

# PREVIEW



Hello, we're Ethan Nicolle and Eric Branscum. We've worked together for over 12 years in kids entertainment, starting as head writers on *VeggieTales in the House* at Dreamworks. We created over 100 live-action and animated shorts for *The Babylon Bee*, where Ethan was the creative director and Eric the lead scriptwriter. Most recently, we were hired by *Bentley Adventures*, where we co-created the kids show *Chip Chilla*. Both of us have individually developed projects at studios, including Ethan making the TV show *Axe Cop* at FOX and Eric developing an original series at Disney Television Animation.

Working in kids entertainment, we've experienced the challenges of bringing an original idea to an audience. On the other hand, we know your kids have an abundance of options to choose from between multiple streaming services, video games, countless books at the bookstore, and more. *This Book Might Explode* solves both problems. By creating this book ourselves, we can bring so many family-friendly stories and characters directly to you. And, as you'll see, we're packing this book with SO MUCH STUFF that your kids will "get it all," so to speak. We want this book series to be the first step toward a new way of delivering a wide variety of original, unbridled entertainment straight to you and your kids.

THIS PREVIEW PACKET IS MEANT TO BE A SORT OF GUIDED TOUR THROUGH THE VISION WE HAVE FOR **THIS BOOK MIGHT EXPLODE**, OFFERING A LOOK AT SOME OF THE CONTENT ALREADY IN THE WORKS. MOST OF WHAT YOU SEE IN THIS DOCUMENT IS NOT FINAL, BUT WE WANTED TO GIVE YOU AN IDEA OF WHAT TO EXPECT FROM BOOK ONE, NOT ONLY FROM THE TWO OF US BUT ALSO FROM SOME OF THE CREATORS WHO HAVE ALREADY HOPPED ON BOARD THE EXPLODEY BOOK EXPRESS. SO BUCKLE YOUR EXPLODEY-BELTS AND GET READY BECAUSE **THIS PREVIEW OF THIS BOOK MIGHT EXPLODE... MIGHT EXPLODE!**

THIS BOOK

Every volume of *This Book Might Explode!* will feel like the entire kids section of your favorite bookstore crammed into one explosive package. An incredible mix of ongoing chapter books, picture books, comic books, gag pages, interactivity, and more. Every page turn will be a surprise, ya never know what's coming next, keep kids engaged with fun, creative, family-friendly stories and characters.

#1

## ONGOING CHAPTER BOOKS FOR YOUNG READERS

YOU CAN EXPECT TWO OR THREE ONGOING CHAPTER BOOKS IN EVERY VOLUME, A HANDFUL OF CHAPTERS IN EACH ONE. YOUR YOUNG READERS WILL LOVE TO FOLLOW ALONG ON THE ADVENTURES AS NEW VOLUMES COME OUT.

It's Monster Hunter Stuffed Animals VS Evil Underground Goblins in Legion of Fluff! Tommy and Charlotte are siblings who don't always get along. But when they find a magical weapon that unleashes an ancient evil, they find themselves in the middle of a war between goblins who will stop at nothing to retrieve the magical weapon and Charlotte's stuffed animals that have come to life. Now, if Tommy and Charlotte don't learn how to get along... their safe little gated community might get taken over by monsters.

# LEGION OF FLUFF



THIS ART AND THESE DESIGNS ARE NOT ALL FINAL BUT HOPEFULLY THEY GIVE YOU AN IDEA OF WHAT YOU ARE IN FOR WITH LEGION OF FLUFF!



STEP-SIBLINGS TOMMY AND CHARLOTTE ARE FORCED TO WORK TOGETHER WHEN HER PLUSH ANIMAL TEA PARTY GETS GRANTED HIS MONSTER WARRIOR WISH... THEN GOBLINS ATTACK.



THIS STORY IS ALL ABOUT PLUSH TOYS COMING TO LIFE AND FIGHTING GOBLINS.

THESE GOBLINS ARE OBSESSED WITH TAKING OVER TERRA VISTA TOWN HOMES AND GATED COMMUNITY



Fish can talk... and they've been hiding it forever in...

# FISH CAN TALK AND ALWAYS COULD

When this secret is revealed, the world flips upside down, especially for Seaweedian Wharf, where crusty fishermen like Jack Crabby face a future without fishing. But when Jack's free-spirited daughter Grace teams up with her new fish bestfriend Zeke, they head off on a whirlwind adventure to the glitzy Newtropolis City, hoping to fulfill their dreams! Expect zany hijinks, a grumpy TV clown with a dark side, and a father/daughter clash that'll make you laugh and cheer.



## PREVIEW

# CHAPTER ONE

FISH. THEY CAN TALK. And always could. Us humans like to imagine we're the only creatures that can communicate our thoughts, feelings, or pancake recipes to one another using words, but we are not. Fish can do it too. All of them. Atlantic blue marlins, cutthroat trout, those scary deep-sea ones with a nightlight on their head: they can all speak as easily as you or me.

How this information was kept a secret for so long is a bit mysterious. No one is quite sure how it started, but one can assume that, at the beginning of all things, there wasn't much interaction between fish and humans. Fish only live in water, and the few humans who tried living in water learned the importance of oxygen the hard way. But as the years went on and fish found themselves in the presence of



people more and more often, the fact that they could talk just seemed to slip through the cracks. Perhaps they didn't have much to say, or they were feeling shy, or maybe they were jinxed silent by some grumpy older brother fish. Whatever the reason for not revealing they could talk, most seem to agree that the fish did not have bad intentions keeping this information to themselves.

Well, except maybe for the goldfish. Their intentions were bad because, despite what you may have heard, goldfish are pure, utter evil. This well-kept secret, that fish can talk and always could, was revealed





and changed the world in the smallest of moments. A young couple was walking along a remote beach, minding their own business and generally enjoying each other's company, when they overheard an argument.

"You got us lost because you turned left at the kelp!" one voice shouted.

"I turned left at the kelp because you told me to turn left at the kelp!" the other voice shouted back.

"Not THAT kelp!!!"

The couple followed the sound of the voices, just wanting to make sure everything was alright, and there they were: two fish, trout to be exact, washed up on the shore, flopping on the sand, and, much to the couple's surprise... talking.

"Well, now we're gonna drown, I hope you're happy," the first trout said, continuing the argument.

"We're not gonna drown, we're going to... we're going to... what's the opposite of drown? We're going to do that."

The trout spotted the young couple. They all locked eyes and froze. The couple froze because they were seeing fish talk. The trout froze because they had blown it. They would now forever be known as the fish that let the humans know they could talk, all because of some poorly given directions.

"Alright, ya got us, we can talk. All fish can talk. Are you happy?" the second trout said. "Now can you throw us back into the water before we do the opposite drown?"

Nothing would ever be the same again.

Once the secret was out, fish began speaking freely and openly with everything and everyone, almost as if they were making up for having to stay silent around humans for so long. Some humans were resistant at first, maybe even denying that this was true, but you never realize how many fish you come across on a given day until each one is offering a friendly greeting, complimenting your hat, or asking you to describe, in great detail, what it's like to have thumbs. If you had a hard time accepting this new reality, you eventually had no choice but to accept it.



**to be continued in  
the REAL BOOK!**

# COMIC BOOKS FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

CRAMMED INTO EVERY VOLUME WILL BE A SMORGASBORD OF COMICS. FUNNY, EXCITING, UNIQUE, THESE COMICS WILL BE FUN FOR ALL AGES, EITHER READ WITH A FLASHLIGHT PAST BEDTIME OR WITH EVERYONE SQUEEZED ONTO THE COUCH.

One day, Doug, a normal guy who did normal stuff, ate a radioactive corn dog and became CORN DOUG, a corn dog guy who did corn dog stuff! With his corn dog super powers and his sidekick Diggity Dog (who does absolutely nothing) he will fight monsters, solve problems, be a corn dog, and more in THE ADVENTURES OF CORN DOUG AND DIGGITY DOG!

# THE ADVENTURES OF CORNDOUG AND DIGGITY DOG!!!

Created by Eric and Ethan  
Colors by Katherine Garner

## PREVIEW

CORN DOGS! We all love them. We ALL eat them! But what if someone... WAS ONE?!

# THE ADVENTURES OF CORNDOUG AND DIGGITY DOG!!!

DOUG PLUNKETT was a regular dad. He had a wallet and said things like "It's coffee o'clock." But one fateful day, his life would change... forever.

DIGGITY DOG is Doug's dog, Diggity. There is no one cooler than Diggity Dog.

JUST EAT  
SOMETHING,  
BRO.

... is what Diggity Dog would have said if he could talk WHICH HE CAN'T!

MY TUMMY IS GROWLING, DIGGITY DOG!

BUT ALL WE HAVE IN THIS KITCHEN ARE HEALTHY FOODS LIKE LETTUCE SANDWICHES! BLEH!

**DISCLAIMER** Healthy foods are good. The character of Doug is not denouncing all health foods--

YES, I AM! WHEN MY TUMMY GROWLS, HEALTHY FOODS WON'T STOP IT!

Doug searched and searched. He searched every square inch of that kitchen with no hope in sight. Until...

I'VE FOUND IT! THE ONLY FOOD THAT WILL SATISFY A GROWLING TUMMY! I HAVE FOUND... A CORN DOG!

COOL.

(he didn't really say that)

JUST THROW IT IN THE MICROWAVE AND BING BANG BOOM YOU'RE EATING A CORN DOG.

DAD! THERE'S A CAR CHASE ON THE NEWS! COME QUICK!

Doug quickly threw the corn dog into the microwave and set the timer!

**BOOP-DEE-BOOP**

CAR CHASE? THIS I GOTTA SEE!

But Doug got distracted and he didn't set the microwave to sixty seconds... he set it for **SIXTY HOURS!!**



Hour after hour, as the microwave cooked the corn dog, it's molecules morphed and transformed, turning it from a normal, delicious corn dog, into a radioactive, **SUPER CORN DOG!**

sixty hours later...  
**DING!**

THAT FELT A LITTLE LONGER THAN SIXTY SECONDS, DIGGITY DOG!

BUT NOW TIME TO SINK MY TEETH INTO THIS PERFECTLY NORMAL CORN DOG.

**CHOMPI!**

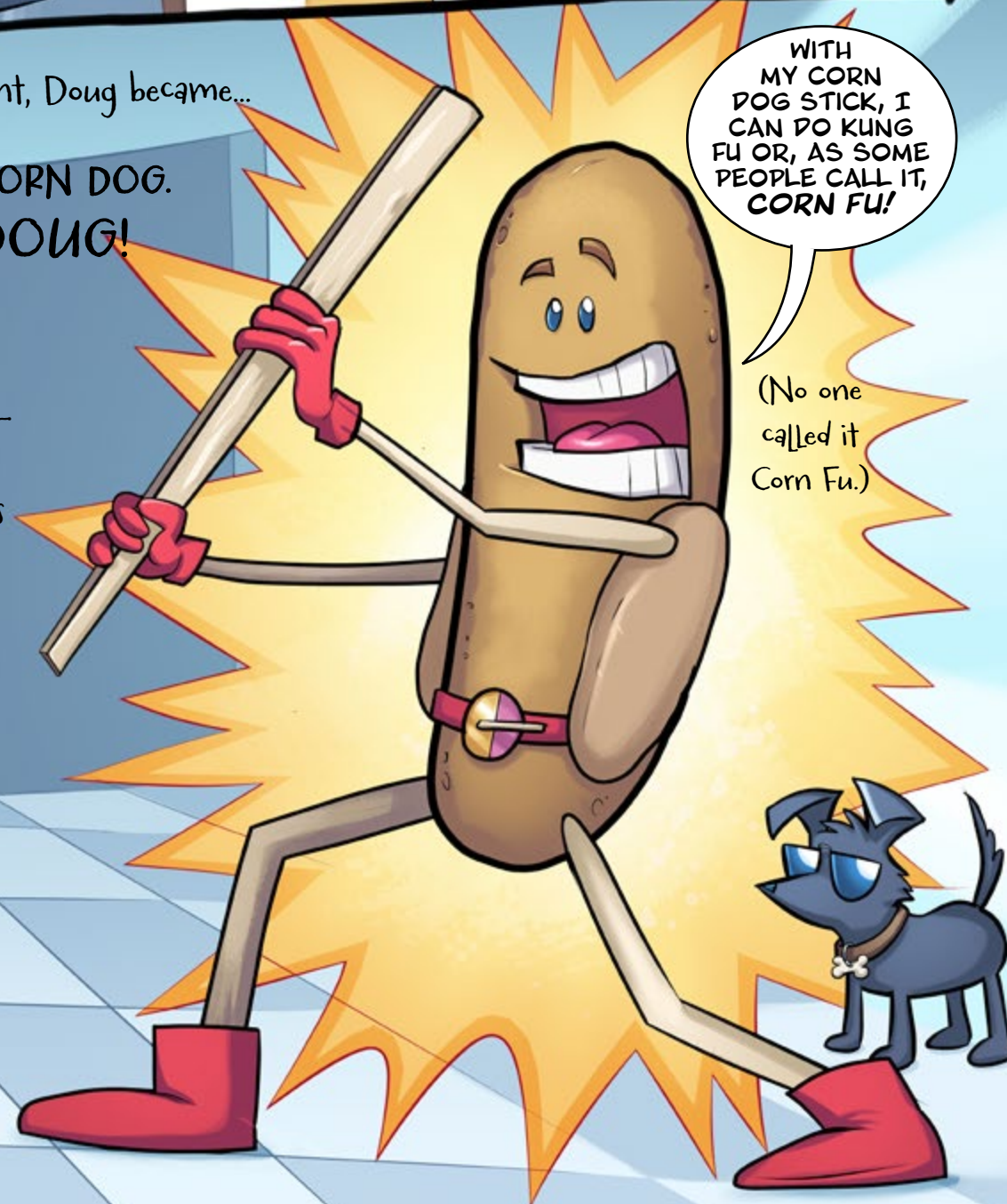


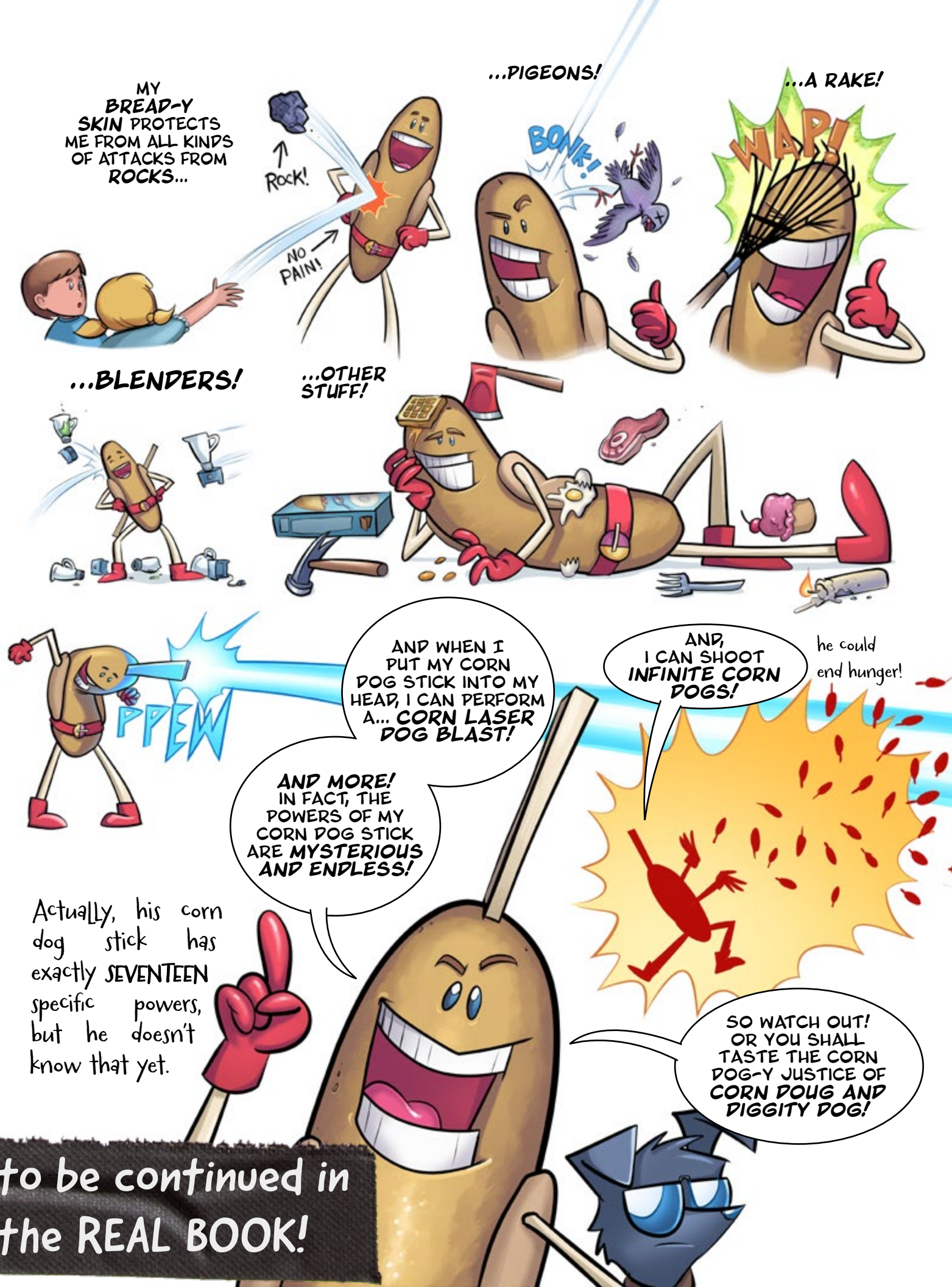
In that fateful moment, Doug became...  
**CORN DOUG!**  
50% DOUG. 50% CORN DOG.  
**100% CORN DOUG!**

And so Corn Doug became a hero to all, solving problems, fighting crime, and looking **DELICIOUS** with his corn dog powers!

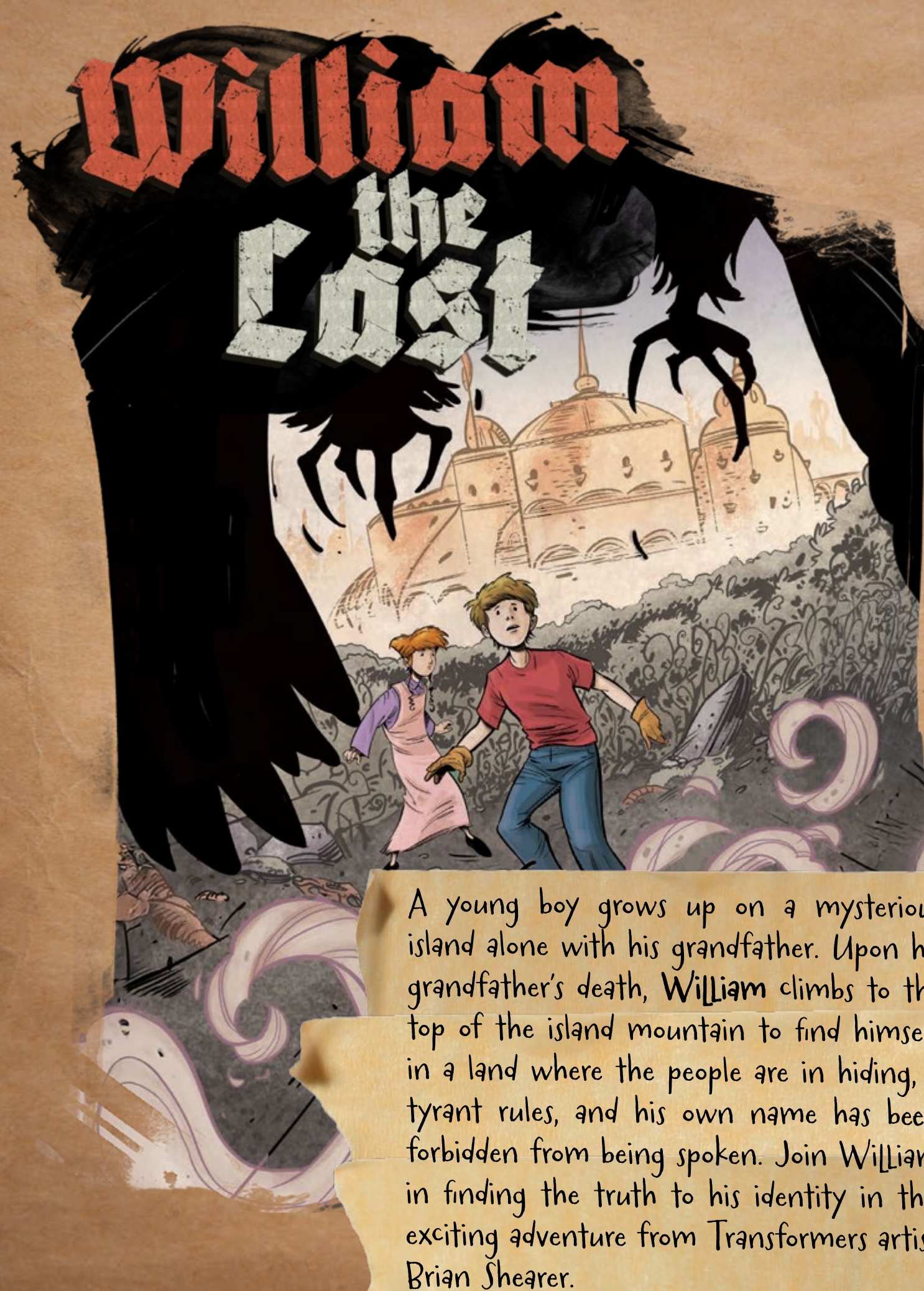
WITH MY CORN DOG STICK, I CAN DO KUNG FU OR, AS SOME PEOPLE CALL IT, **CORN FU!**

(No one called it Corn Fu.)



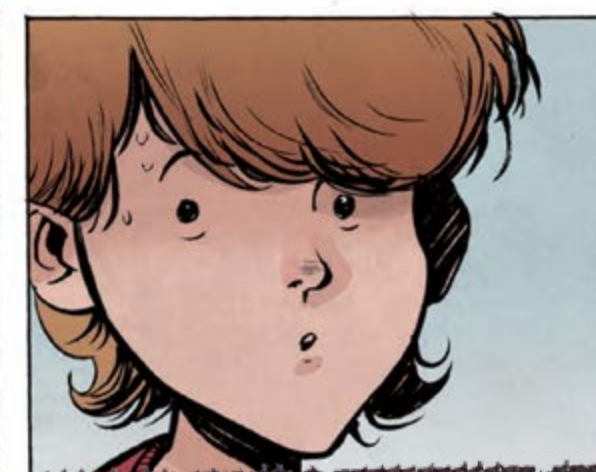


to be continued in  
the REAL BOOK!



PREVIEW





to be continued in  
the REAL BOOK!



From the  
mind of  
Michael  
Foster!



Larry was shoved in a locker in grade school. No one knew the code and he's been stuck ever since. He's **LOCKER LARRY!** Now as the manager of the public storage facility, Store It Yo-Self, he helps customers with their storage unit problems! But these are no ordinary storage units. Inside each one is a whole new world, always an epic and hilarious adventure inside!

**PICTURE BOOKS AND BEDTIME STORIES**  
THIS BOOK MIGHT EXPLODE! WILL FEATURE BRAND NEW PICTURE BOOKS TO BE READ JUST BEFORE BED OR FOR YOUR LITTLE ONE WHO IS SOUNDING OUT WORDS AT AN ALARMING RATE. THESE FUNNY, CHARMING, AND SIMPLE-ISH STORIES WILL GET YOU AND YOUR LITTLES GIGGLING TOGETHER!

## WHO'S MY BEST FRIEND?



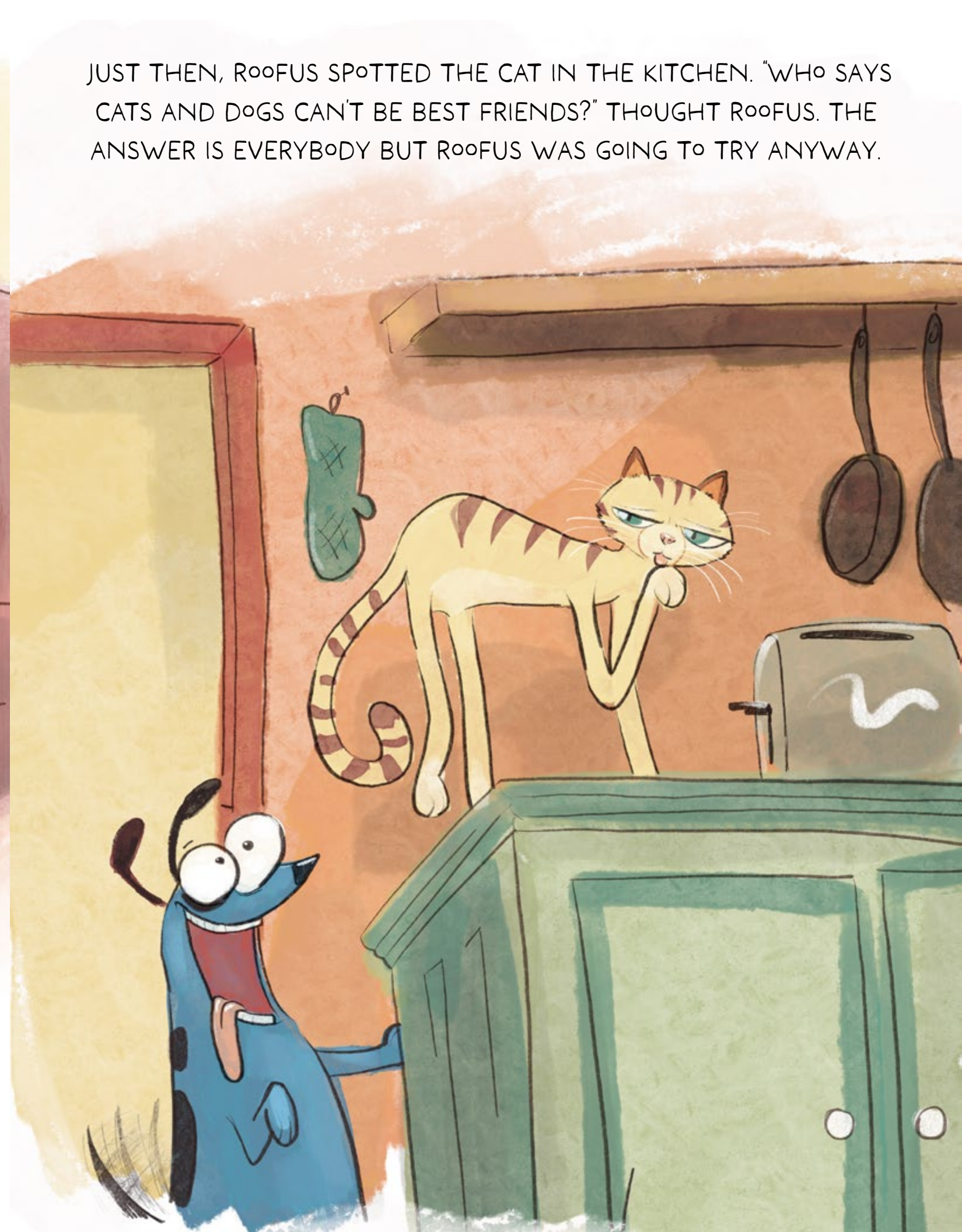
Roofus the dog has one simple question... Who's My Best Friend? He knows he has one, he's just not sure who! But he's determined to find out. Maybe the cat? Maybe that bird?? Could it possibly be that snake??? Roofus asks them all (to hilarious mixed results) in this silly, heartwarming tale.

## PREVIEW



ROOFUS THE DOG WAS CONFUSED. ROOFUS COULD NOT REMEMBER WHO HIS BEST FRIEND WAS. ROOFUS KNEW ALL DOGS HAVE A BEST FRIEND AND ROOFUS KNEW HE WAS A DOG, THEREFORE ROOFUS KNEW HE SHOULD HAVE A BEST FRIEND. BUT WHO?!

JUST THEN, ROOFUS SPOTTED THE CAT IN THE KITCHEN. "WHO SAYS CATS AND DOGS CAN'T BE BEST FRIENDS?" THOUGHT ROOFUS. THE ANSWER IS EVERYBODY BUT ROOFUS WAS GOING TO TRY ANYWAY.



ROOFUS GAVE IT HIS BEST SHOT. BUT ROOFUS LIKES PLAYING AND FETCHING AND GNAWING AND ROLLING AND JUMPING. THIS CAT LIKES A BALL OF YARN AND THAT'S IT. ROOFUS KNEW THIS CAT COULDN'T BE HIS BEST FRIEND.



to be continued in  
the REAL BOOK!

## INTERACTIVITY FOR CREATIVE KIDS

EVERY TIME A KID OPENS A VOLUME OF THIS BOOK MIGHT EXPLODE!, THEY'LL NEED TO GET THEIR CREATIVE JUICES FLOWING BECAUSE WE'RE NOT DOIN' ALL THE WORK... WE WANT THEM TO CONTRIBUTE! WE'LL BE PROVIDING AN ARRAY OF INTERACTIVE ELEMENTS EACH AND EVERY VOLUME. WANT YOUR OWN CORN DOG? WE'LL PROVIDE LIMBS TO CUT OUT, JUST STICK 'EM IN A REAL CORN DOG, AND, BING BANG BOOM, YOU GOT YOURSELF A CORN DOG! OR IN THE ONGOING FEATURE, FINISH YOUR OWN ADVENTURE, WE'LL TELL THE FIRST TWO ACTS OF A STORY, GIVE YOU ALL THE DETAILS YOU NEED, AND THEN STOP THE STORY. YOU AND YOUR KIDS TAKE IT FROM THERE! WRITE THE ENDING, SEND IT IN, AND MAYBE WE'LL PUBLISH IT. THESE INTERACTIVE, IMAGINATIVE PAGES WON'T JUST KEEP YOUR KIDS OCCUPIED, THESE ACTIVITIES WILL INSPIRE THEM TO ARTISTIC GREATNESS (\*ARTISTICGREATNESS NOTGUARANTEED\*)!



DO YOU HAVE A CRAZY STORY FROM YOUR LIFE TO TELL?

We want to hear YOUR story. It could be a funny story, a proud moment, something embarrassing... if you think it's worth remembering, it's probably worth writing down. You can write it out or draw it up into a comic like I did. Send us your story in any format and it might make it into a future installment of A True Story From My Life That Actually Happened.

Get your mom or dad to help you send your story to

[SUBMIT@BOOKMIGHTEXPLODE.COM](mailto:SUBMIT@BOOKMIGHTEXPLODE.COM)

**TOP SECRET**  
**FINISH YOUR OWN ADVENTURE**

DO YOU LIKE TO CREATE STORIES? WE DO TOO! NOW ABOUT WE CREATE ONE TOGETHER??? HERE YOU FIND MOST OF A FUN STORY. BUT WE DIDN'T FINISH THAT'S WHERE YOU COME IN. READ THE STORY, AND WHEN YOU GET TO THE END, COME UP WITH TAKE OVER. WRITE HOW IT ENDS! PICTURE OR TWO AS WELL. AND HERE'S THE FUN PART: WITH YOUR PARENTS' HELP AND PERMISSION, SEND US WHAT YOU COME UP WITH. WE MIGHT PUBLISH IT IN THE NEXT ISSUE! SEND SUBMISSIONS TO: [AN EMAIL GOES HERE!]

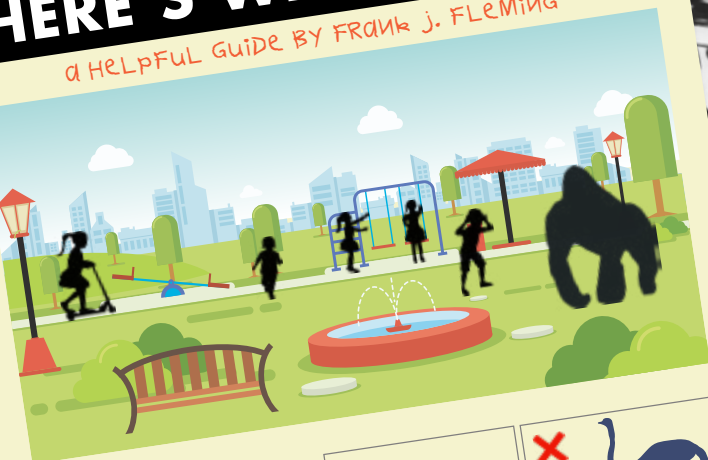
HAVE FUN, AND LET'S KEEP TELLING TOGETHER!

# AND SO MUCH MORE!

GAG PAGES THAT'LL MAKE YOU LAUGH SILLY! SHORT STORIES FOR A QUICK BURST OF FUN! GAMES AND PUZZLES TO KEEP THE GEARS IN THOSE NOGGINS MOVIN'! WHEN WE SAY WE'RE PACKING EVERY VOLUME OF THIS BOOK MIGHT EXPLODE! WITH AS MUCH STUFF AS POSSIBLE, WE'RE NOT KIDDING.

## GOT A GORILLA ON THE PLAYGROUND? HERE'S WHAT TO DO

a HELPFUL GUIDE BY FRANK J. FLEMING



1. Make sure it's a gorilla. It's common to mistake other things for a gorilla, like a pile of trashbags or a really hairy troll. Make sure you are in fact encountering a gorilla before



## A True Story From My Life That Actually Happened.

by Ethan Nicole

I have a lot of stories from my childhood, and many of them involve wetting my pants, unfortunately. This one is purely from memory and I wonder how accurate it is to the actual events, were I able to go back in time and watch it happen over again. I remember it all, but I have nobody in my life now to verify any of the details, so I take it with a grain of salt. This is the single eye-witness testimony of a five-year-old version of me. The only details I am shaky on are how long I was actually stuck in the door and whether or not I fully emptied in my pants at the end. I feel like I remember that bell ringing. I definitely remember looking at the teacher's face when they discovered me stuck there in that door. I'm not sure why it didn't damage my head more. I did hit my head on the door, so maybe I had built a tolerance. If you are a kid and you've had embarrassing moments like as a child, you may find some comfort in the idea that I had them too. I hope you find some comfort in the idea that I had them too. I laugh about them later. It's easy to let really embarrassing moments go, but if you can stand back and think about the funny in your life but if you can stand back and think about the funny in your life but if you can stand back and think about the funny in your life, you will have to share later on, it makes having a really big misadventure and then much more rewarding.

## Pen Pals with Cindy

Dear Jaxthlar,

Hi, it's your pen pal, Cindy. I'm so happy to start a pen pal relationship with someone so far away!

I guess I'll tell you a little bit about myself first. Like I said, my name is Cindy. Cindy Ankrom. I'm seven years old, I have brown hair, and my favorite food is pizza with pesto sauce. In my spare time I make bracelets and paint.



# A GROWING ARMY OF CREATORS

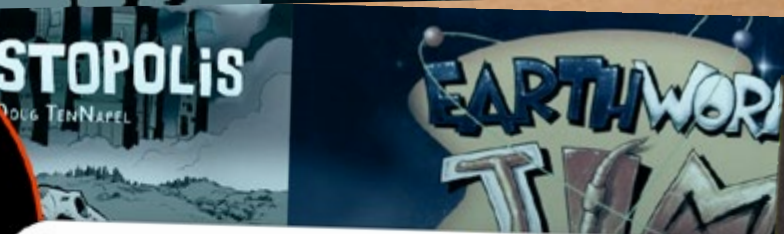
HERE ARE SOME OF THE CREATORS WE HAVE FOR VOLUME ONE. EACH VOLUME WILL HAVE A MIX OF ROTATING CREATORS AND FAN FAVORITES, BRINGING ALL SORTS OF FAMILY-FRIENDLY STORIES, CHARACTERS, AND STYLES FOR YOUR FAMILY TO ENJOY.



**JACK HANDEY** DEEP THOUGHTS BY JACK HANDEY  
• SATURDAY NIGHT LIVE • THE STENCH OF HONOLULU: A TROPICAL ADVENTURE • FUZZY MEMORIES • NEW YORKER ESSAYIST



**MICHAEL J. NELSON** MYSTERY SCIENCE THEATER 3000 • RIFF TRAX • MIKE NELSON'S DEATH RATIO • MIKE NELSON'S MOVIE MEGACHEESE! • THE FILM CREW



**DOUG TENNAPEL** CREATOR OF EARTHWORM JIM • CATSCRATCH • THE NEVERHOOD • BIGFOOT BILL • VEGGIE TALES IN THE HOUSE • CARDBOARD • GEAR • TOMMYSAURUS REX • CREATURE TECH • GHOSTOPOLIS • ARMIKROG • NNEWTS ...AND WAY MORE THAN FITS HERE.



**MICHAEL FOSTER** THE LAUGH AND LEARN BIBLE FOR KIDS • COCOA TALK • THE SLUG AND ANT SHOW • MANLY MAN AND BOB • MINIMUM WAGE



**BILL BRENEISEN** HAS WORKED ON YOUNG JEDI ADVENTURES • NAKED MOLE RAT • ACTION PACK • MUPPET BABIES • PUPPY DOG PALS • THE WINGFEATHER SAGA • KONG: KING OF THE APES



**FRANK J. FLEMING** WRITER ON CHIP CHILLA • A WONDERFUL DAY WITH MABEL MCCLAY • THE BABYLON BEE • SIDEQUEST: IN REALMS UNGOOGLD • SUPEREGO SERIES • HELLBENDER • PUNCH YOUR INNER HIPPIE • HOW TO FIX EVERYTHING IN AMERICA FOREVER



**VANCE KOVACS** IS A CONCEPT ARTIST AND ILLUSTRATOR ON THE LION KING • BLACK PANTHER • GUARDIANS OF THE GALAXY 3 • MEN IN BLACK 3 • PLANET OF THE APES • THE CHRONICLES OF NARNIA • JUNGLE BOOK



**BRIAN SHEARER** COMIC ARTIST WHO HAS WORKED ON • TRANSFORMERS • G.I. JOE • DOCTOR WHO • GUNSHIP THUNDERPUNCH • WILLIAM THE LAST



**RICH WERNER** VIDEO GAME ARTIST AND DESIGNER ON PLANTS VS. ZOMBIES • OCTOGEDDON • HARRY POTTER • ROBOTS • LEMONEY SNICKET • SHREK SUPER SLAM • MAGI-NATION



THIS IS JUST A PEEK OF ALL THE FUN STUFF IN THE FIRST VOLUME OF THIS BOOK MIGHT EXPLODE! WE HAVE SO MUCH MORE TO COME. AND THIS IS JUST THE BEGINNING. MORE STORIES, NEW CHARACTERS, FUN SURPRISES, AND MORE AWAIT IN EACH AND EVERY VOLUME OF **THIS BOOK MIGHT EXPLODE!**

BACK ON **KICKSTARTER** TODAY!