

Nr.5

HISTORY AND STORIES

B.P.HASDEU NATIONAL COLLEGE

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CREATIVITY SEEMS TO BE AN ENIGMATIC ASPECT OF HUMAN EXPERIENCE...WHETHER IT IS OFTEN DIFFICULT TO IDENTIFY WHAT IT IS THAT DRIVES THIS IMPULSE AND THE ELEMENT THAT INSPIRES AN ARTIST'S WORK, AS FAR AS STUDENTS ARE CONCERNED, THEY SHOULD ALWAYS START BY TRAINING TO BECOME IMAGINATIVE.

WRITTEN FROM THE PERSPECTIVE OF HISTORY AND LITERATURE LOVERS, THIS MAGAZINE BRINGS TOGETHER TWO AREAS THAT ARE SOURCES FOR ARTISTIC INSPIRATION: MYTHS AND LEGENDS...

ALL IN ALL, "HISTORY AND STORIES" HAS BEEN LAUNCHED WITH THE AIM TO GET STUDENTS MORE ENGAGED IN CULTURE, STARTING FROM WHAT RUMI ONCE SAID: ' DON'T BE SATISFIED WITH STORIES, HOW THINGS HAVE GONE WITH OTHERS, UNFOLD YOUR OWN MYTH'

TEACHERS:

MARINESCU ROCSANA. CALOIAN LILIANA, TRIFAN OTILIA

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COVER BY: DULUGEA IRINA

10TH F

Beauty doesn't matter
Iosif Carmen
10th H

Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana
“B.P Hasdeu National College”

Once upon a time
There was an ugly princess,
With eyes the colour of lime
And a soul full of kindness.

On a sunny day,
She went on a well-known way
To the lake from her childhood,
Hoping it would change her mood.

As she was wondering,
She saw a fish which was struggling
And without second thoughts,
She jumped in, not thinking of the odds.

As the time passed by
They started to get along,
At first they were shy
But after a while, their friendship got strong.

One day, the fish suddenly disappeared,
It had not happened before, so it was weird,
Out of nowhere, a beautiful prince came into her room
Saying that he loved her all the way to the moon.

She couldn't believe what she had heard
She couldn't believe a single word,
But the prince stopped her immediately,

Saying that he loved her deeply.

After a while,
They finally had a huge wedding,
Everybody couldn't help, but smile
So this is how their story came to an ending.

Mermaids

Vasile Alexia

10th I

Teacher: Trifan Otilia

“B.P Hasdeu ”National College

Ever since the dawn of time, mermaids have been both a legend and a mystery to mankind. It is said that sailors all across the seas have witnessed such creatures in the shallow waters or at the edge of cliffs. Legends about mermaids are highly diverse and some are quite intriguing. While some of the stories portray these fantastical beings as gorgeous women with fish-like tails, others describe them as being „creatures of the devil”, cold-hearted and horrible demons that wander the sea in search of defenceless sailors.

Mermaids or sirens originate in ancient Greece, where these aquatic creatures were thought to prey on sailors who were crossing the seas. They were believed to bring bad luck and people were afraid to even utter their name out loud. The term itself „mermaid” comes from the word „mere”, which is actually an obsolete sense of „sea” in Middle English.

Although the older myths highly emphasize the second portrayal of these unique creatures, the one of both extreme beauty and devilish behaviour, modern society has fully embraced mermaids as amazingly wonderful, sweet beings. The shift from feared mythical creatures to cute cartoon and movie characters was imperceptibly made. Mermaids have started to embellish present life turning their fish tails into glamorous, vividly-coloured accessories that catch one's eye from the exquisite dresses worn on the red carpet to daily mere costumes of kindergarten children. No wonder the myth dramatically turned into a flourishing business. Young girls soon fell in love with mermaids and their mysterious appearance, therefore mermaid-theme objects of all sort became available in stores all over the world. Nowadays one can find a wide range of mermaids representations, from toys to hair extensions or Halloween costumes, anything a child might think of.

One thing is for sure: Despite the dark origins of these legendary creatures, our modern society has turned mermaids into some of the most loved and appreciated characters both for kids and grown-ups. The folklore in many cultures worldwide mentions them, so their magical powers have always intrigued and fascinated people. However, only time will tell whether the shift from dark legends to

bewildering, colourful modern stories was worth it.

A LIFE-CHANGING DREAM

STOICA ALEXANDRA, 10th C

TEACHER CALOIAN LIANA

“M. EMINESCU” NATIONAL COLLEGE

Dear Sophie,

I hope you're doing well. I haven't written to you in a while because nothing interesting has happened in my life. However, for a couple of days I have had a recurrent dream, I've had the strangest dream ever. I was some sort of spirit which had to solve the problems of others and every day I woke up I was in the same country and every person I was in had the same age, but I was never in the same person twice.

The weird fact about this was that I didn't know anything about me as an individual, about where I came from or who my parents were. The only thing I knew was that I had to live someone's life for a day and to do as many good deeds as I could. Nevertheless, I had the opportunity to see a large variety of faces with lots of problems and I can say that it really taught me a very important life lesson. I learnt to be deeply grateful for every little thing that I have in my life, not just for the good financial situation I have compared to others, but also for the things we take for granted like the abilities to see, walk, talk and hear.

The other thing I learnt is that no one resembles no one, every human being is different, from the way they look to their personalities. There are many ways you can make somebody's day better and it depends on what type of person they are. It takes some effort to understand everybody, one has to be sympathetic and empathic, but once you have summoned up all your inner strength you can help others with some advice. I truly feel that it is a message for me to continue being kind because I

have the power of making the world a better place. One day when you least expect it you can wake up from a life-changing dream, just hold on to that and use it on a daily basis.

I would really like to read your opinion about what I've written to you. Write me your thoughts and maybe even one of your strangest dreams.

Love,

Alexandra

Dear Santa

Antonia Cosmina Tircoveanu

10th H

**Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana
“B.P Hasdeu” National College**

Dear Santa,
I don't want too much this year
I don't need lots of presents,
I just want a teddy bear
And my parents to be present.

They left me, long ago, alone,
To make my life way better,
But now, I'm being on my own
And I just can't remember

The last time that I hugged you, mom
The last time I felt loved,
When I've saw you and my dad
On Christmas Eve, at home.

Please, dear Santa, bring me back
The parents that I love
Don't make this Christmas be black
Because I need them home.

K I N G D O M
Mihaela Zaheiu
10th H

Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana
“B.P Hasdeu” National College

Princes
Kings
Colossal heritage
Extensive fortune
Rough times
Full of lies
Bloody battles
Lasting fights
Brave leaders
Trying to save lives
All over the world
Knights
Fighting for their empire
Queens
That we admire
Each of them for a
Kingdom...

I couldn't believe my eyes

Andreea Stroe
9th G

Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana
“B.P Hasdeu” National College

I couldn't believe my eyes! There was a dragon knocking on my door. At first I was very confused and a little bit scared because I had no idea why there was a dragon at my door in the first place! The strange creature had pink skin and green eyes, and it looked quite funny, but it was still a dragon. Then it began to talk, and that's how I found out that the dragon didn't want to harm me, it wanted to show me all my favourite places. Somehow, it knew that I had always wanted to visit America. So, I jumped on the dragon's back and we began our journey.

First, we went to Los Angeles and we flew over the entire city. Because it was dark outside I could see all the beautiful lights. I noticed the Hollywood sign and it was more gorgeous than how it looked in the photos. I could feel the wind in my hair and in that moment I was extremely happy.

After that, we flew to New York. There I saw The Statue of Liberty. I felt amazing and the dragon wasn't scary at all. It was very friendly and we talked a lot. I found out a lot of interesting

things about him and about his family. Apparently he had a younger sister and an older brother too. I haven't had the pleasure to meet his family because we had to go back home before the sunrise.

Luckily, we arrived at my house just on time. Then he left, but he promised he would visit me again to go on another amazing journey. Suddenly, I saw a white light and I woke up in my bedroom. I realized it was all a dream. I was really disappointed, but maybe I would have this kind of dreams again in which I shall meet the dragon again.

A parallel universe

Ema Bodea

9th G

Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana

“B.P Hasdeu ”National College

I couldn't believe my eyes! There was a dragon knocking at my door! I was so scared, that I slammed the door in its face, preparing to run upstairs, in my room and hide in my closet, or under the bed.

I was on my way to the room, but I heard a strange noise and I looked back. It couldn't be real! The dragon broke into my house!

A few seconds later, it was right in front of me. I thought it was going to eat me when it opened its mouth, but it actually started to talk to me. It presented itself and then it assured me that it had good intentions. Its name was Amethyst and it was colored in the most beautiful purple shades I had ever seen. Amethyst said that it was there to show me its world. I was a bit confused, but it explained to me that I entered a parallel universe.

The dragon told me to jump on its back, because it was time to travel around its world.

The first thing to visit on the list was Amethyst's hometown, where I met other dragons. Despite their frightening appearance, I realized that all the dragons were, in fact, really nice and friendly and I enjoyed their company a lot. I could stay and listen to their jokes endlessly, but Amethyst had to show me more places, so we headed for the next destination.

We kept travelling around its world for the rest of the day, visiting many beautiful places that I believed only existed in fairy tales, like marshmallow mountains and cities in the sky.

At the end of the day, the dragon decided to return among its family and friends and organize a party for me so that I could spend more time having fun with them.

It seemed to be perfect. We were joking and laughing, but all of a sudden, everything disappeared.

I opened my eyes and I saw nothing but my room. Then, after a few moments, I realized it was just a dream.

My big green friend

Froiciu Stefania

9th G

Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana
“B.P Hasdeu” National College

I couldn't believe my eyes! There was a dragon knocking at my door. I was shocked. The dragon was big and green, with big black eyes. I was fascinated to see him at my door and I didn't know what to do. He stared at me for a while, and then he invited me to fly together around the world. Of course I accepted and I climbed on his back. Then my new friend flew far away on the sky. The view was incredible. I couldn't believe that I was flying on a dragon's back. I decided to call my new friend Piggy.

Then we reached to Lapland, Santa's country, near the North Pole. We saw a shed and we landed on the roof. We entered and we saw the most incredible thing. In the middle of the room was Santa Claus and around him were a lot of elves and dwarves who were helping him to prepare the presents for next Christmas. He was very happy to see us, even if Piggy almost pulled down the shed when he tried to enter. Santa invited us to eat some sweets and to drink hot chocolate together. He told us the best jokes, so we laughed a lot. Piggy looked outside through the window and he was amazed. He had never seen snow before, so we went outside and built a snowman.

Before we left, I had asked him how he could deliver all the presents in only one night, but he didn't want to answer, because he doesn't like to tell his secrets. Perhaps he has a dragon like Piggy. Finally, I gave him my address and he promised to visit me on Christmas night. I climbed again on Piggy's back and we returned home, after another beautiful flight. This was an amazing day that I will never forget.

Just a dream

Stanila Denis
9th G

Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana
“B.P Hasdeu ”National College

I couldn't believe my eyes! There was a dragon knocking at my door. First I thought that he could be a dangerous dragon, who wanted to kill me. When I looked to him again, he smiled to me. The dragon was green and very, very big. He had blue eyes and a long tail. I opened the door and the dragon was happy to see me.

After this strange meeting, he told me that I wanted to come with him to explore the world. He could fly around the earth. For few seconds I was unsure. It looked very dangerous. But the idea to fly on a dragon made me choose. I sat on his nose. This thing was incredible, I could feel his breathing. It was hot. In that moment I realized that he was a fire dragon, but with a green colour. We flew through clouds. I could touch the sun. I saw a lot of places and countries like France, China, Jamaica and others. Then we went over the galaxy. We were in a magical world. All was made by sugar, I could taste the clouds. I saw mythical things like dwarfs, wizards, other dragons and other strange animals with three eyes, ten heads or people with four arms.

Finally, when he wanted to show me his house and his family, I woke up. It was just a fantastic dream...

My b-day **Neacsu Catalina**

9th G

Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana
“B.P Hasdeu” National College

“I couldn't believe my eyes! There was a dragon knocking at my door. ”I woke up and went to the window and I saw my dragon, Spike. He told me that he wanted to make a surprise for me because tomorrow it's my 18th birthday so he organized “The tour of the world”. I got dressed and we left for New York, the first destination. He said:” I like your wings today, you are the most beautiful I could ever have!” while we were watching sunrise from the Statue of Liberty and then we went to eat breakfast at Subfairly above Central Park. After New York, we left for Collosseum to see my friend Nathan, who is an elf, because he wanted to give me a gift. He gave to me a little bag who has in it magical flowers for potions.

“We need to get back home right now! Something terrible happened to your mom! ”Spike says to me and we went back home very fast. I opened the door from my parents’ house and I couldn’t believe.my magical friends and fairy organized a surprise party for me! ,”You said that something terrible happened!” I said.

“Well, .it was all just a lie because we needed to bring you back home very fast.”

At one moment, when I was dancing, the postman came and gave it to me a letter from my ex-best friend. The letter said “I know that are some things that I’ve should said when we were fighting and I’m worried about that. I hope you are happy now and you’ve made a new best friend.

I will always love you,

Love,

Richard”

When the party was over I said to everyone that I was grateful because I had friends like them.

My Wonferful World

Alexandrescu Denisa Nadia

9th G

Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana

“B.P Hasdeu” National College

I couldn’t believe my eyes. There was a dragon knocking at my door.

I was afraid and I didn’t know what to do. I opened the door and the dragon took me in his hands. We flew in the sky fast and we looked to the earth. The dragon told me he was like an angel who should teach me to love my environment and the other humans. He said I was so selfish and that wasn’t correct for me.

First, we landed in Syria. It was a very dangerous country because of the terrorist attacks. The people were scared and they ran to save their lives. I couldn’t look at the whole image because my soul broke up. The people were dying when I slept without any problem.

After that, we went to India when a lot of children had never gone to t school, or they hadn’t seen an ice-cream before. Their parents hadn’t had money to do more so they lived in a small and bad house. I remembered that I had toys from my childhood which I didn’t want to share to other kids. It was terrible and I felt dirty.

Finally, we landed in the Amazonian Forest. I knew it had burned, but I wasn’t interested to search more information. The dragon told me that the forest was making twenty percent of the oxygen that we breathe, but now it couldn’t do this as much. It burned because of the human*s action

Then, the dragon said to me : “You should learn something from this trek . I helped you, but now I had to go, beautiful soul !

I woke up and I realized that it was a dream . It was a dream which I will never forget . I founded *The Dragon Association* to help lots of people. My world has changed to the better.

A day for the dead
Ioana Olteanu

10th H
Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana
“B.P Hasdeu” National College

Alice sat at her desk in the bedroom distracted by the sounds of the wind pushing tree branches against her window. All of the sudden the power cut off. After sitting in the dark room for a couple of hours she decided to finally go check the power box from her basement. She had to go down the dark stairs with only one faint light coming from a candle. Unfortunately the whole floor of the basement was flooded so she had to go back to get her waterproof shoes. After finally getting to the power box she opened it in order to push the switch back on. As she was trying to push it, she caught a glimpse of what seemed to be an old woman wearing a nightgown. Alice was too scared to look again, so she took off running, before pushing the switch. She busted out the basement door and went straight to her room, but the door wouldn't open. She went back in the living room and tried calling her mother, but she had no signal. Alice then decided to leave the house, so she took her raincoat and umbrella and as she was reaching for the handle, it just fell off. She couldn't believe her eyes, the poor girl didn't know what to do and the only idea that came to mind was to sit down for a bit and try to relax. She eventually fell asleep, but not long after that she was woken up by some sort of music. When she opened her eyes she realised the old woman that scared her off in the basement was actually the silhouette of her grandmother, she died a couple of years ago on that same day. She got up and said:

'Grandma...'

But she just collapsed out of nowhere. When she woke up she was still at her desk, but it wasn't raining anymore. Alice thought it was her grandmother's way of saying goodbye. When she looked down at her desk she saw a picture of them in her hands, in which they were playing in the rain. She couldn't explain what had happened, but it felt calming after the storm.

THE GHOST

DATCU CATALINA, 10th

TEACHER CALOIAN LILIANA

„M. EMINESCU” NATIONAL COLLEGE

I had the strangest dream ever last night...I was in a dark forest where there were a lot of strange noises coming from everywhere in a terrifying symphony. I was scared to death because I saw fleeting shadows in front of me. I was running like the wind when I tripped over a big stone and fell

down on what seemed to be blood-damped grass. When I finally stood up, suddenly in front of me was a ghost that smelt strange. The smell came from her old, shabby clothes. I was petrified, I felt my heart freeze. Around me the trees seemed to have different faces, contorting grotesquely.

I started running for my life and the ghost came after me, bouncing, threateningly. I saw only the darkness and the red sky. No one was on that awful day to help me. The animals screamed and they darted away and the ghost was coming closer and closer to me. I told it, I begged it to leave me, but it looked as if it were carved in marble.

The ghost was on the verge of killing me, but behind it the ghost hunter had turned up mysteriously and cut its head off with his silver dagger. I was happy because I'd escaped, and after thanking him I wanted to get out of the forest when I saw a lot of ghosts rushing after me. They surrounded me, they started singing and.... I woke up.

Project 23

Ichim Clementina

10th H

Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana

“B.P Hasdeu” National College

They both stood there for a couple seconds, fazed, staring into the horizon and taking it all in.

"Perhaps, we should see where this road leads?", said Julian, his eyes still focused on the horizon line, where the tar black road merged into the clear sky.

"What could be there? It seems to me that we're surrounded by a whole of nothing, just grass.", she answered reluctantly. Julian finally turned his head around to face her and slightly opened his mouth, like he wanted to say something, but nothing came out. Instead, he stood there, frozen by the sight of what looked like hundreds of people standing in the middle of the road. Their eyes were moving hastily in their eye sockets, trying to grasp the scenery, to make means of what's going on. He looked at all of their faces, some of the more concerned ones had furrowed brows and wrinkled foreheads, others looked as if they were in a trance, walking aimlessly across the road. He heard murmurs and whispers, people talking to each other "do you know where we are?", "what is this place?". They were coming from all around, creating a constant buzzing of panicked voices. It was obvious that everyone was in distraught. A young woman stood in the middle of everyone else, with a blank, emotionless expression, trying to keep calm, although her eyes were flickering with fear. She spotted Julien and the other girl standing aside from the crowd and quickly started making her way up the road to them.

"Uh, hey, sorry, but does any of you know what's going on?", she asked, with a slightly trembling voice. Julien and the girl both shook their heads no. Now that she was closer, Julien could see that she was younger than he had thought, younger than the American girl, most likely a teenager.

" Oh, okay." she said, clenching her jaw nervously. "I'm Olivia, by the way"

"Julien."

"I'm Anna, nice meeting you."

Olivia smiled weakly at both of them.

"So what do we do now?", asked Olivia.

"I don't know, I was thinking of going up the road, see where it takes us." Julien said, pointing a finger in the way the road stretched out." But I don't know if it's gonna be any help."

"Hey! What's that?", Anna suddenly shouted.

"What?", both Julien and Anna asked, simultaneously.

"That!" she said, pointing her finger to the sky. In the sky, far away, two little black dots appeared to be growing significantly fast. Once they were big enough, Julien saw they weren't two black dots at all, but two large black helicopters coming their way. Once the helicopters landed, a woman accompanied by two men started making their way to where the people were. The general buzzing and rustling stopped once everyone saw the three people coming their way.

"Hello", said the woman as she arrived in front of everyone, in a cold, stern tone. "I understand you are all confused, so I shall clarify the situation. My name is not important, but my identity is. I am head chief of the Union of the Free and Righteous Nations, an organisation formed in 2030 by the great leaders of the world, in hopes of saving our planet. As you are here, you can see our plan has failed." said the woman, pushing on the last word, magnifying it, making it echo through everybody's soul. The woman's words resonated through Julien "Failed...failed... what does she mean 'failed'?", he thought. "How could something as beautiful as humanity fail, our race, the smartest between animals, with such great accomplishments... failed...". The woman was still talking, but the words meant nothing to him, it was as if he had suddenly become deaf, blind, crippled, he couldn't see, hear or move.

" I know this might come as a surprise for most of you, some of you, however, knew this day was doomed to come.." he heard her words floating. He looked at Anna, who was as shocked as him, and then at Olivia. She was looking at the woman with attention, her face showing understanding, and her lips curved in a defeated smile. She sensed that he was watching her and turned to face him, tears welling up in her eyes, weakly.

"Now, counting in Earth years, it is the year 2061. The Earth is no longer a habitable planet. Now we stand, millions of light years away, on an" exoplanet", ready to make it our new home. You have been chosen, randomly, from all nations, religions, ages and eras, so the process would be as natural as it could, to start a new chapter for humanity. The road leads to a city. Go there and start a new life. You will be watched closely, so that humanity won't fail again. Be kind, gentle and open-minded, and maybe we will build a society that will prosper."

A couple of months passed since the woman's landing, and people started getting used to the idea of that being their new home. Julien and Anna found out from Olivia, who came from 2031, about how earth rapidly started losing balance, and how everyone hoped that the making of the organisation would salvage the planet, but everything was in vain. The New Nation, as the people called themselves, was organised quite well. They managed to live life ordinarily in the city, with no conflicts or complications of any kind. Julien and Anna took it upon themselves to start instructing the people, and they acknowledged them as some sort of leaders. At first, everything ran smoothly, it seemed like an ideal society, an utopia, where everything is peaceful and flourishing. But, things started going south quickly, since everyone was getting impatient, looking for answers. "Where was the woman? Where did she go? Why didn't she come back?" were all questions people needed answers for. These questions were troubling Julien as well, but as soon as they surfaced in his brain, he would shake them off, telling himself that he doesn't have time for such things and that he should focus on his main goal, creating the ideal society. As if these things weren't enough trouble, an old man, with small mean eyes and dishevelled dirty gray beard and hair, rose against Julien and Anna, refusing to listen to them. He came from the 70's, from an important family with a big name in Russia, where he occupied a high position in Moscow, so he thought he was the only fitting one to rule. A dedicated communist, with radical opinions, but appearing very persuasive, he managed to convert some people to his beliefs and form a rebellion against Julien, Anna, and whoever supported them. And just like that, all hell broke loose, and everything turned into complete anarchy. Conflicts were daily matters, people getting hurt and even killed every day. During one of the riots in the Central Square, where Julien met his end when a group of rebels attacked him and beat him to death, the helicopters came back. The people stopped fighting and killing each other and watched as the woman walked towards them. She looked at the crowd of people, standing in a pool of their blood, and then at a man on her right. Then, she said, calmly, but loud enough for everyone to hear her:

"Project 23 has failed. Reset and bring in the new subjects." as the words left her mouth, the man pushed a little red button on his watch. Suddenly, everyone's knees weakened and they all fell to the ground and through it, disappearing as quickly as they appeared.

REVIVAL

DOBRE MARIA-DANIELA, IX th B

TEACHER: CALOIAN LILIANA

“M. EMINESCU” NATIONAL COLLEGE

Life is full of suffering,
hatred, losing, bleeding
even dying.

But you've got to stay strong,
because your revival is yet to come.

I once died, in 2015,
when I let them bury me alive
under their absurd norms
because of society, I was messed up
even now, everything's faded,
I'm wondering if I only dreamt about it.

Five years later, still underground,
while I was looking at the blackness above my eyes

I noticed a little light
I trembled, not knowing what it was
nor whether it was meant for me to see
I couldn't help hoping a little bit
that I would escape the nightmare
I'd been living for the past years.

My view was getting clearer and clearer,
the light was becoming bigger and bigger.

I could see a pair of hands
throwing away the mess
that had been holding me down
for such a long time.

I was regaining my ability to breathe
little by little,
but didn't know what to feel -
what if I was about to be thrown somewhere else
cursed to be alone for eternity?

One of the hands reached out
and I grabbed it,
desperate as I was to be saved
even for the slightest second.

A shiver went down my spine
as soon as I touched the hand,
I felt a strong connection
as if it were someone I'd known forever...

An insane energy was fulfilling me,
I hadn't even seen who that person was
but as long as I felt the warmth of their hand
I felt reborn.

I had been pulled out of the grave
and I could breathe normally again.

There, still holding my hand,
was who I call today my savior.

I'd never seen him before,
but I knew him somehow,

our souls were bound with a magical rope.

He smiled at me and warmly said:

"Welcome to your new life."

Everything felt so unreal

Iosif Carmen

10th H

Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana

"B.P Hasdeu" National College

Julian was staring at the girl next to him who was gazing around. Everything felt so unreal. They sat down on the meadow and tried to figure out what was happening.

"What is the last thing you remember?", asked Julian.

"I don't really remember anything", she said. "I can only see a big white room and I can't understand what it has to do with all of this."

"Neither do I, but believe me, you are luckier than me because I can't remember even the smallest detail."

In that place, everything seemed to be more beautiful and safer than the world they were used to live in. The grass was covered in the refreshing dew, the wind was blowing calmly to minimise the heat the sun was giving and you couldn't spot a single cloud up in the sky.

Some of the people Julian saw earlier started wondering near them. While he was looking around he caught a glimpse of an old kind looking lady. He didn't know why, but he felt that he had seen her in the past. He got up and approached her politely.

"Good evening, madam", said Julian with a voice full of hope. "I was wondering if you could tell me and my friend what are we doing in this place and also what is this place."

The lady's eyes filled immediately with tears.

"Oh my god, dear", said the old lady with a trembling voice. "You really don't know, do you?"

Julian looked at her with a scared figure.

"What does this mean?"

"You and your friend were my patients in „The Royal Hospital” and I took care of you two a long amount of time. She was sitting in the bed next to you. You both were in a coma, but she had been there since 1999."

"What?! Please tell me that's not what I think it is!"

"Poor boy, you were brought there in a sunny day and you could just mumble a few words. You managed to say that you were out for a jog. You were always jogging up to a tree and then start reading; that explains the bag of books you are carrying. You spent almost seven years in that hospital, but unfortunately I had got retired. I was always praying for you to get better. This, my boy, it is the day of your death, that's why you are so disoriented."

Julian stood there not knowing what to do or what to say. He was stunned.

From nightmare to dream

Cringasu Alexandru

9th G

Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana

“B.P Hasdeu Nationala College”

The clock stuck midnight when I opened my eyes. The sky was dark and I couldn't see anymore what was happening at that moment in my room. A giant monster stared at me while I was hiding under the cover. I couldn't move.

I tried to scream, but nobody heard me. I was alone. I decided to close my eyes. Even if I closed them I started hearing some strange noises. I opened them again and I saw an wonderful world. It was a sunny day in this world that I couldn't explain. Rabbits surrounded me. They were so little and cute! That nightmare turned into a good dream. I saw a man with a green hat and a wand, like in Harry Potter. I left the rabbits, the wonderful trees and I followed him. While I was following the strange person, the sky turned back to dark, the trees disappeared. I was in a completely different world. The hat turned into a special cloak. When he returned from the murk, I saw just his head.

This was an invisible cloak! That was fantastic! I had been following him for 2 hours. Far away, I could see a castle. While I was walking I saw dragons, different types of dragons which blew fire. It was a war! The question is: „Between who?”. The man didn't talk to me all this time. It was a strange situation for me. I screamed at him: „Hey! Did you hear me? I want to say something to you, but I don't know you!”. He turned back to me and stared at me for a while. His eyes were green, his hair was Brown and his wand was magical! Yes, it was Harry Potter. We arrived at Hogwarts castle and all of the teachers and students were panicked.

I said to them that I wanted to help them. I wanted Voldemort dead because I hate so much that monster! Because of him, Harry Potter had that curse. Together, we were going to win! I started fighting with some goblins, dragons and also, I killed Bellatrix Lestrange. I helped Hermione and Ron and I was so happy about that. The hardest thing was to kill Voldemort. For that, we needed to meet Dumbledore who helped us to do strong spells.

Finally, we killed Voldemort, who was evaporating. I woke up and a small piece of sunshine was brightening my face. That dream was strange, but awesome.

Toy in the galaxy

Ionascu Iarina

10th H

Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana
“B.P Hasdeu” National College

The man woke-up
“OMG! Where am i?”
“You’re in another galaxy!”
In the star field the man was scared, not understanding what had happened.
Naughty and strange creatures turned up and
Told him
He was gently falling asleep
Even if he was kidnapped and taken away to a
Galaxy
And put to do some experiments
Living among Martians
And with the Queen
Xena standing by...
Yet he realized it was just a dream.

THE ISLAND OF EOS

COTIGA MARIA, 9th

TEACHER CALOIAN LILIANA

“M. EMINESCU” NATIONAL COLLEGE

There has never been a land quite like The Island of Eos - a seed cup, truly, of what is too beautiful for the world and what the world is too beautiful for. The Man, who didn't believe in the living of his own son and the death of his two dogs, threw The Time and put down the virginity of every plant and seed. Poor temper. And poor throwing abilities. But The Man didn't care. He had his two dogs now. An anchor to the life He had before, to the one that still was to be his life, yet one that will never be met after.

His little Boy didn't like it.

The Boy knew he was being pushed away with The Time, even if His father denied it many times

whilst serving the breakfast toast. A mug of any sort at the dining table during meals like that is not only some sort of work of pottery, it's an opportunity truly. I would've exaggerated the narrative even further, saying His father denied it countless times, but those times could be counted with the fingers of one hand. His father denied putting effort into a truthful answer five times, which was enough to convince The Boy there was a void out there. And it was waiting for more adepts. Baby voids. To form a much deeper void. Typical void stuff.

And for The Boy it was good stuff. He wasn't a boy anymore. He was becoming a troubled teenager. Yes, that's it. So he went with the voids and all that and he forgot about those lascivious olives and the flowers.

He got drunk. Just... disappeared. He was never seen again. Just went with The Void.

Yeah.

So, the flowers got mad and if you put a price on their anger it would be millions. Or maybe it would be at a garage sale because it's an abstract continent here and no one really cares. And that's why they were mad. Really mad. And anger entails sarcasm. If you had asked them why they were mad they would have said "Yes.". And that's only because of a really imaginative and potentially schizophrenic guy, according to this middle aged blonde lady. I don't know her. I only see her. She acts as if she had invented unicorns, attitude which translates perfectly the sorts of entitlement she thinks she has.

Back to those...flowers.

They were mad. Grew a bit. Built an island to increase big boy's reputation. The Time liked it, it not being some sort of deserted swamp.

It was beautiful.

It was like candy land but with more enthusiasm and people. People that tamed The Plants, bringing a very generous deal to the table.

Every living being with a functioning enough way of thinking, enough to form a perception... or not even that. Just any sort of feeling really. That's enough to be living..

And The Plants lived. And they lived Sadness. Pain. Fear. Fear of being rejected again. And the people didn't bring fear into their little souls. They and their words nurtured the long lost happiness and brought it back on display. The Plants became more beautiful than ever before. And that beauty itself is the Isle of Eos. It's the birth of beauty and kindness. And there was so much of it that people took bits of it and took it further into the world. Some people liked it because it made them feel happy too. Some didn't. But it didn't matter anyway, because everyone hugged and they didn't care and no one else did, really.

Eos is ruttled from love and kindness, shaping beauty. People are welcomed here to find that sort of beauty as the one there was when they were born. A rebirth of the mind. A new carving for the course of your veins, putting an end to the seemingly endless effort of finding your legs in the world because here is where your soul walked for the first time.

At least this is what I was told whilst sailing on the boat of a very long ago dead fisherman so that I could get to this so-called island.

And once I saw it, I never believed in fairy tales again.

When the clock struck midnight

Matei Diana

9th G

Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana
“B.P Hasdeu” National College

The clock struck midnight when the power went out. We were scared to the bones. Loud, creepy noises were coming from the attic. We had no signal on our phones, given the fact that we were basically in the middle of nowhere, so we weren't able to call our parents.

The storm was constantly getting worse. We were afraid to even leave the room we were in, scared by the thought that someone could be in the house. The fact that it was 31th of october, Halloween's night, was not helping either, because we were only creating the worst scenarios possible, from the house being haunted to ghosts living in our attic.

I couldn't stand that anymore. I raised from the bed and bravely walked to the door.

-Who's coming with me? I asked loudly, trying to keep myself from crying.

The silence filled the room. I asked one more time, trying to look as confident as I could.

-I'll come with you, a boy said. I wasn't able to see him, it was too dark, but his voice made me realise who he was. He was the oldest of us all.

We opened the door, terrified of what we could have seen. He was holding a flashlight and he was staying behind me, because I was too scared to not have someone in my back. The sounds coming from the attic kept getting louder and louder. But we decided that we should first go downstairs, to make sure that we were all alone in that enormous house. To us, going down the stairs in that moment seemed the most frightening thing on Earth. It was like we were straight up jumping in the mouth of the monster.

I checked the doors and the windows. Locked. He checked all the cabinets, places where someone or something could've hidden away. When I'm thinking this through now, I just can't imagine what we would have done in the case when we would've found something.

The ground floor was clear and we started feeling a little bit more relaxed and safe. So we went to the attic. But what we found there will never get out of our minds...

Midnight in another land

Teodora Coman

9th G

**Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana
“B.P Hasdeu” National College**

The clock struck midnight when I woke up suddenly. I couldn't sleep, so I went to the kitchen. When I got there, I decided to drink some water. After that, I looked in the fridge to see what we had to eat. I took a piece of cheese and I wanted to go back to my room. But then I heard a strange noise, something like “chit-chit”. I looked everywhere and nothing. Suddenly, I feel something strange down, at my legs. When I looked, I saw a mouse. I was so scared and I started to run, but then I hit something and I fainted. After that, I woke up, saying: “ Ah, my head hurts..”. But when I looked around, I saw that I wasn't in my kitchen anymore. I was in a land where all the people looked like they were animals. While I was walking in this new land I heard a voice saying: “Welcome there!”. When I looked I saw a person dressed like a mouse. She said: “ Hey, you! I am Rosie and you are in a secret land, called Fantasia. I am the mouse that you were scared of.” In that moment I started crying. “No, no... You don't need to be afraid..”, the mouse said. “But... How can I go back home?”. Rosie didn't say anything. She tried to comfort me, but I was so scared. After that, she gave me a fake tail and fake years, because nobody saw that I am a human. Rosie and I walked a long time. Then she met some of her friends. They looked very strange at me. One of them stared at me for two minutes?! I started feeling uncomfortable. In that moment, Rosie said that she needed to go to the toilet. ”Oh good... she left me alone with them...”. Her friends have been getting closer and closer. “What to do now?”. I said: “Guys, please,... stop!”. Their looks scared me... “Hey... what are you doing?! No! ..NO!. In that moment I woke up on the floor, in the kitchen. My head stilled hurts. I got up and I looked at the clock. It was 6 A.M. . I decided to go back to my room and sleep.

False Alarm

Ema Bodea

9th G

Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana
“B.P Hasdeu” National College

The clock struck midnight when I was preparing to go to sleep after an exhausting day spent with my friend in the mountains. We were staying at a hotel next to the forest.

I was trying to fall asleep, when suddenly, somebody knocked at the door. Wondering who could that be, I went to open it. There was my friend, who claimed that she had heard many people screaming in the hallway of the hotel. She asked me to go with her to see what was happening, but I was too tired. Before giving her an answer, my friend grabbed my arm, taking me out of my room. I even left the door unlocked!

We took the elevator to the reception, where we saw a whole scene developing in front of us. Lots of people were gathering next to the windows, yelling:” Look! The bear!”. We tried to look on one of the windows, but there were too many people, so we couldn` t see anything.

Then I asked a group of teenagers who were standing next to me if they saw the bear. They showed me a picture of it, but all I could see was a black screen.

”How can you not see it? It is right in the corner of the photo!” one of them said.

”I heard it ate the guardian. He is nowhere to be found!” another one said to me.

Looking at them, I realised I was wasting my time, because they were probably joking, so I went to my friend, who finally found a place in front of the window.

When I glanced again, it crossed my mind that there was actually something outside, but it was too small to be a bear.

Suddenly, it started moving and after a few seconds, the mysterious creature got up. It had the dimensions of a human, which made me even more suspicious about it being a bear.

Many people started to yell, looking like they were having a heart attack, when they saw it running to the door. Everybody was scared.

We were all expecting to see a frightening creature entering the hotel, but... when the door opened, the silhouette of a man started to contour. The bear was actually the guardian, wearing a large fur coat. He explained us that he fell asleep on the bench in front of the hotel, but the noise we made woke him up.

I told my friend I was sure it was a false alarm from the beginning and then we started laughing.

After everybody in the reception calmed down, me and my friend decided it was time for us to go to our rooms, hoping that nobody would dream about bears.

The bird king

Mara Tirtan

9th G

Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana
“B.P Hasdeu” National College

The clock struck midnight when some birds in the jungle started to think to themselves: “All the animals in the jungle have a king”. And they wanted a king, too.

“Let me be king. Look at my wonderful colours!” said the beautiful starling.

“No, no!” said another bird “I can speak to the other animals. I should be the king”

“Why don’t we have a competition? The bird who can fly the highest will be the bird king!”

Every bird thought this was an excellent idea, especially the eagle who thinks that it is the strongest.

The race began, and all the birds flew high to the sky. They flew higher and higher and the eagle flew the highest.

But the sparrow was hiding under the eagle's wing. Suddenly it flew higher than the eagle's head. The sparrow was the highest bird of all! It won the competition.

Once upon a time... in the 60s

Tircoveanu Antonia

10th H

Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana
“B.P Hasdeu” National College

She felt asleep, with her head on a book. She dreamt about being a teenage girl in the 60's. Alice was dressed in a red dress. She had her hair tied in a bun, was wearing red lipstick and white shoes. She didn't understand what she was doing there and why she was dressed like that. Suddenly, she heard the doorbell ring. She was confused, but she opened the door. A tall, blonde guy with blue eyes and suited up smiled at her. He kissed her hand and asked if she was ready. She was shocked, but she went with him.

They arrived at a restaurant. It was modest. Everyone there was well dressed. People were dancing around on old music. A band was filling the air with love songs. He invited Alice to dance with him, and she accepted. It was clear they were in love. Everybody there was having a good time: they were dancing, singing, drinking, having no phones and just vibing together.

She felt in love with that place. It was the time of her life. The tall guy was looking at her in a way no one ever did before. When she was brave enough to ask for his name, everything around had disappeared: the band, the people, the restaurant, even the guy she loved.

She suddenly woke up. She realized that it was all a dream. Alice was so sad and disappointed when she discovered how beautiful was everything in the 60's, and that she would never have part of something like that. And, of course, because she felt in love with a person that doesn't exist.

Santa is finally here

Mihaela Zaheiu

10th H

Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana
“B.P Hasdeu” National College

Alice sat at her desk in the bedroom distracted by the sounds of bells. She suddenly saw a big red and white hat and two or three reindeers. It was Christmas Eve, the 24th of December, and outside it was snowing gently.

Alice was waiting quietly for Santa Claus in her bedroom, trying to do her homework, but she didn't really like her old desk... At the same time she was literally excited so she ran out. The little girl wanted to see Santa tonight, so she tried to stay up the entire night in front of her house. It was cold, so cold... she was freezing, but she was still hoping that something special was going to happen. And she was right, out of nowhere, a little and cute elf had appeared and gave her a box and he told her to go to sleep, because she would have a surprise.

She finally fell asleep and the next morning she heard a strange male voice. Alice went into the living room and she saw the real Santa Claus. He knew that the girl wanted a new desk to do her homework on so he gave her exactly what she wanted.

It was a big surprise for Alice and she made it up cooking some ginger bread.

A dream kettle

Bianca Ion

10th H

Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana
“B.P Hasdeu” National College

Alice sat at her desk in the bedroom distracted by the sound of a rattle snake. It was so strange that she took a little fear in her, but curiosity surprised her and gave her the power to get up and see what the annoying sound was.

With small steps, she was walking down the hall and following the sound. The rattle was getting louder and louder. Alice also she got scared even harder and ran to her room. She took a deep breath and said : “ I have no idea what it could be , it sounds like a baby dragon ,but I don’t know... I am not going to let this unfixed!” So, she took the courage that she had left, prepared for the anonymous creature that broke into her house and maybe wanted to destroy it. Alice was alone that day, so it came to her that opportunity to save her beloved house. She tied her hair, took some knives and thick sticks to defend herself. The rattle was so louder as if something was going to explode. She left her room quickly, walked to the highest volume of the rattle and waited. She was waiting for any move that could have made by that creature. .The girl pushed with one knife and waited to see if anything would move. She had been waiting for ten minutes. Tired of it and almost frustrated with her trouble, she took her last piece of courage and entered the kitchen. She couldn’t believe it. It was no baby dragon, or anything like that. She dropped off all her armour and laughed at her craziness. It was her mother’s kettle that boiled too much. Her mom forgot her tea on fire and produced all this misunderstanding trouble.

Anyway, Alice thanked God that there wasn’t anything odd, and really pleased. She told her story to her family and they all laughed. She promised that she would be a lot braver, and not panick so easily.

Poisonous mushrooms

Tataranu Florina

10th H

Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana
“B.P Hasdeu” National College

Alice sat down at her desk in the bedroom distracted by the sounds of the busy city. Since she was a child, she had always wanted to get away from the car horns and the polluted air that described the town she lived in. Alice was a month away from turning sixteen. Usually, teens are making plans for their birthday parties, but she is planning a two-day trip to reconnect with the nature. Her parents do not agree, but you know how teens are.

The big day has come. It’s a beautiful night with a clear sky full of shinning hard. Before she left, she packed her stuff and then wrote a note for her parents in which she told them what she was going to do. After that, she opened her bedroom window and jumped. She made too much noise when she landed so her parents’ bedroom light was switched on. Alice didn’t think twice and ran as fast as she could. She was going toward the woods at the exit of the city. She planned her trip perfectly because it was easy to get there.

It was five AM when she got there. The sun was rising slowly and without making a sown, it was waking up the entire nature. The butterflies, the ants and even some stray dogs were all happy about the light. Alice got carried away until she heard a strong growl. She remained still. When she turned, she saw a small creature all alone in the middle of the lake. It was covered in

fur, but was not a bear. Its eyes were small and its ears were round. The fur on its body was white, but his belly was black. Alice had never seen something like that before. She couldn't believe her eyes. The "thing" was floating towards her on a piece of wood. When it came closer, she saw that the creature was hurt. Alice jumped in the lake and rescued the little thing. She bandaged it, fed it and put it to sleep. She knew her trip turned into something much bigger. The night was slowly coming, she put up a campfire. Her new friend woke up and made a high sound that made her ears bleed. In a second, its mom appeared and then disappeared twice as that. Alice was now scared and didn't want to spend one more second in there so she packed her things and promised to never come back. When she got home, she was grounded for three months and no one believed her story. Maybe she ate poisonous mushrooms, who knows ?

Just a prank

Preda Maria

10th H

**Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana
"B.P Hasdeu" National College**

Alice sat at her desk in the bedroom distracted by the sounds of a powerful thunder. The cars were honking outside and the little girl couldn't concentrate to do her essay. Lightning and thunder reminded her of her grandmother's stories. She wished her grandmother had been there with her because she felt alone and scared.

Suddenly, the phone started to ring. It was her best friend. She answered but she was terrified by the noises that came from the other end of the line. Her friend seemed to be in danger. Alice couldn't understand what he said, but she could hear that he repeated the words "ghost" and „vampire". Alice turned off the phone and she sat down on the bed, covering herself with a blanket. After a few minutes, the phone rang again. It was still her best friend. He said that it was a prank and that he didn't want to scare her.

She gave a sigh of relief and then she called her grandmother and asked her to tell her a story.

Alice will always remember her

Tulin Diana

10th H

**Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana
“B.P Hasdeu” National College**

It's raining relatives....

Alice sat at her desk in the bedroom distracted by the sounds of the city, the rain and the chaos the humans always make. She was very fascinating about staring at people and discovering new things about them. This was her passion. Beside reading love stories and watching comedy movies, Alice loved to better understand what people think about and where they come from.

This hobby started when her grandma told her a lot of stories about the origin of humans, their habits and traditions. Since then, she has been studying many sources. But when Alice was little, she never wanted to listen to her grandmother tales. More than that, she had just remembered a funny story while she was sitting at her desk. In a summer holiday, some years ago, Alice went with her family on a trip in Maramureş. Even if they had visited almost all the tourist attractions from there, grandma's curiosity for art and traditions wanted more. So they had been searching in the surroundings for a while and they somehow found out that the grandma, even if she was adopted and she loved very much her parents, she actually was having her true family there. It's true that her parents died, but she found without explanation her sisters and it was more than amazing. Alice and the whole family were very excited and happy for her. Since then, Alice has valued on one hand the moments and memories which she has with her family, and on the other hand the importance of destiny, the research and the curiosity that we all need.

Even if she doesn't know exactly why she associates the whole city and its noise with her grandma's experience, which totally marked her, Alice always will remember her when she sits down and disconnects from all the troubles.

The season of the witch
Ichim Clementina

10th H

Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana
“B.P Hasdeu” National College

Alice sat down at her desk in the bedroom distracted by the sound of the floor creaking. She stood there and listened, as the sound grew closer. The wind was faintly blowing through the white curtains. The moonlight was watching over them and spreading in the room, washing away some of the darkness that stood there. Alice got up and started feeling around for the candle that had been blown out by the wind. As soon as she found it, she grabbed it and searched around for the matches. Soon enough, she would have lit the candle. The room flowing in obscurity felt cold, it felt like an estranged one, that Alice hadn't been in before. The creaking had stopped in the meantime. Alice wandered over to the massive wooden door and opened it. She stepped out of her room and she felt the old wooden floor bend slightly under her cold feet, as the sound of it creaking echoed in the hallway. She took a deep breath and made her way up the hallway. This wasn't the first time something of such nature had happened. Ever since Virginia disappeared, her nights were restless. Doors and floors creaking, windows opening in the middle of the night, and sometimes, even whispers, faint cries for help, cried out slowly in her ears, so real that she could almost feel the warmth of that person's breath. Alice knew that what happened to Virginia was bound to happen to her as well. Virginia left one early evening to go grab some more ink for Alice. She never returned, but Alice knew exactly what had happened. They were both rumored to be witches, and people are cruel and wary of the unknown. So Alice knew that her days were numbered. Alice was now standing by the fire place, with tears in her eyes, looking at the pale silhouette of a woman. The woman turned and Alice knew immediately what was going on. Virginia smiled, knowingly, with teary eyes as well, then turned around and left, without saying farewell, as she knew they would meet soon. The sun was now creeping through the curtains and a loud male voice, accompanied by others, was growing closer. The next thing she knew, she was standing by the scaffolding.

Right before Christmas

Irina Petrescu

10th H

**Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana
“B.P Hasdeu” National College**

Alice sat at her desk in the bedroom, distracted by the sounds of rattle that were coming from outside of her house. She wondered what this sounds may mean but not minutes after she realised it was almost Christmas so people were always coming to houses to sing carols. It was that time of the year and that magical atmosphere was splashing everywhere. The houses in Copenhagen were decorated with brightly-coloured Christmas lights and with huge, amazing statues that were sitting among the narrow path, which was leading to the magical front door that had Santa Claus on it. Let me tell you, this was Alice's worst nightmare! She hated Christmas from the bottom of her heart!

As she was glancing at the view from her window, Alice got a phone call from her mother „Hi, sweetie! I am really sorry to announce you that we won't be home for Christmas.. Our flight got cancelled because there us a very bad storm coming! I know you will be upset, we are too, but you need to know that we love you and we hope you are doing ok!”. Alice didn't have the guts to say any other words than just „Alright, love you too!...” because it was the third year in which her parents were missing the Christmas day. She was devastated once again and burst into tears. Suddenly she came up with a great idea. If she couldn't get a happy Christmas day with her parents, maybe she could help someone else get it. So, she dressed up and went to the mall where there was a wonderful tree that had delicate globes carved with numbers .Each number was related to the name of a child from foster-care. Alice decided to go to these kids and start asking them what they wanted for Christmas. She made a big list and then letters for every single one of them, in which she wrote beautiful words to make them believe in the holiday's magic.. at least they needed to believe. She lost all of her hope in that. Then, she went shopping for the gifts. Two hours passed by and soon after that she realised she needed someone to give her a hand at this little project. Alice didn't have anyone in mind and everything seemed useless. All of a sudden, if you can believe it, Santa Claus was knocking at her window. Alice opened the window thinking that it was a kid playing tricks on her and let's be real, her night couldn't get worse. The mysterious man grabbed Alice in his sleigh and within seconds they were above the city. We can say that being a little dizzy was no aspect for her in that moment. She was sure that she was dreaming or something. She asked the man „Wait.. Hmm. who are you, what are we doing here and how are we above my city? I am so confused!”, but she never got an answer because the supposed Santa Claus was just smiling at her. After 2 seconds Alice was back at her house in her bed, lying on the huge pile of letters. She had been dreaming, but in that moment it hit her. She just needed to believe! She went downstairs and was surprised by her friends that

had the same idea! Just like that, everything was heading in the right direction and the storm that held her parents in Hawaii vanished also!

On Christmas day, as Alice and her family were opening presents, a Christmas carol started to play. It was followed by a hard knock on the door. Urgently Alice got to the door and when she opened it nobody was there, just a globe that was painted with the words “Ho, Ho, Ho!”. Turns out Alice hadn't dreamt after all...

The mystery finally ended

Iosif Carmen

10th H

**Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana
“B.P Hasdeu” National College**

Alice sat at her desk in the bedroom, distracted by the sounds of branches hitting her window. It was a cold autumn night, the wind was blowing calmly and if you listened carefully you could hear the wolves howling. She was sure that if she wouldn't stop thinking about this case she would completely lose her mind. It had haunted her for the past three months, but she didn't want to give up. She couldn't understand how such a rich man could disappear without the smallest evidence. They looked everywhere for him, but he was completely gone. His wife told them the last thing she remembered about him, but his kid didn't want to talk. Maybe he was still frightened or maybe he knew something. Although the wife seemed to be devastated because of the loss, there was something suspicious in her voice and Alice felt she was almost ready to end this whole mystery.

One day, as she was walking her dog in the park, Alice saw the man's wife with some other man. He looked like the dead man, but that was impossible. She remembered reading in his file that he had a brother. As the time passed by, Alice saw something that she couldn't believe. The two of them were kissing and laughing as nothing happened. That image was atrocious! Alice needed to get in touch with the kid. Luckily, she remembered the kinder garden he was going to and she rushed there immediately. He still didn't want to talk at first, but in the end he burst into

tears and told her everything. He said how his uncle used to come more often in the past months and how they were planning something. He managed to hear that they were willing to go on a trip, but their voices sounded as if that trip was the most important thing ever and it must be done as soon as possible. That was all he could hear, but the strangest part didn't come yet. When they returned, his father wasn't there and the only explanation was that he got stuck there with work. In that moment, Alice knew who the culprit was or, in fact, the culprits.

She went back at their house and cuffed them both. She was feeling so proud. But, another problem rose. What could she do with the child? After a discussion with her husband, they decided to adopt him and give him the life he deserved. It was still a thing she wanted to know, though. Did they do it for love or money?

The boy with stories and numbers

Coman Teodora

9th G

Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana

“B.P Hasdeu” National College

That's how it all started ... as in a game. he put numbers on our little white board, and I invented ... stories with numbers.

Once, when we started the game with markers and the white board, that day was the beginning of our friendship. I was leaving the kindergarten and trying to convince my grandmother to leave me a few minutes in the park. When I saw that it was okay, I hurried to the swing. I was laughing loudly. I was looking around and laughing ... that was all I did. While playing I saw a boy sitting alone on a bench. He didn't smile, he didn't laugh, he didn't even admire nature ... he did absolutely nothing. The atmosphere in the park did not delight him at all. He had only a white board that he drew with his finger, because he didn't has markers. I went to get my carriages out of the bag and hurried to him ... I was afraid he wouldn't leave. I had arrived near the bench, my forehead shining in the sunlight. We stayed for a few seconds and looked at each other. When I got back I tried to introduce myself, but the boy turned his back on me. I tried several times, but nothing. I was ready to go, when: "Wait." That boy was actually talking to me. Honestly, I

thought he was dumb . "Be careful ... let's do this ... I write a number on my board, and if you manage to make up an interesting story about him, we can be friends. ". Of course I accepted. Number three had been written with a black marker on the small, white board. I started to tell everything that came to my mind ... and, to my surprise, he really liked it. From that day I became friends. We would see each other every day and play the same game with markers and writing boards, with numbers and stories.

We started high-school but we didn't give up the tradition. We would see each other on the same bench in the park every day, and write with markers that had such a strong smell on the same scratched white board. Everything was fine, until one day ... he hadn't come to high school. It was a little weird, because he wasn't absent until now. I had been thinking about him all day. When the class hours were over, I was sure I would find him on the bench in the park. But there were only a marker and a note. That was weird. He didn't miss any story with numbers. I started reading the ticket. When I was done, I fell to my knees, crying. I was repeating that it isn't true. I couldn't believe it. The boy with stories and numbers had moved out of town. All that was left of our friendship were the stories with numbers and a black marker, which, if I smell it, I start to cry.

It's been five years since I and the boy with stories were last seen. Now I have finished high school and I am waiting for college to start. But until college, I expect my parents' train to arrive at the station. I stand alone and watch happy people meeting their loved ones after a long wait. I wish I were in their place. My parents train was approaching the train station. I started pointing at him when I hit a person. I apologize and help him pick up his things, but then I stop, shocked. This person had the board that the boy and I were writing stories with. It looked the same as the last time I saw it. We stood up and looked into our eyes. He wasthe boy with numbers and stories had returned. We were both crying, hugging each other.

The fire

Ivan Rovert

10th H

Teacher: Marinescu Rocsana
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Alice sat at her desk in the bedroom distracted by the sounds of an annoying alarm

'Oh, I can't do my homework because of those neighbours. What have they done this time?'

Alice was a 14 year old girl from a small but beautiful town in the USA. She had moved there 2 years before with her family to focus on school. She loved life in Chicago, where she could meet her friends and waste her time. Life in that town was boring. At least her grades got improved.

She had to stay at home with her brother Timmy, because her parents had some work to do in Chicago.

She smelled something but couldn't figure out what it was. She looked through the window and couldn't believe her eyes. The house next to hers was burning. She smelled the smoke.

The blue-eyed girl didn't know what she had to do first. In the blink of an eye the fire extended to her house. She was stunned.

'We're going to die here. The house is on fire!' She went down the stairs to find Timmy, but he was nowhere to be seen. Suddenly she remembered that she had to turn off the gas to make things less worse. At the time she reached the kitchen, she was peering to see anything other than fire and smoke.

She met a fireman. He told her to get out.

'I cannot! My brother is somewhere here! I can't find him!'

'What does he look like?'

'He is 1.70m tall. He has blue eyes and a pony tail. Last time I saw him he was wearing an Iron Man shirt.'

'I haven't seen him'.

Another fireman took the girl out of the burning house and others went in to find Timmy.

She was shocked. She started to cry, believing she did something wrong. She said it was her fault even though she didn't cause the fire. Her feet and hands burned and she felt her eyebrows were the same. But none of these was more painful than the thought of Timmy still being there.

Luckily, all those things happened faster than Alice was feeling. The firemen found Timmy with minimal injury. Alice was much worse than him. Timmy said he had hidden in one of the cabinets and then in the basement.

The kids were very happy to see each other and, after all, their lives were much more important than the house.

Julian and Sarah

Irina Petrescu

10th H

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Right after that, a really tall, mysterious man dressed in a red suit appeared out of nowhere. The two stepped back a little because everything started to feel so real and they really didn't know how to react. A second of silence settled through and then the man started talking "Hello Julian and Sarah. I know this seems so unreal, but we have work to do"! Hearing those words, Julian and the girl couldn't be more confused. "Wait a minute...Who are you and how do you know our names? Is this some kind of joke? Where are we? I don't like this" Julian said. The man didn't care about that and he just started walking towards the endless plain ahead of them. Not having the answers they needed, Julian and Sarah followed him.

They walked for several hours without talking to the man, without eating, without hope that there would be something, somewhere here. It seemed pointless but all of a sudden they saw something on the ground like an irrigation canal. Everything turned out to be weirder than it already was. Within seconds, they were in an underground military base. There were a lot of people dressed in green costumes and it looked like they were working on something, but the thing that really caught their attention was the door right in front of the one which was a banner "Documentary, do not enter!" The red dressed man invited them inside. They stepped inside and they found a lot of strange things: ginormous syringes, a lot of technical equipment, capsules filled with a sparkling substance, everything created that horror image of a science lab: "Now that you are here we can start. You were chosen for a really important task: Saving the world. Julian and Sarah you are one of a kind and you had been brought here because the Apocalypse is coming. We've been monitoring you since you were little because we've heard rumors that there are two kids with great powers, the only thing is that you were born eleven years apart and we had to bring you to the age of 23 and keep your powers alive. Little do you know, but at the age of 24 you will lose your supernatural characteristics. Remember when you magically survived after falling of that boat, on that summer holiday, Julian? It wasn't a coincidence at all! Or when your car jumped of a bridge and you had only some simple scars? Or you Sarah when that crazy dog nearly killed you? Your blood was everywhere! Or that huge rock that almost fell on the bus you were in that winter camp? Nothing was a coincidence! You are special! " Julian and Sarah were so shocked that they almost fainted. " You had been kept in a capsule for over 250 years and you escaped a few hours ago but you don't remember because we electrocuted you from our base. You have a chip in the back of your head that is supposed to maintain your brain as healthy as possible and we kind of used it to get you back here but that's a thing for another time, if we

do get do have some more.. Let's go, kids, here are your suits!" said the man as he was handing the astronauts-looking suits. "What are we supposed to do with those? It's not like we can survive the worst if we have them.. God, how much I hate this. I was having such a good day, I even both flowers so I could show my mom that I am not that selfish guy she thought I was!" said Julian as he was grabbing the suit." Oh, come on.. We can't do anything about it right now, the act has been done already." „So I get that you are not so sentimental, are you?" „„Julian, please shut up! We have work to do!" said the man. He almost finished his sentence when the base began to shake. It was coming! "Julian and Sarah, now! You have to get out of here and save us! I beg you!". "But we don't know what to do, we.. WE ARE USELESS!" said Sarah. "We wouldn't have taken you if you couldn't help us. You are our only chance, please!!!!".Julian looked in Sarah's eyes and screamed "Let's do this, we got it!". After that he grabbed Sarah's hand and like magic they were above, on the ground "How did you ..Oh, never mind. Look, there's a storm. Do this people really don't know how to stay in a shelter when a storm is coming? I mean it's not that hard and it sure isn't an apocalypse thing ! Oh my god!". "I DON'T THINK THAT A SIMPLE STORM CAN MAKE EVERYTHING LIGHT UP, JUST LIKE A FIRE!!We have to find out how to use our powers right this moment."

The fog was embracing every centimetre of the ground, the wind ran as if it has been restrained for time out of mind and it was determined to outrun any chaser. Not having a single clue of what were they about to do, the wanna-be heroes raised their hands to the storm level. "Is this how it should work or something ? It's not doing anything!" said Julian. "I think we should keep our hands up untilI don't know, stay like this.". The storm was getting stronger and worse, but they stood there still bound by the view in front of them. When hope was finally starting to run out:"boom" .A blast of red and green light burst from their hands. It was their touch, Sarah took Julian by the hand because words had no function in those kinds of moments. It seemed like magic covered the entire space. The storm vanished as if it was never really there, the unaesthetic plain turned into a mesmerising field with brightly-coloured tulips, the light and the sun upon the milky cloud tops were the only brightness that day and they completed the view of haven. Julian and Sarah were smiling happily at each other and their eyes filled with tears because they had finally destroyed the danger.

Turns out they were heroes after all!

The little thief

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9th G

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I couldn't believe my eyes! There was a dragon knocking at my door. I didn't know what I should do, to open or not to open the door. Finally I opened it and I looked at the little creature who was sitting in front of my eyes. He seemed so calm and innocent. We looked at each other for a couple of minutes and then I asked him: "Are you going to come in or what?". He tilted his head, nothing more. "You don't understand me, right?", I smiled softly to him and I tried to pull him inside the house. It was a big effort. First he was amazed by everything he saw then he sat down on the sofa, in front of the TV. "Should I turn it on for you?" I asked him and he nodded. So, he actually could understand me! He was the laziest dragon I'd ever seen. Daenerys Targaryen wouldn't be proud of his behavior. Anyway, I went to the kitchen to prepare some snacks and maybe... milk?" Do dragons drink milk? "I asked myself. I got lost in my thoughts, but a strange sound "woke me up" from my dreamy mood. The main door was wide open... I went to the living room and I saw NO DRAGON and NO TV. I ran out of the house and looked around for the little thief. I yelled around "The dragon stole my TV! "

The only answer I got was a letter from my neighbor who had written "Hold on, your TV is okay! And please stop screaming in the middle of the night, because my kids think that is a dragon under their bed who is watching cartoons!"

I forgot to mention that last night I dreamed that the dragon had returned my TV.