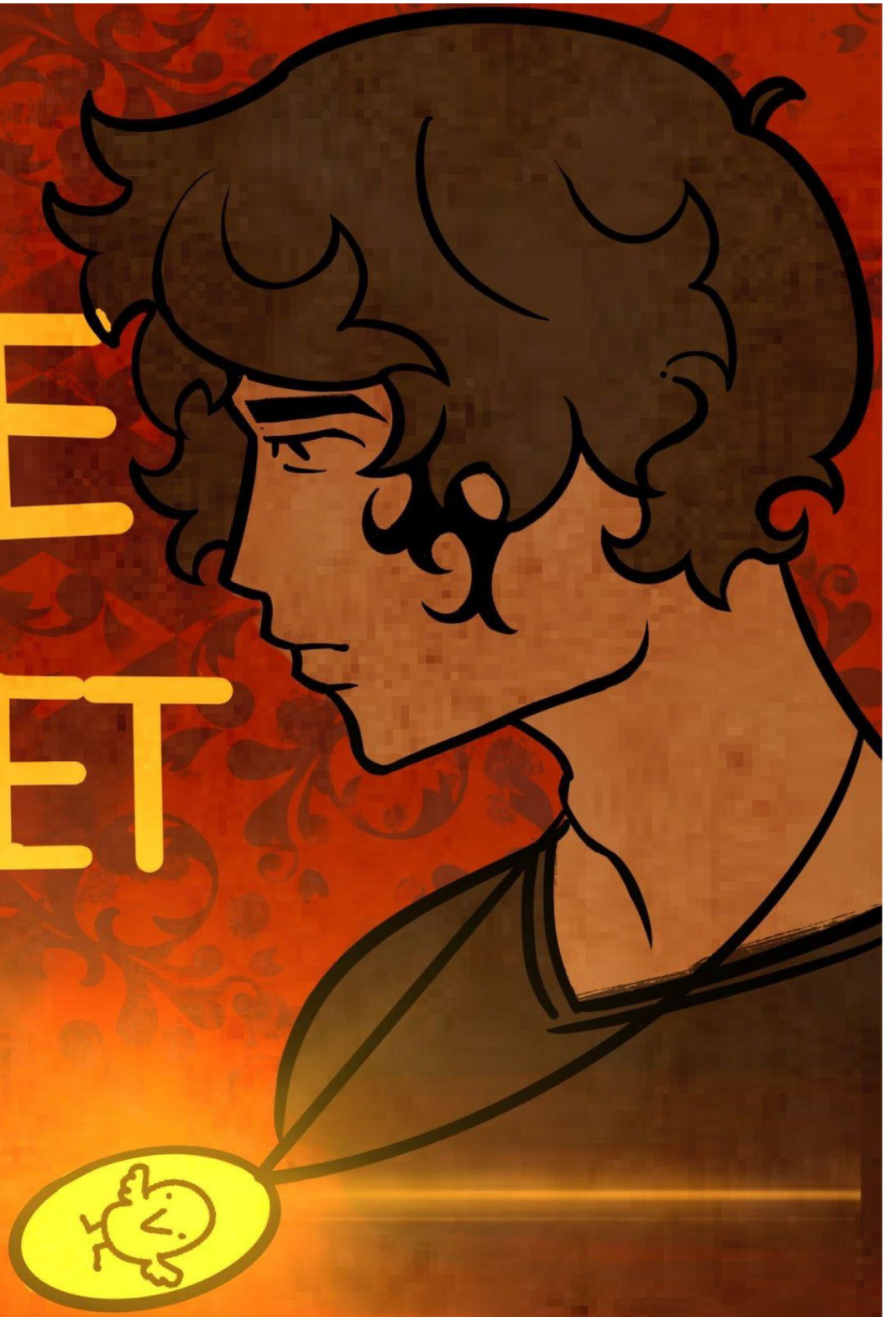


# THE AMULET



Electric  
Boogaloo.

The Authors of this book were Chloe Cruickshank, Sara Cruickshank, Isabella Murray, Alicia Newman, Benji Savage and Dean Smart.

The Illustrators of this book were Addison Long, Alicia Newman, and Bianca Webb.

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A massive thanks to the team that helped make this book happen and to our teachers that planned all of this and made this all possible! We never would have had such a great opportunity like this without them!

A special thanks to Ms Ridgway and Ms Aramini for helping us to do the thing and for the soup, to Mrs Painting for housing us in the library, to Ms Kember for helping us with fundraising, to Ms Mahon for letting us use the kitchens, and the whole team that worked together even with our misunderstandings and struggles to make this book become what it is now.

To the GOATS of the team: Bianca Webb for the amazing art - doing the cover and many of the illustrations, Chloe Cruickshank, and Alicia Newman for working together so well to cover the chapters we could not do ourselves and making them all become one consistent and coherent story (they absolutely carried us).

(And me, Sara, for putting this all into one place and making it a book thing :))



# THE KIDS' CANCER PROJECT

## WRITE A BOOK IN A DAY

### Parameters Form

#### Team Details

STATE: NSW .....

DIVISION: Middle School .....

SCHOOL/GROUP: Murrumbidgee Regional High School ~~Griffith~~ .....

TEAM NAME: Electric Boogaloo .....

TEAM ID: 1707 .....

#### Parameters and random words

##### Parameters

Primary character 1 Ambulance driver .....

Primary character 2 Great aunt .....

Non-human character Eagle .....

Setting Simpson Desert .....

Issue Emergency rescue .....

##### Random words

swept .....

dazzling .....

faded .....

wrinkled .....

quirky .....

#### Instructions

- Start no earlier than **8am**
- Write an original story:
  - based on all **five parameters** (above)
  - including all **five random words** (above) as written, and in bold type
  - with some identifiable **Australian content** (in theme or setting or characters, etc)
  - keeping within the allowed word count (remember every word on every page counts)!
  - include this parameters form in your book **immediately after the front cover**
- Remember: **Every** word on **every** page counts. This includes your front cover, back cover, blurb, acknowledgements and copyright form.
- **Be sure to give yourself enough time to submit your book and complete the following checklist before 9pm**

Log on to the Team Coordinator Portal to:

- Check the spelling of your team name and team members' names  
(how these are spelt on submission will be how they are displayed on certificates)
- Complete the Declaration
- Submit your finished book in **both** PDF and plain text format by 9pm

## **Contents**

- Chapter 1 - Jiemba Goes Crazy
- Chapter 2 - Jeremy Gets a Call.
- Chapter 3 - The Ambulance Incident
- Chapter 4 - A Short Visit
- Chapter 5 - An Unexpected Guest
- Chapter 6 - Ambulance incident
- Chapter 7 - Jiemba's Plan
- Chapter 8 - A Sham Reunion
- Chapter 9 - Golden Riddles



## Chapter 1

### Jiamba goes crazy.

*"I'm going-" Jiamba yelled.*

*"NO! You're 57 years old, you're not going!" Jeremy countered.*

*Jeremy's great aunt, Jiamba wanted to go and find a family heirloom hidden in a temple at 57 years old, crazy right? If you thought she was, you'd be right.*

*Jiamba sighed, her feet ached, she was tired, she'd been walking for days yet nothing. no temple, no water, no food, no Heirloom. But something, something was wrong. She decided to call her grandnephew, they grow up so fast - going on 19 now, she thought to herself.*

*"Great Aunt Jiamba, hi!..? It's been a while, how've you been?" Jeremy said politely.*

*"Jeremy, sweetie! Hi! Yes, it's been a long time, hasn't it?" Jiamba chuckles nervously.*

*"Say, you know how I've always wanted to go to this one temple in the Simpson desert?"*

*"Yeah..?" Jeremy said nervously.*

*"So.. I may or may not have gone there.." Jiamba admitted. "And you got stuck in the temple?." Jeremy finished.*

*"... maybe.. But! I'm in the desert, I haven't found the temple yet!. but.. I'm.. lost.. and I don't know where I am.." Jiamba explains rapidly, quickly becoming embarrassed when she must mention how stuck and scared she really is.*

*"So, you need my help." "..yes.." Jiamba replied timidly.*

*"I'll be there sometime this week." Jeremy sighed.*

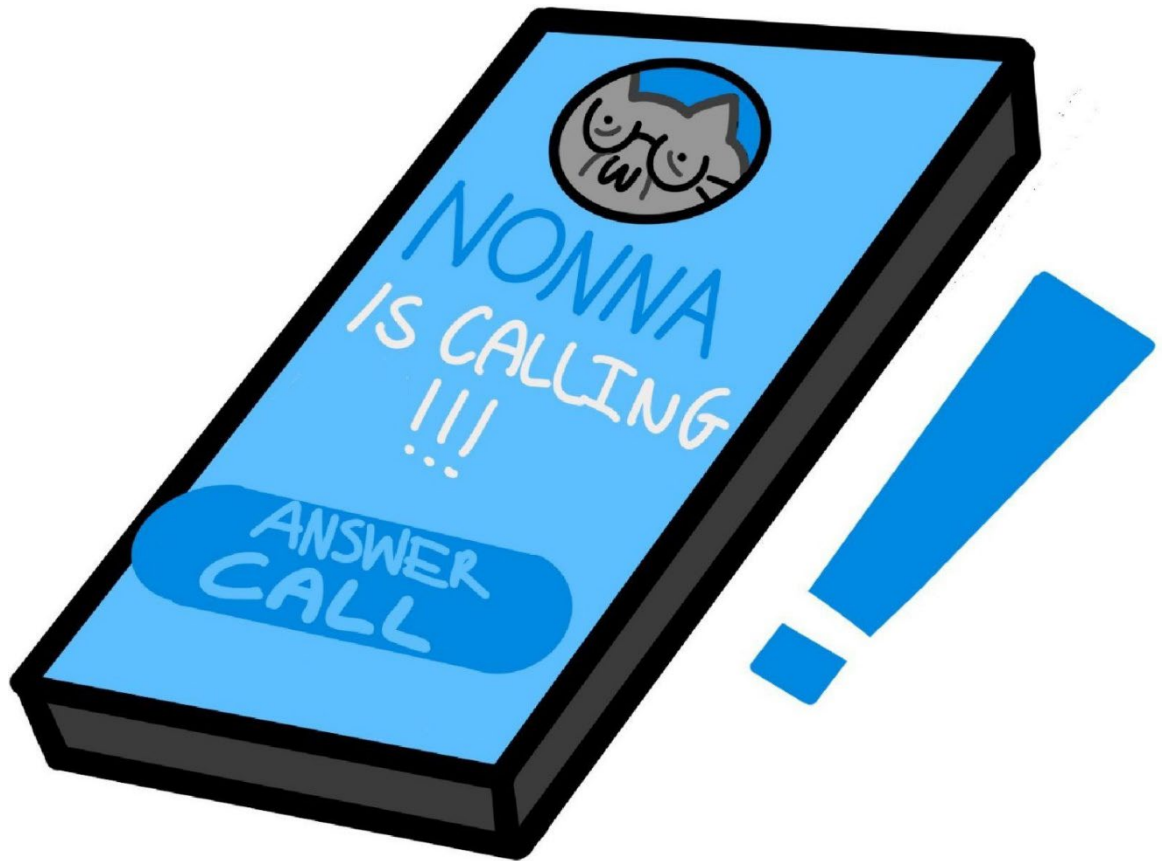
*"Thank you so much! Come as soon as you can, bye!!" Jiamba replies, trying to sound upbeat and cheery, and not scared, ending the call.*

*Soon she started setting up camp, just as she finished she heard something quickly she hid it...*

*"AHHHHHHH" Jiamba screamed.*

## Chapter 2

Jeremy gets a call.



Jeremy was just clocking out of work when he got a call from his great aunt. It's been 3 whole days since he's last heard from her. Which is a massive change, considering her constant overbearing calls and messages about the smallest of things. He thought she was dead, so it was a massive relief to see her call. But the relief soon turned into confusion, seeing as they last left off with a massive argument, then Jiemba just dropped off the face of the earth - completely MIA. For her to call so randomly, after so long, then... there must be something wrong...? Jeremy watched his phone for a moment, then answered cautiously.

"Great Aunt Jiemba! Hi...? It's been a while - how have you been?" Jeremy tries to sound polite, but his confusion is not lost on her.

"Jeremy, sweetie! Hi! Yes, it's been a long time, hasn't it?" Jiemba chuckles nervously.  
"Say, you know how I've always wanted to go to this one temple in the Simpson desert?"

"Yeah...?" Jeremy has a feeling he knows where this is going but lets her speak. "So... I may or may not have gone there..."

"And you got stuck in the temple?." Jeremy finishes for her.

"... maybe... But! I'm in the desert, I haven't found the temple yet! but... I'm... lost... and I don't know where I am.." Jiemba explains rapidly, quickly becoming embarrassed when she must mention how stuck she really is.

"So, you need my help."

"..yes.." Jiemba replies timidly.

"I'll be there sometime this week." Jeremy sighs into the call.

"Thank you so much! Come as soon as you can, bye!!" Jiemba replies, suddenly upbeat and cheery, then ending the call.

Jeremy slowly processes how he has just left work, from an average, normal day, and is now going to be going all the way to the Simpson desert to save his Great Aunt.

Wondering how he's even going to get there, or help her at all, he paces around in the parking lot behind the first responders' station.

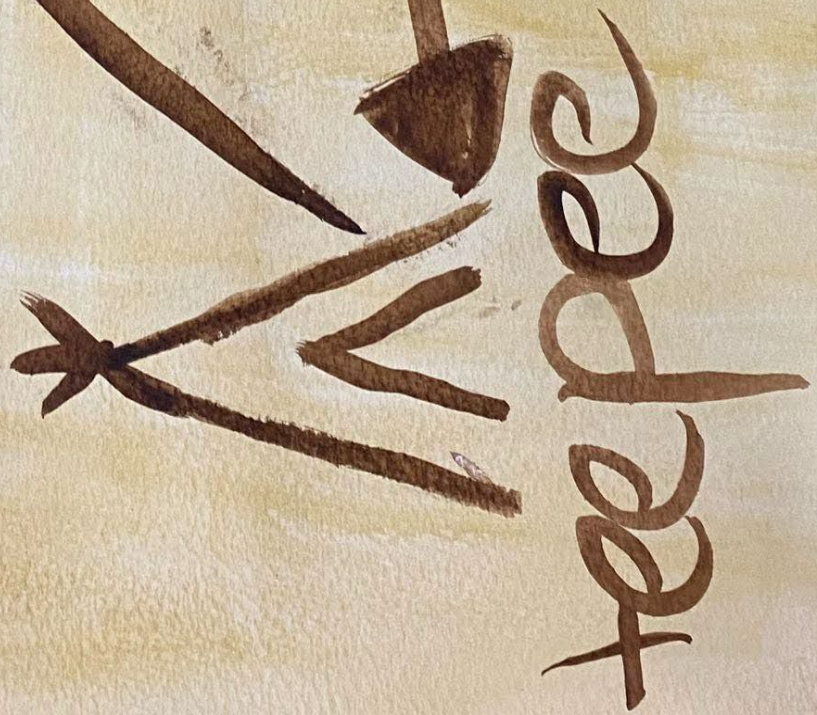
Jeremy notices the big, unused, and unguarded ambulances, left to sit there. Jeremy knows that the ambulances always have a full tank of gas, and there's so many of them... Surely it wouldn't hurt for him to just... borrow one for the time being.

Having convinced himself that what he's about to do is totally ok and justifiable, Jeremy quickly ducks inside and grabs the keys to one of the ambulances. Knowing that what he's doing is definitely going to get him fired, or at least in major trouble, he stays as quick and quiet as possible. Jeremy sneaks out as silently and quickly as possible to not get caught.

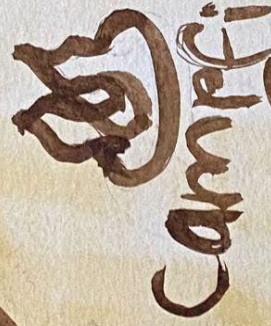
Jeremy runs out and jumps into the front seat of the ambulance. He jams the key into the ambulance's ignition and drives off, trying to stay within the speed limit, but the subtle feeling of dread bubbles up inside him, urging him to go faster, to find his great aunt. Jeremy has no idea where this feeling is coming from, but it spurs him on, barely noticing how the scenery around him blurs and merges from the populated town into a bland, empty, and desolate desert wasteland.



Jiembó's  
Camp



teepee



campfire



tapestry



## Chapter 3

### The Ambulance Incident

After a couple of hours, it was clear that Jeremy had no idea where he was going. Great Aunty Jiemba was quite vague about where she was. The ambulance rocked and bounced over the sandy landscape. Jeremy had forgotten many things, and wasn't sure if he should go back and grab some important stuff, like extra food and water, and fuel. The engine began to splutter.

Jeremy glanced down at the dashboard at the fuel gauge. It was empty.

"Uh oh, that's not good," Jeremy worriedly said. The ambulance came to a stop; Jeremy stepped out of the vehicle and inspected the back cabin, where the patients are usually placed. An eagle swooped by as he looked.

Machines stood idly; the lights that would usually fill the module are all dormant. The beeps that bounce around the back are non-existent. There was no fuel, water, or food. Jeremy closed the doors and looked out towards the horizon, rethinking his decisions to come out to the Simpson Desert. Sand surrounded him in all directions, aside from a few shrubs and rocks. In the distance—around north to northeast—was a small camp. With no other choice, Jeremy began the trek to the camp.

Around half an hour later, Jeremy arrived at the camp. The whole thing was torn apart. Like someone had gone through it, looking for something.

"What the..." Jeremy trailed off, glancing around the camp. At that moment, a ping went off in his pocket. Jeremy took out his phone and checked the notifications on his phone. Missed Call: Great Aunty Jiemba 2 hours ago.

Jeremy checked his voicemail, and there was one new voicemail. Jeremy played it.

"Hello, Jeremy, sweetie. Are you there? If so, please come soon. I think I'm being followed. Please, help me. I don't know what's going to happen."

Jeremy stood speechless. Was this her camp? Who ransacked it? There was no one around, no one to question. A cooling breeze **swept** through the camp, lifting several tapestries, which would have been absolutely **dazzling** before it was destroyed. Was this an abandoned village or something?

Jeremy spotted a hut, which was surprisingly clean. It wasn't torn apart or even very dirty. It was more of a teepee, made from sticks from a nearby oasis with some sort of cloth with an orange and brown pattern on it acting as a door.

Jeremy looks around the camp a bit more. Surely Jiemba wasn't in there, she would

have come out by now. He looked around the camp, but no other buildings or camping equipment was found. A small fireplace was located directly outside the door to the teepee, still smouldering. Some form of meat was on the edge of the stones surrounding the fire.

With no other options, Jeremy walks over to the teepee and knocks on the wood next to the cloth. As he knocks, the cloth billows, revealing what was hiding inside.

## Chapter 4

Jeremy walked into the tent spotting a man hovering in it.

"Hello. Who are you" he said. The man spinned around. "Oh. Hello young man, my name is Kyle. Who are you?" Said the man. He has blonde hair and pale skin. He had the hunch of a middle aged, fatigued man, his lanky body vaguely resembled a bean pole. "I was just looking for your aunty. I haven't seen her in a few days. I'm getting very worried." Jeremy was getting suspicious of this guy. He had never told him about his relationship with the owner of the tent. He decided to keep quiet. He went to look around while talking to this guy. "So, how did you know my aunty?"

He walks over to the other side of the room. He turned and looked at Kyle. He turned around to pick something from the floor of the room and Jeremy noticed a very weird object on the ground. It was an amulet of some kind, very old and worn. It was a necklace with an almost pentagonal pendant attached to the middle of the chain with an engraving of an eagle into its surface. A single ruby acted as the eye of the eagle. The whole thing was made from solid gold. Jeremy thought that it was a **quirky** little thing and shoved into his pocket.

"I don't think that there is anything left here." Jeremy said.

"I agree."

"Well, I am going to leave."

"Ok, Bye." Jeremy watched him leave the tent. He walked away from the tent and turned around. The flap on the door was moving without any wind. A bush started to rustle. He swerved to face it. He didn't see anything. He started to walk away, still looking at the bush. He continued his journey with lots of rustling sounds behind him for a while.

## Chapter 5

### An Another Unexpected Guest



The door was **swept** open by an unknown force... "What the hell?"

Jeremy began to go inside to investigate before he was stopped by a tall, **wrinkled**, grey-haired man wearing a loose yellow shirt, along with beige pants.

"Hey mate! Is something wrong?" the strange man said in a quiet but cheery voice.

"Uhh.. I'm here for my aunt Jiemba. Do you know her?"

"Yes! I met her while passing by, for a matter of fact!" The strange man says as he picks up a brown basket.

"Do you know where she is?."

"I don't know where she is... Maybe she went for a walk?" He said as he began to empty the basket on the ground.

"If she went for a walk why's everything so messy??" Jeremy said as he tilted his head watching the tired man dig through the small trinkets.

"I wouldn't know mate. I just got over here. Maybe she went to that temple thing she was yapping about."

"She went to a temple..." Jeremy said in a questioning tone. "Yes! I can take you there if you'd like!"

“Really..”

“Yes!”

“Take me there then!” Jeremy said, hiding his suspicion.

As they began walking Jeremy spotted a **dazzling**, shiny, gold like object hidden in the sand he quickly bent down to pick it up and shoved it in his pocket. The skinny guy spotted him in the corner of his eye but chooses not to think anything of it.

“So.. what's your name? Mines Jeremy!”

“My name is Kaiden!” The newly identified man exclaimed.

Around 2 hours into the walk the sky had become a crimson hue, Jeremy began to hear a deep warped voice, which led him to get paranoid.

Ten minutes later he heard a voice.

“I once walked among you, known by my name and face. Now I've vanished, not a trace! Sought by many but found by few, where I've gone no one has a clue. Who am I?”

“What the??” Jeremy queried.

“Mate, are you okay??” Kaiden says with a condescending tone.

“Sorry! I just remembered something my friend said.. Haha, ”Jeremy says in a hushed tone.

“Okay, whatever you say buddy..”

---

‘What the hell was that!?’ Jeremy thinks to himself. The strange voice begins to speak once again.

“I wear many faces, none of them are my own. I smile in the sunlight but thrive when I'm alone. My words are like honey sweet to the ear, but in the shadows I'm someone you should fear, who am I?”

Another two hours passed until Jeremy finally realised what the strange voice had meant...

Kaiden was a bad guy!! But Jeremy didn't know what he was supposed to do with this newfound information! But while he was trying to figure out how this riddle was related to the first he tripped over a rock that was hidden in the sand.

"Mate are you oka-.." Kaiden questioned though he started to trail off as he spotted something that fell out of Jeremy's pocket.

"Yes I'm fine." Jeremy said with a snarky tone. As he looked up he noticed that Kaiden was staring at the ground next to him. At a shiny object on the ground next to him.

"What is that?" Kaiden asked.

"It's nothing! Just leave me alone!"

But as soon as he said Kaiden ran at him.

"Give me the amulet, Jeremy, then we won't have a problem." exclaims Kaiden as he clutches Jeremy's shirt.

"What no way!"

"Just give me the damn amulet!" "Uhhh, Look over there!!" "Huh?"

But just as Kaiden turned he was hit by a right-hooked punch that seemingly knocked him out.

## Chapter 6



Jeremy began to make a run for it, not daring to look back. He retraced his steps back to the dingy ambulance in an attempt to track his great-aunts phone call to her original location.

When he finally reached the ambulance he began to check for her location. Until he begins to hear the strange voice once again.

“I lay beyond desert plains, where dunes rise like waves in the sea, seek the red rocks that are carved by time's degree. Where the river that never flows leaves its trace, Towering the aches guards a sacred place. The journeys west where the cliffs and scrapers glow brightest, at the end of the canyon hidden from sight.”

“West of the city... in a canyon.. Got it!”

“Finally..!” Jeremy said seemingly out of breath.

But where is she..” Jeremy continued as he began to enter the strange structure.

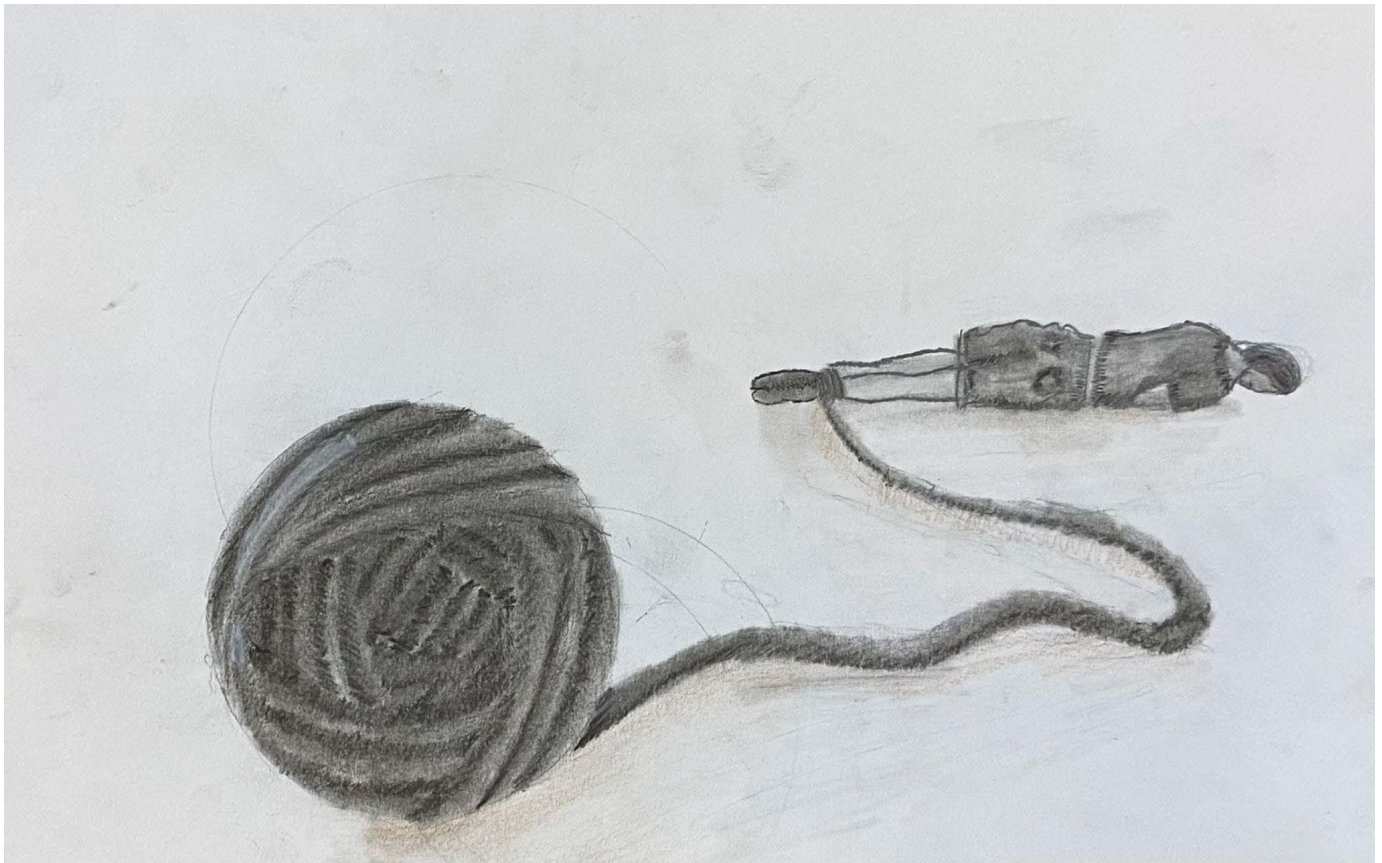


## Chapter 7

### Jiemba's Plan

"Ah excuse me young man, could you please help an old lady with her knitting" Jiemba said with a little old lady voice and an amazing plan on how to escape her capture. She had been down there for over an hour. Her skin bruised and her ankles near bleeding from the restriction device they put around her to restrict her escape. "Yes I can help with that." Kyle replied with a slight uneasy tone.

Jiemba pointed down towards her feet in order to get him to undo the device and to fetch the yarn. To her surprise, he untied without thinking of grabbing it for her. She slowly headed towards the yarn and needles hobbling with a slight fake limp. After she received the yarn she slowly hobbled back.



She had a beautiful light blue blanket started and lightly threw it over her knees but being the fragile old lady, she was pretending to be she could not possibly knit without the help of someone else. "Could you please help me with holding this?"

Jiamba pointed at a piece of yarn towards the front of her needles. Kyle grabbed it in his hand but only with one. So, she needed to get him to grab another, so she got him to pick up one on the other side resulting in his hands being crossed over each other.

"Now can you move that one over towards my left hand but don't go over please." Jiamba asked and continued with her directions as Kyle slowly tied himself up. Each and every direction she gave tangled him up more and more creating a form of yarn handcuffs.

"Now I am finished with this colour. I absolutely must start with the next. Just give me a minute." Jiamba slowly walked over and grabbed the second ball. She sat back down and leaned forward. "What are you doing?" Kyle protested. "I..I dropped it. I am so sorry, please forgive me." Jiamba was so pleased and relieved she could finally give a smirk because he could not see.

She finally came back up with a small ball of yarn left. She knew she needed to get out super-fast. "Um, do you mind coming over here please" Jiamba said to make him come towards her. He tried really hard to go over but fell and started screaming.

Sneakily she **faded** out of the room.

## Chapter 8

### A sham reunion

After getting out of that dreadful cave, Jiemba thought to find Jeremy. she thought to herself that if Jeremy would be anywhere he would be at the temple, so off she went to the temple. it was a lot harder without her necklace 'elegant eagle' as she called it. It was like a GPS for the temple.

Soon there it was the temple, she smiled as she walked in.

"JEREMY!" She ran and hugged him. Jeremy hugged her back.

"I'm so glad your safe Aunty!" Jeremy sniffled slightly.

"Awwwww what a happy reunion!" Kaiden laughed. "Get them, Kyle!" he demanded. Kyle leaped at her. Jiemba scanned the room as she dodged Kyle who must have untied himself. She couldn't help but notice Kyle was incredibly embarrassed and mad about her trickery. seeing this Jiemba started taunting him,

"Have a good time getting untied, hun?" continuing she said, "I feared it might have been too hard for you,"

In a blind rage, he lunged at her. CRASH! Kyle fell through the floor.

"Did you forget temples have traps?" she yelled. Jiemba turned her attention to Kaiden and Jeremy. to put it simply, Kaiden didn't stand a chance. I mean think about it, a 19-year-old first responder vs a man well in his 50s, who do you think is going to win? Swiftly Jeremy pushed Kaiden onto a trip wire and the floor under him disappeared. Safe to say they were gone.

"I don't see them coming back any time soon," Jeremy laughed.

"I don't either," Jiemba smiled.

"Shall we finish this adventure Aunty?" Jeremy put his arm around her shoulder. "Ok, but just to warn you our treasure is pretty well guarded," Jiemba warned.

They set off walking through the temple.

## Chapter 9

### Golden

"To pass through you must answer correctly to these riddles," Bamapana, a god in Yolngu mythology spoke to them.

"Isn't he a trickster god?" Jeremy asked Jiemba. "I believe so," Jiemba mumbled.

"Your riddle is: What is stronger than steel but can't handle the sun?" Bamapana smiled dangerously. "You will have 3 chances if you do not guess the answer you will die,"

"Titanium?" Jeremy guessed.

"Wrong," Bamapana smirked.

"A person," Jeremy nodded as he guessed.

"Wrong again" Bamapana started to laugh.

"I know," Jiemba said, pausing for a while, her voice shaking a little "Ice!" Bamapana frowned "Correct you may pass!"

They walked through and saw a door, next to it was a hole in the shape of the eagle amulet, they placed the amulet in the hole the door opened by itself, and they saw a room full of priceless treasure and a complimentary bottomless bag to carry all treasure. While they were in awe staring at the treasure Kaiden climbed up out of the trap door and pulled himself up onto the floor. Without a moment's notice he helped Kyle up and slipped away to make a new plan.

Jeremy and his Aunty collected their treasure and travelled home.

"Finally, home! Let's hope we never have to do that again!" Jeremy sighed as they opened the front door. Riddles





## **Blurb**

On a normal day, Jeremy gets a call from his great aunt for his help. The travel deep into the heart of the Simpson desert for a precious heirloom. An eagle amulet. As they traverse the desolate and hot centre of Australia, someone tries to stop them. How will this end?

---

## **Thanks to**

Mrs Ridgway - Teacher that

organised the event Mrs painting -

Library

Mrs Aramini - Teacher that organised

the event People that donated - Check

sponsors

People in my group - Addison. L, Alicia. N, Sara. C, Chloe. C, Isabella.

M, Bianca. W Students and staff - Donated at fundraisers

Kitchen staff - Food

Mrs Kember - Helped with food fundraising