave but she was careful ~~not~~ not to go too far, because she was afraid she might get lost. She could hear the howling wind, the thundering lightning that lit up the sky with a single strike ~~see~~ and heard the ~~rain~~ pouring rain, bashing ~~everything~~ everything in its path. She walked about 4 or 5 metres into the cave then lay down on a large patch of ~~wet~~ damp moss. She closed her eyes and fell into a deep, relaxed sleep, ~~despite~~ despite the ~~terrifying~~ ~~endlessly~~ ~~loud~~ noise of the petrifying storm. Little did she know <sup>loud</sup> she was sleeping right next to ~~a~~ a humungous sinkhole. Sometimes, May rolled in her ~~sleep~~ sleep. She rolled right into the sinkhole ~~before~~ before you could say "Cave Catastrophe!" <sup>right!</sup>

About ~~9~~ 8 hours later, May woke up to find her self on some kind of ~~the~~ squishy plant with huge spongy leaves. She was ~~as~~ as glad as ~~she~~ a month <sup>ago</sup> ~~she~~ hadn't eaten for a whole year and <sup>mangeta</sup> was finally getting a meal. ~~She~~

"How can I get out ~~now~~ of here?" May wondered out loud.

She started moving her hand around the rough sides of ~~the~~ the sinkhole, looking for hand holds to climb out. Suddenly, a ~~stale~~ mud brown rock fell down the sinkhole. It was followed by more and more rocks. ~~More~~ Boulders fell down, too. Even a few stalactites from the cave roof, came crashing down. ~~Only~~ Only 1 possible thing could be ~~is~~ happening. The sinkhole was ~~filled~~ being filled up to the brim with stalactites, stones, rocks and boulders!

Once the rockfall stopped, May came out of her ~~help~~ hiding place. She had noticed a tunnel that led to a small cave. When she poked her head out of the tunnel. All she could see was ~~rocks~~ a ~~stone~~ wall of rock. "There's no way I'm going to be able to move all those boulders myself," she sighed.

"Are you trapped, too?" asked a kind voice behind her. She turned around ~~and~~ and saw a shimmering turquoise dragon. Hints of lilac, sea blue and lavender scales glistened on her wings and tail. Small ~~green~~ fern green teardrops ~~shined~~ shimmered underneath her wings.

"You're... A DRAGON?!" exclaimed May in pure shock.

"Yes, I am," replied the dragon. "My name is Lilac. I've been stuck down here for a week. I have been eating bugs and worms to stay alive. They're not very tasty, though." But now there's none left to eat!"

"Is there any way to get out of here?"

"Well, there's a keyhole, but I don't have the key."

"Well, great," said May sarcastically. She slumped down on a cave wall. As she slumped down, dust cleared and a stone tablet took the place where the dust had been. The tablet said, "Imagination is the key to everything."

"That's it!" May exclaimed. "Imagination! If we imagine a key, maybe the lock will open up!"

They both imagined a golden key with scarlet wings on the sides and little carved flames on it. When they opened their eyes, the key they had imagined appeared in front of them. They turned the key in the lock and the cave wall slid open. They stepped out into the bright sunshine.

The 2 friends lived happily ever after.

The End.