

Years 3 & 4

1st Place: Tuppence Cornelius

Year 4, John Wollaston Anglican Community School

Danger Behind

Lorean

My heart was pounding. Was it because of how long we'd been running or was it because of the danger chasing us? The wind howled as we ran, as if it were trying to push us back to where the great danger lay. Suddenly, I tripped and fell into the damp, wet smelling dirt. My friends Jacob and Ashley both yanked me up. Tears swelled in my eyes. "There is no time for crying," I told myself. But I couldn't help looking back at a horrifying figure that I knew to be Gugalanna, the monster whispered about in the city. Gugalanna had purple skin that smelt of rotting flesh, and eyes that had a fire burning within. As we ran we reached the edge of the cliff and without thinking I jumped.

"Lorean!" Jacob and Ashley screamed.

"I'm fine but you won't be if you keep standing there!" I replied. I hid and waited but they didn't come.

"Jacob, Ashley are you there?" I yelled but no voice came to answer my question.

"Gugalanna must have caught them," I thought. "I must find them and bring them back home."

So that is how I started my desperate quest to find my friends. I looked at the cliff and realised that somehow I had survived a 3-metre-high jump. I couldn't believe it! I searched for a path through the bushes that surrounded me, but I couldn't find one, so I started to search the rocky terrain. I found a path through a bunch of prickly flowers I recognised as wild rose. I started to walk through, and my foot stepped on something that was not dirt nor rock. I looked down and found a small door in the ground. It could be a way out! I tried to open it, but it would not budge. Suddenly I saw Gugalanna and he was heading in my direction! I looked around quickly to see if there was another path I could take but there was none. He had blocked the only path, but he hadn't seen me yet! Then I heard a screechy noise and the door swung open beneath me. I was falling. I quickly hit the ground and the door swung closed. "Now I really need to find Jacob and Ashley," I told myself. I looked around at the tunnel I had fallen in and wondered if I could crawl through. It was about my size, but it was dark, so I had to find a light source. I searched my pockets and found the small torch my dad had given me. I turned it on and crawled through the tunnel. The passage was damp and smelt of dead flesh. It felt as if the tunnel went on forever. Finally, I came to a big room that smelt musty and was filled with stones and rocks, that made the room seem smaller than it was. I collapsed from exhaustion which slowly lulled me to sleep.

Gugalanna – About 3 Hours Before

Gugalanna ran as fast as he could. He had to catch those three children – they were getting closer and closer to his family. He knew humans were dangerous as they had

tried to kill his family before. His family lived in the cliff in a hidden home. The children were running towards the edge of the cliff his family lived in. One jumped off the cliff, but the others stayed and Gugalanna decided he had to capture them straight away. They were cornered, so they couldn't run.

"Jacob!" The girl with curly blonde hair and blue eyes yelled. "Run!"

The boy with straight brown hair and green eyes turned and started to run.

Gugalanna saw Jacob and quickly ran and caught him. Jacob called out to the girl "Ashley, Run!" Ashley turned and ran but Gugalanna was quicker and caught her. He carried them back to the edge of the cliff, pulling off a long vine to tie them up. They kept struggling so it took longer than he expected. He ran towards his old chamber that was nearby, so he could store them there. When he reached his cave, he went to his musty smelling chamber, opened the secret door and hid his prisoners inside. He locked the door with a key and, without realising, dropped the key on the ground. Finally, he could go home, but he didn't feel like he would be able to sleep that night, he was so scared.

Lorean

I woke up and didn't recognise my surroundings.

"I'm pretty sure I don't live in a musty room!" I told myself. I looked around a bit and found that it wasn't a room but an old chamber that had probably been abandoned years ago. I noticed that the only way out was the way I came in and started on my way there, when suddenly, there was a big BOOM and all the rocks fell blocking my way. I was trapped! I sat down and felt like giving up when suddenly the rock I was sitting on sunk into the ground and the rocks on the left side of the chamber parted to reveal a secret door! The door was silvery red with white flecks. It was BEAUTIFUL! I went to try and open it, but it was locked. I looked for the key but couldn't find it. Tears swelled in my eyes as I thought of Jacob and Ashley. The thought of trying to find them was hopeless. I walked back to the middle of the room and suddenly my foot stepped on something sharp. I looked down and saw the most beautiful key I'd ever seen! The key was golden and ornate. It looked as if it would fit the door. I picked it up and ran to the door, inserted the key and looked in to find a big, dark closet. As my eyes adjusted to the darkness, I saw Jacob and Ashley tied up on the floor.

"Lorean!" they both exclaimed. I freed them and, whilst telling them what had happened, we ran to the entrance. When we got there, I remembered that the way out was blocked. But with Ashley and Jacob's help we could clear it. So, we slowly started to take one rock away at a time.

Gugalanna – Whilst that was happening

As he came up, out of the tunnel, Gugalanna heard some voices. "Oh no!" he thought. He ran over and found some more humans hammering a tent into the ground . . . in *his* forest!

"Why can't they leave us alone?" He jumped out of the bushes, yelling and stamping his foot, forgetting his strength. The ground shook and groaned underneath him. The

humans ran back to the city scared to death. Suddenly, the ground crumbled and gave way. He fell, and everything went black.

Lorean – that evening

Finally, we'd pulled the rocks out of the entrance and had crawled back through the tunnel out into the open.

"Oh, wonderful fresh air!" Ashley shouted, before we all realised that it was the middle of the night, meaning that, if Gugalanna was near, he would have heard us. We all would be doomed. Suddenly we heard the crunch of sticks and leaves underfoot and we knew Gugalanna had heard us. If we didn't start running now he would catch all of us. So, we ran for our lives, relying on my little torch to light our path. We ran as fast as we could but then we all looked up and realised that we had taken the wrong path. Gugalanna was right behind us when, suddenly, he got an extra burst of speed and was one step behind us. Luckily his foot got caught underneath a root and he fell. "That was our chance!" I told myself. "Run as fast as you can if you want to stay alive!" We ran all the way back to the city then realised that Gugalanna could not enter the city. So we happily went back to our houses to have a late dinner.

Gugalanna – 1 Hour Before

Gugalanna's eyes opened. Where was he? He looked around and realised he had fallen through the ground. He stood up and jumped. His fingers hooked onto the ground at the top and he pulled himself out. Then he saw the three humans again! He had to protect his family! He chased them and then he got an extra burst of speed. He almost caught them but then he tripped on a root in the ground. He felt no pain. He just stood up and kept chasing them. They entered the city. He let them get away and pretended to not be able to get in. He could catch them that night, as they might know where his family lived.

Lorean – Bedtime

After dinner I climbed into bed. As my eyes began to close I was jerked awake by the outline of Gugalanna in the doorway . . .

The End

. . . or is it?