

Chapter 2

AND INTO THE FIRE

Jack's fans were really, really excited to meet him.

Jack walked into the TV studio in his suit, bow-tie and trainers.

"Hey there!" he said, looking as cool as frost on an icicle.



Minty screamed, "Oh! Oh!"

Carl stammered, "Jack! Jack!"

Milly screamed, "Oh! Oh!"

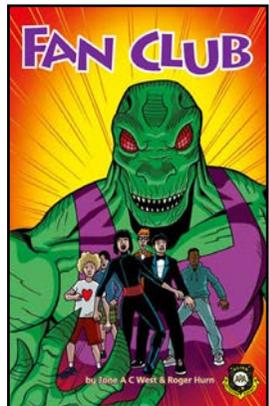
Arthur asked, "In Episode 73, how did the Nefermynds from Wotternutter break their anti-gravity cyclone-ometer?"

"Er..." said Jack, "who would like to see inside my spaceship, STEALTH?"

"Oh! Oh!" cried Minty.

"Wow!" breathed Carl.

"Oh! Oh!" wept Milly.



Chapter 2

221½ Baker Street

Jack and Wanda climbed out of STEALTH and found themselves in a large room.

Jack scratched his head. “Where are we, Wanda? And why has STEALTH landed in somebody’s house?”



“We are in 221½ Baker Street, London – and this isn’t just anybody’s house. This is the home of the great Victorian detective, Sheerluck Holmes, and his friend Dr Whatsup.”

“Never heard of them,” sniffed Jack.

“What!” said Wanda. “They’re so famous.”

“Really?” replied Jack. “Why’s that? Do they save the world from danger every week like me?”

“No,” said Wanda. “They solve crimes and catch crooks.”



Chapter 4

WILD RIDE

The Ding-quats charged down the dusty street. Jack bounced painfully on the beast's back as they hurtled along.

They had no trouble following the scent that Howling Hank had left. He must smell as bad as a long-haired goat in a garlic-eating competition, thought Jack.

They were catching up with him fast. Jack wondered how Howling Hank could be such a successful bank robber – he didn't even have a horse.

They raced past a cactus...



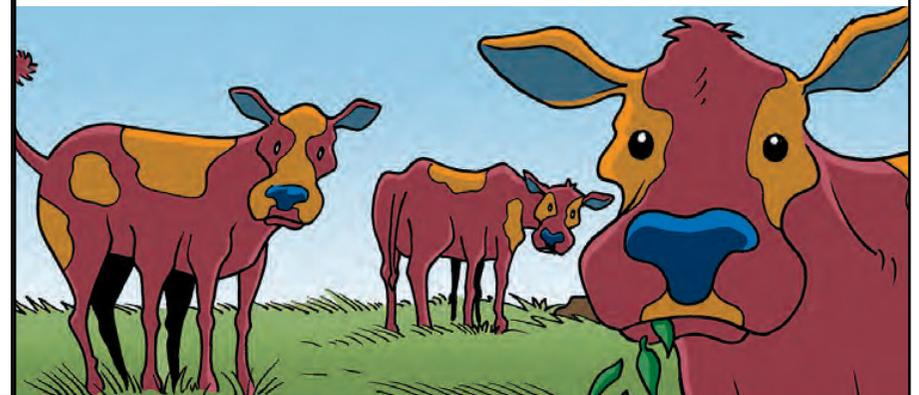
Overtook a stage-coach...



Charged past a pow-wow...



And surprised a couple of six-legged cows.



“And what if we don’t?” yelled Jack.

“Then you’ll get a one-way ticket to Wavy Bones’ locker,” replied the pirate.

“I think you mean Davy Jones’ locker,” said Jack.

Captain Thunderpants shrugged.
“Wavy? Davy? Who cares? You’ll still end up as fish food!”

Wanda and Jack clambered up onto the deck.

The pirates scowled at them. Jack put on his best ‘don’t mess with me’ face. It looked a lot like his ‘Uh-oh!’ face to Wanda.

“OK, Blunderpants,” he said, “the game’s up. I’m Sci-Fi Spy Guy and I’m going to give you and your motley crew five seconds to surrender – or else!”

The pirate crew looked baffled.

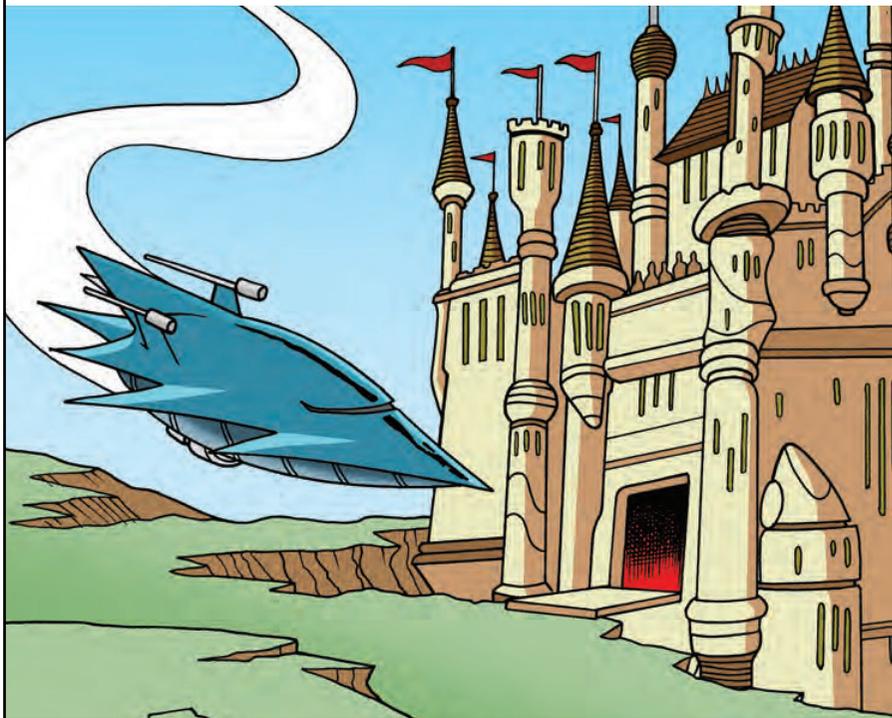


Chapter 2

It's a girl thing

STEALTH landed outside King Bigcheez's castle on Oldworld.

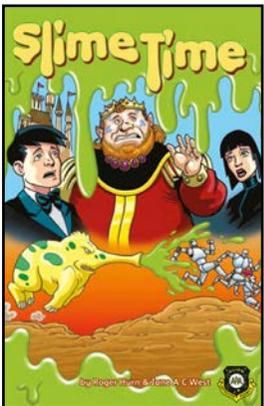
Flags flew from the castle towers and knights in armour looked down from the battlements.



Then a large, red-faced man who looked like Henry the Eighth's bad-tempered big brother stomped across the drawbridge to meet Jack and Wanda. It was King Bigcheez.

"You took your time!" His voice was like thunder and his red face wobbled like a jelly in a gale.

"Sorry," said Jack. "We came as quickly as we could, but STEALTH's sat nav is on the blink so we took a wrong turning at Ursa Major and ended up at a chip shop on Snakattak 7."



Chapter 3

The Forest of Gloom

The Forest of Gloom was a creepy place. The trees huddled close together as if they were plotting something nasty.

Branches brushed against Jack's face like ghostly fingers. He was as jumpy as a kangaroo on a trampoline. "I don't like it here, Wanda," he whispered. "It's a really gloomy place."

"That's why it's called the Forest of Gloom, not Sunshine Park," hissed Wanda, grumpily.

The truth was she didn't like the forest any more than Jack did. But Wanda wasn't going to admit it to him. After all, she was an alien with a heart of silicon, not a scaredy-cat TV actor who was afraid of spiders.

Then, suddenly, Wanda realised that Jack had a point. They had come to a clearing in the forest, and stretched across the trees was the biggest spider's web Wanda had ever seen.



Chapter 2

Acting up

Wanda stamped into the film studio. She stopped and stared. How had Jack got there ahead of her?

She watched him act one of the scenes. Oh dear! He was awful. Wanda tried to think of another word. Dreadful! Ghastly! Hopeless!



Yes, that was a lot of words; they all added up to RUBBISH!

Gorgonzola covered his eyes with his paws.

Wanda wasn't Jack's biggest fan. In fact, Jack was Jack's biggest fan. But she didn't think he was that bad.

Then she heard the director say, "If that guy's acting doesn't get better – he's fired!"

Wanda scowled. Even if Jack was an idiot, he was still her friend. She had to do something.



Chapter 2

Green cheese

“Earthquake!” yelled Jack. “Er... I mean, moonquake!”

“I think you mean RUN!” yelled Wanda.

Gorgonzola scampered into a nearby moon-crater. Jack and Wanda dived in after him. The walls quivered, Jack quaked. Wanda closed her eyes and pretended it wasn't happening.

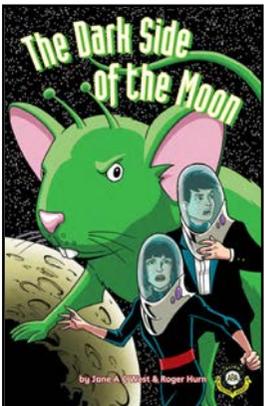
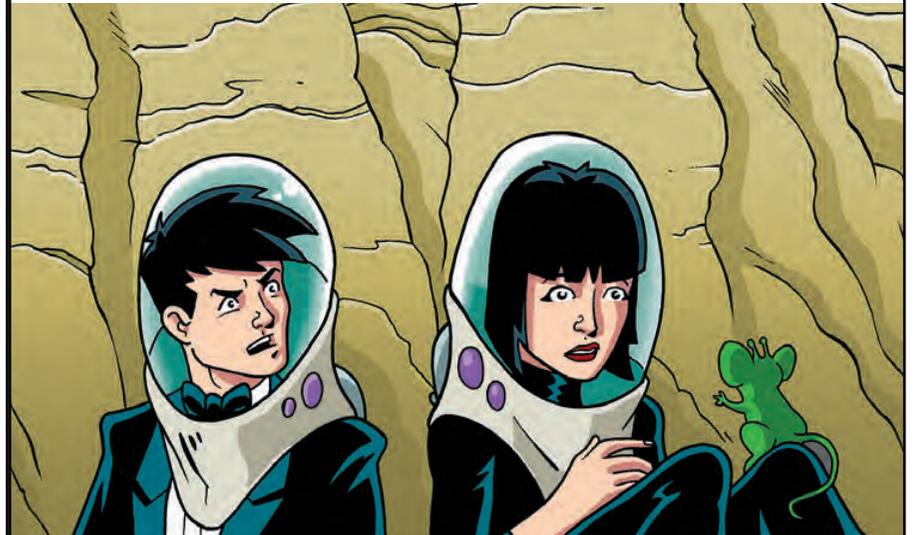
Slowly the tremors died away. Gorgonzola opened one eye and squeaked at Wanda.

“He says that was the BBM,” said Wanda.

“The what?” asked Jack.

“Big Bad Monster!” yelled Wanda. “Try to keep up, Jack.”

Jack scowled. “If you're going to invent a code, you could at least tell me what it is,” he said grumpily. “What does the BBM want?”



Chapter 1

Shooting star

Jack and Wanda stared up at the night sky. A meteor blazed across the heavens.

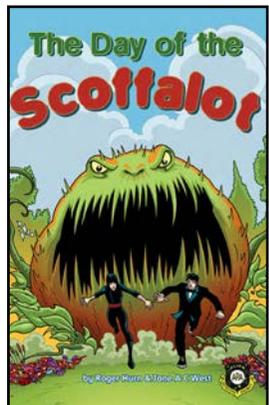
“Wow, that meteor is like the best firework ever,” gasped Jack. “If it was any brighter I’d have to wear sunglasses to look at it.”



Wanda scratched her head. “Yes, it’s beautiful all right, but I’ve got a bad feeling about it.”

Jack shook his head. “That dodgy burger you just ate is what’s giving you a bad feeling,” he said. “Not this amazing meteor.”

Wanda glared at him. But Jack was too busy watching the fiery shooting star to notice.



Chapter 5

Checkmate!

Jack hurried into the kitchen. Cook Rook was stirring a huge pot of lizard stew.

“What are you doing in my kitchen?” he yelled.

“Saving the universe!” yelled Jack, happily. “Again!”

“What makes you think the Onyx Star has been hidden in the kitchen?” asked Wanda.

“I don’t!” said Jack, with an annoying smile on his face.

Wanda crossed her arms. “Well, what are we doing here, then?”

Jack looked smug and tapped his nose with his finger. His eyes fell on a huge cake. To Wanda’s surprise – and the cook’s horror – he tore the cake apart with his bare hands.

