

Step into a symphony of stories!

Imagine a world where books burst open and amazing characters from every kind of story leap out!

**Write a short story about a wonderful world filled with colourful characters.** (Limit of 3 pages per entry.)

## BRAKNAE

In the deep, dark oceans of Braknae, beneath the incandescent, luminous pearls and the incandescent songs from the dizzying mermaids that frolicked around all day lay a formidable, charcoal coloured blob-fish named Bob. He <sup>always</sup> bared his teeth (well he actually didn't have teeth) whenever an animal ~~ever~~ came passing by (which was never). Then something peculiar happened. The old blob-fish swam right next to a mermaid and puffed up his old, droopy cheeks to make himself look scary. Soon, the jovial creatures of the underwater city of Braknae were gloomy and petrified of the macabre blob-fish. Hearing the commotion, a young, determined girl named Madison decided to step in. You see, Maddie was always considered as the "underdog". And she hated it. So that was why she decided to take action.

She fitted on her snug, hot-pink swimming tank and slipped inside the silvery sheet of glistening water. She dived deeper and deeper until she could only see a thick blanket of darkness that wrapped around her tiny body. Then, she stilled. Her breathing became more pronounced and deeper as she forced herself to scrutinise her

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surroundings.

That's when she saw it. A nasty, enormous, hollow eyed blob-fish that gave her a foul, droopy glare. If looks could kill, Maddie would be dead in moments. Taking her translating device that glistened like a resplendent sapphire, she pressed it softly against her cheek.

"I'm here to order you to stop terrorizing the creatures of Braknac." Maddie explained firmly.

"Well, no one ever comes down here. I am so lonely." his voice came out very high-pitched, surprising Maddie as she was expecting Bob to have a rather guttural voice.

Maddie felt her face soften. Bob wasn't a monster, he was just lonely.

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"I'm sorry I - we've all misunderstood you. Is there anything I can do for you?" Maddie asked courteously, tilting her head in question.

"I just want to be with someone - just not alone," Bob responded, his hollow eyes sparkling with hope.

"Of course! I'm sure <sup>the townspeople of</sup> Braknae will invite you!" Maddie grinned warmly.

Beckoning Bob over, the two ~~glided~~ effortlessly into Braknae, where a suspicious crowd ~~wide-eyed~~ eyed them.

Maddie explained that Bob was lonely and told them he was good. Understanding her statement, the crowd warmly invited Bob into their community.

As for Madison, she was rewarded with miscellaneous objects and appreciative smiles. She had done it.

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