

The Journey! - World Book Day 2023

Long, long ago there lived two best friends called Bob and Belinda. They lived in a caravan in the village of Burlington on the outskirts of Bayswater. It was a very peaceful village and sometimes, Bob and Belinda got quite bored.

One morning, Bob woke up early and decided that he would take Belinda and Boris, his bald eagle, on an adventure into the next village. He'd heard that there was an amazing magician visiting and he really wanted to show the magician a trick that he had been working on with Boris. So, he woke up Belinda, grabbed Boris, and they set off on their long journey. However, there was one problem. To get to the next village, they had to climb a very steep and treacherous mountain...

WATER HOUSE - The Build Up

Before they could get onto the path to take them up the mountain, they had to cross a muggy swamp. This wasn't just any swamp, this swamp was the home of 72,397 spiky, man-eating frogs. Their teeth were as sharp as rose thorns. Not only that, when they got angry, they breathed fire from their enormous nostrils. The good thing was though, they knew that if the frogs were hit by Bart Simpson's chicken nuggets, they would be turned into stone, making the swamp safe to cross. Bob and Belinda had to put a plan together quickly to find Bart, who they knew lived on the other side of the swamp. Bob quickly wrote a letter for Bart, telling him that they needed his help. He tied the note to Boris' bald head and told him to fly over the swamp and deliver it.

Not long after, Boris returned with Bart's sling shot around his neck and a colossal bag of cooked chicken nuggets. Bob, Belinda and Boris set to work immediately to make the swamp safe to cross.

Chicken nuggets were flying everywhere! It was like a chicken nugget avalanche! "NUGGET STORM!!" they jeered merrily. Bob was using the sling shot to hit the frogs. "EAT MY NUGGETS!" he yelled. Meanwhile, Belinda was demonstrating her amazing circus skills by swinging through the nearby trees, firing chicken nuggets left, right and centre. Boris however, was not taking the situation seriously at all as he kept eating the chicken nuggets!!

Within minutes, all of the man-eating spiky frogs were turned into stone and Bob, Belinda and Boris were able to cross the swamp safely. They actually used the frogs as stepping stones!

Once they got to the other side, they popped into Bart's house to return his sling shot and thank him for his help. They were surprised when they got there to see that Bart had a guest staying with him. It was Peppa Pig and it was her birthday. So, before they carried on with their journey, they had a little party to celebrate. Peppa was so delighted!

After they said their goodbyes, they set off up the mountain. Thankfully there were no more obstacles to cross.

Soon, they reached the top of the mountain. It was chilly so they decided to start a fire...

AIR HOUSE - The Climax

As they gathered around the toasty, roaring fire, they noticed a few berries on a nearby bush. Belinda wondered if they could squeeze the berries onto some snow. Little did they know that when they chomped down on the snow cones, Belinda would swallow a beetroot coloured poisonous caterpillar. Suddenly she began to feel woozy and started tumbling down a hill. After a flash of light Belinda saw three mysterious futures... when she woke she would go on to tell Bob and Boris about her insight of the future...

After the trip Belinda began to visualise them trying to eat Boris; they're trying to get him as he struggles while flapping his wings. But Boris can't manage to get away in time because he was not powerful enough. Because he was tied to really strong rope that Bob had tied, Belinda saw the fear in Boris' eyes. But then they got into a fight and Belinda wanted to help. Boris and Bob wanted to eat him. Bob pushed Belinda back and she began to cry. Bob became filled with regret. The normal world comes back into focus...

Suddenly Belinda tripped again and lunged forwards. A second flash of light changed into an image of Bob and Boris eating food off their plates, with Belinda nowhere to be seen.

"I deserve the last piece," shouted Bob. "I did all of the hard work!"

"I don't think so!" said Boris.

Within minutes, Bob and Boris were fighting - punching and biting one another. Suddenly Boris let out a loud squawk and flew away as fast as Sonic. Bob looked unhappy and deflated - would he ever be happy again?

Back in the present, and following Bob, Belinda tripped on a jagged, peculiar looking rock, causing her to tumble down... down... down. Suddenly, the sight in her eyes muffled. 3 seconds after, a white light in her eyes made her see something that she had never seen before. She saw herself and Bob, sending Boris away for fish. Boris returned carrying a large red salmon. Belinda started - reality came flickering back. Panting, she told Bob what she saw.

EARTH HOUSE - The Resolution

Bob jumped up and said "mhmmm that was a good dominoessss". After, eating their chicken nuggets, Bob and Belinda started their long journey back down the mountain. Bob said "don't forget to be safe, be ready and be respectful of nature". Suddenly, out of nowhere Bob fell down into... quicksand and shouted "Oh no my chicken nuggets," and Belinda, who tried to help him, also fell into it. Boris hadn't noticed and kept flying around.

They kept struggling against the rough, grainy sand and were pulled into a spider's nest under the ground. They could hear a distant squawk from Boris who had been caught in a giant sticky, gluey web. A talking tree warned them "try not to make a single noise...or the spiders will find you and devour you". Bob and Belinda tried to wriggle free but it was no use, the web was too sticky. The giant spider, as tall as a skyscraper, began creeping towards them. Out of nowhere Boris appeared and shapeshifted into a huge tabby cat as big as a house.

Bob and Belinda cheered and whooped for joy and decided to climb onto Boris' back. Boris let out a huge meow and burped up a spider leg. Boris started to go down the mountain and carried them all the way to the bottom.

Belinda turned around to wave goodbye to the mountain and saw a huge tunnel of spiders running towards them down the side. Bob said "Run Boris run!". However, Boris' magic was fading away and he returned to his eagle form. Bob and Belinda knew there was only one thing for it. They looked at each other, held hands and jumped over the largest river in the world. All of the spiders were washed away and never seen again.

Bob and Belinda swam with all their might and managed to climb dripping wet onto the river bank. Magically a set of green quadbikes appeared hovering in the air. Bob grinned at Belinda and hopped on. These weren't just any quadbikes, they were "Marks and Spencer's quadbikes". Boris flew back to them with a bag in his mouth. He had been to McDonalds and thought it was a good idea to bring the magician a gift. Boris squawked "every little helps." Bob smiled and reached out his shaking hand as they approached the tent...

FIRE HOUSE - The Ending

He cautiously unzipped the red and white stripy curtain to the tent, there in front of them was the magician sat on a throne. He was wearing a sparkly black and purple suit and a tall top hat. He had long, oily hair and a wispy, curly ginger beard. Bob and Belinda walked up to the magician. Boris was perched excitedly on Bob's arm ready to show off his magic trick that he had been learning.

"We have a t-t-t-trick to show you. We are very p-p-proud of it and we hope you like it," said Bob nervously.

The magician looked up and stared at Boris who was flapping his wings with excitement. He caught a glimpse of something shiny on Boris' feet. The magician was confused as bald eagles don't wear things on their feet. He was intrigued.

Suddenly, Boris leapt onto the magician's table. Bob and Belinda watched anxiously, hoping that Boris would perform well. Would this magic trick work and, would they be transported back to their caravan in time for dinner? All eyes were on Boris as he stood frozen to the spot. The magician looked at Boris, then at Bob, then Belinda, wondering what the magic trick was going to be.

A faint tapping sound was building up, louder and louder. They looked at Boris and the magician could see that the shiny things on Boris' feet were actually tap shoes! Boris was tap dancing!!! The magician had never seen a bald eagle tap dance before.

"Yes Boris!" shouted Bob enthusiastically. "You did it! You did it!" The magician was so shocked that he was speechless.

All of a sudden, a black, dark hole appeared and Bob, Belinda and Boris disappeared in the blink of an eye.

They were back in the caravan, dinner was on the table and Mum came back from outside where she had been hanging out the washing.

"Oh, there you are, how did you sneak back in? Have you had a good day?"

If only she knew...