

CHAPTER 1

Popping Candy

"It's hot!" Frank the hamster squealed. "Too hot!"

"Of course it's hot," Emily snapped. "We're hanging over a volcano. What do you expect?"

She was dangling from a rope with her best friend Jacob.

Beneath them, steam rose up from a lake of hot lava. Their arms were tied and there was no way to climb back up the rope to safety.

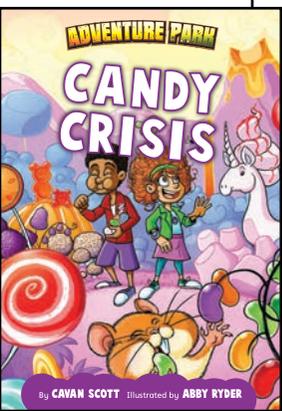
They were trapped and running out of ideas.

"We need to do something fast!" Jacob said, looking up.

The rope that was holding them was starting to come apart. If it snapped, they'd plunge into the boiling liquid far below.

But wait! We've skipped to the end of the story.

Why are Emily, Jacob and Frank hanging over a bubbling volcano? And who has tied them up?



CHAPTER 1

The Hover-bike

The hover-bike zoomed down the space station's corridor.

It was going fast. Very fast.

Frank the hamster was sat on the hover-bike's handlebars. He didn't like it at all.

"Slow down!" he yelled.

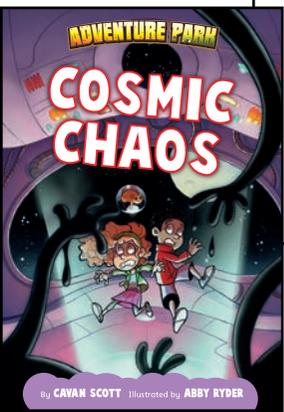
"I can't," Emily replied, turning the handlebars.

The bike screeched around the bend.

"Those aliens are right behind us!"

But wait! We've missed the first part of our story.

Why are Emily and Frank on the run from aliens?



CHAPTER 1 The Chase

“KEEP RUNNING!” shouted Jacob, nearly tripping as he ran.

Emily jumped over a fallen tree trunk. “What do you think I’m doing?” she yelled back.

“Well, stop talking and do it faster!” squeaked Frank the hamster. Emily’s pet was hanging onto her shoulder. “That monster is catching up!”

Emily looked behind them. Frank was right.

The creature that was chasing them was enormous.

It had teeth the size of razor-sharp bananas.

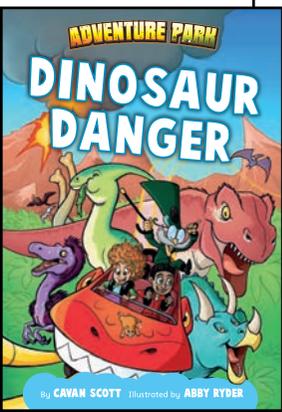
The creature was fast.

The creature was angry.

The creature wanted to eat them for lunch!

But wait! We’ve missed the first chunk of the story.

How did Jacob and Emily end up running from a huge, hungry horror?



CHAPTER 1 The Chase

"I thought dragons were make-believe," Jacob yelled.

"So did I!" squeaked Frank the hamster.

"Then why is one chasing us?" Jacob asked.

"Shut up and keep driving!" Emily said.

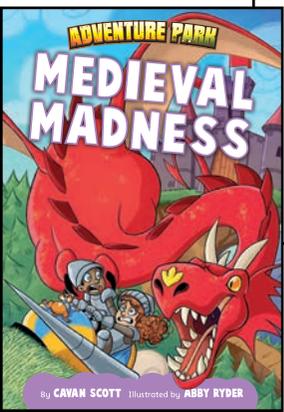
Jacob did what he was told. He steered the dodgem car this way and that, but it was no good. The dragon followed every turn.

It was huge.

It was red.

It wanted to turn them into toast!

But wait! Just how did our three heroes end up fleeing from a fearsome dragon?



CHAPTER 1

Ghosts and Monsters

The ghost train carriage rattled along the rails. Usually Jacob found these things funny, but not this time. This time the ghosts and the monsters that were chasing them were real!

Emily looked over her shoulder as the vampire and the werewolf raced after them. Both had sharp fangs and blood-red eyes. Bats flocked around the monsters as ghosts filled the air.

“Stop them!” shouted the vampire.

In front of the carriage, Frank ran ahead in his hamster ball. “I knew this was a b-b-bad idea!” he squeaked. “What are we going to do?”

For once, Emily was out of ideas. She had never been so scared!



CHAPTER 1

The Pirate Ship

"Hang on!" yelled Emily.

"I am!" Jacob shouted.

The ship was tossing this way and that. The deck was slippery and the sails were tattered.

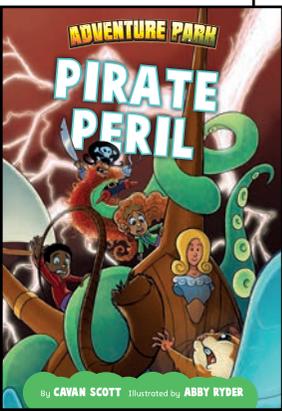
"We're going to be shipwrecked," Frank the hamster cried out.

"No, we're not," Emily said. "We just need to think of a way to escape!"

Beneath them, the sea monster roared!

But wait a minute! We've jumped straight to the middle of the story.

How did Emily, Jacob and Frank end up on a ship in the middle of the ocean? And why are they being attacked by a sea monster?



CHAPTER 1 All Wrapped Up!

"It's got me!" Frank the hamster cried out. He was wrapped in a grubby old bandage and couldn't move.

"You're not the only one!" Jacob added. He was struggling with bandages of his own. The dirty strips of fabric were wriggling like snakes.

"I'll get you out," said Emily, rushing forwards.

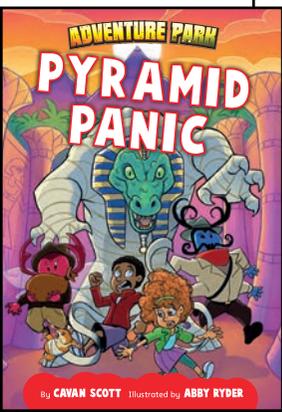
Suddenly a hand slapped down on her shoulder.

"Leave them," hissed a voice in her ear. "We need to escape!"

"Not without my friends!" Emily insisted. "I've got to save them!"

But wait! We've missed the beginning of our story.

Why are Frank and Jacob wrapped in bandages and who is telling Emily to leave them behind?



CHAPTER 1 Tree Terror

"Climb faster!" Emily shouted.

"I'm going as fast as I can!" Jacob called back.

The jungle was hot. Too hot. Emily's palms were sweating. If she slipped and fell she would be in real trouble.

At the bottom of the tree, the monster clawed at the trunk.

Jacob hung onto a branch above her. "So, got any bright ideas?" he asked.

Emily shook her head. Usually she was the one who came up with a plan. Usually she was the one who saved the day.

This time was different.

This time she didn't have a clue what to do.

But wait a minute! We've jumped to the middle of the story.

What are Jacob and Emily doing in a jungle?
And where's Frank, Emily's pet hamster?

