

People on Earth said he was going to win the race.

“Don’t say that!” warned Jack. “There are lots of great drivers in the galaxy. It will be a very hard race.”

Jack had a brand new car called Sprint Devil.

He was checking Sprint Devil’s engine beside the race track, when a very loud noise sounded behind him.

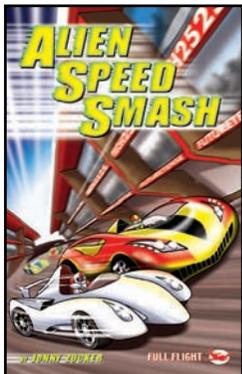
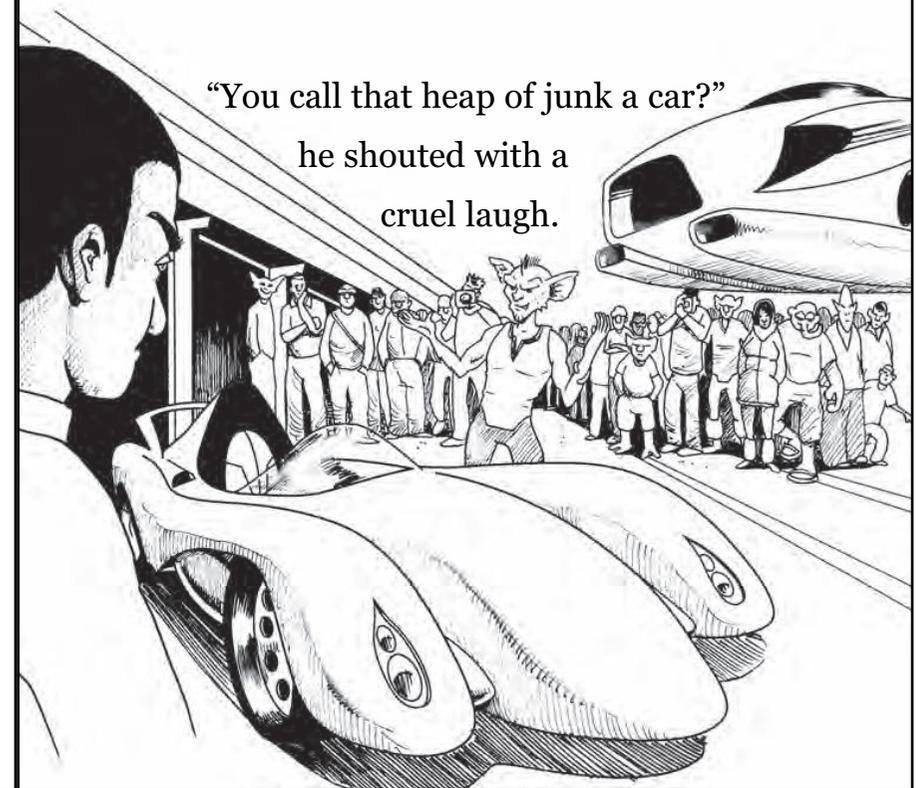
He looked round. A Creelon spaceship was landing in the middle of the race track.

The Creelons were hard and mean.

Out of the spaceship walked Uggro Fristy – the Creelon racing driver. He was the same age as Jack.

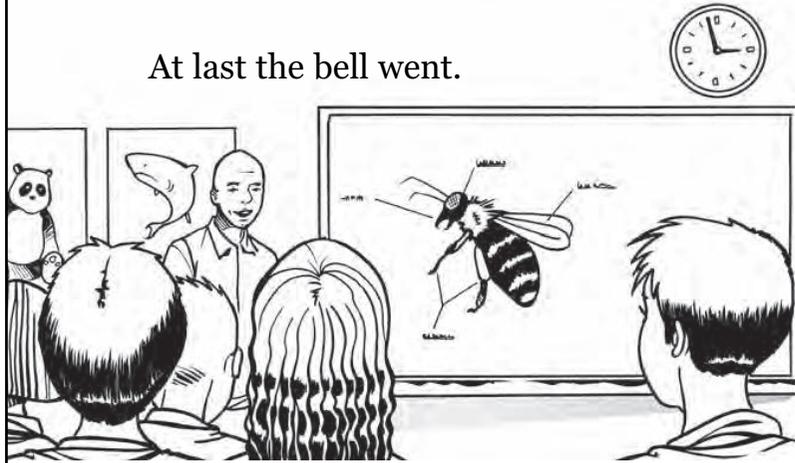
Uggro walked over to Jack and took a look at Sprint Devil.

“You call that heap of junk a car?”  
he shouted with a  
cruel laugh.



Lily loved Science but Mike found Science boring and was only interested in the clock on the wall counting down till the end of class.

At last the bell went.



“Yes!” shouted Mike. “Home time!” and he rushed to pack up his bag.

“OK class, have a good weekend and I expect your homework on pollination to be on my desk Monday morning,” shouted Mr Culkin.

6

## Chapter 2 Black Cloud



On Saturday morning Lily and Mike met up to go to the nearby fields.

“Hey Mike, how are you doing?” asked Lily.



“I’m great, thanks, Lily, now that it is the weekend,” replied Mike.

“Come on let’s go for a ride in the fields.”

They jumped on their bikes and went off to the fields.

7





“It will be OK,” Rashid said to Ben and Eddie. “It will be fun. Wild camping.”

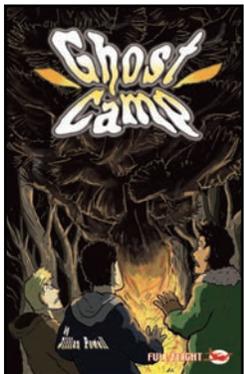
“We could try the tent out,” Ben said.

“Yeah. Let’s do it!” Eddie agreed.

The boys got off the bus, carrying their kit bags. The rest of the group seemed happy to stay.

“Idiots!” they heard someone say.

“Wimps!” Rashid replied.



**New words:**

**rebels/rebel soldiers** soldiers  
fighting the government

**propeller**

blades attached to a ship's engine to  
propel (push) it through water

**minefield**

bombs hidden under the soil

**Main characters:**



Hero



Farad

**CHAPTER 1**

**New Life**

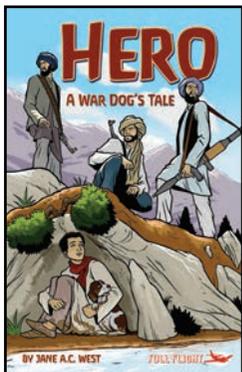


Mum looked at her new pups and wagged her tail. There were five of them. Two were pale brown and white, two were black and one was dark brown and white. But wait! There was one more – another tiny dark brown and white puppy.

Gently she pushed the tiny puppy closer to her milk.

“Drink up, little man,” she said. “Then you’ll grow big and strong and be a hero, just like your dad.”

And that’s how Hero got his name.



**New words:**

inventor	invention
jealous	stolen
judder	incredibly
microchips	permission

**Characters:**



Sky



Jed



Mac



Chris

**Chapter 1**

**Ultra 1 Jet Pack**

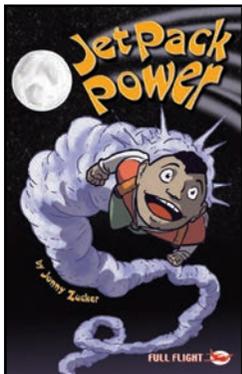


Mac lived with his older brother Sky. Their house was by the sea. They were very into water sports and were both great surfboarders. Sky was also an amazing inventor.

He'd already won loads of prizes. But his greatest invention was the Ultra 1 Jet Pack. He'd just finished it.

Other people had invented jet packs before but Sky's was the smallest ever.

It was the size of a CD. It was silver with a red beam of light in the middle.



Lexie and John sat down. They put on headsets.

“Welcome to Labyrinth,” said a voice.  
“A game of virtual reality. Prize money today is £20,000.”

“The labyrinth is a maze of tunnels. Players must reach the centre. They must key in a kill code. This will stop the virtual reality. Today’s code is 6996005.”



“Sounds easy,” said John.

The voice spoke again.

“The labyrinth has many secrets. There are dead ends. There are traps. Players beware.”

“I can’t wait!” said John.

“Attach game probes,” continued the voice.

The probes moved into position.

A clap of thunder came from outside.

It made Lexie jump.

“Nothing virtual about that,” she said.



Liam laughed. Tig was frightened of cats!

“Look out for Mrs Spencer’s cat will you?  
It hasn’t been home for days.”



Liam said he would.

“See you, Mr Marcus. Hope they start  
biting.”

6

Liam carried on along the towpath.  
The dog started to push through the  
long grass at the side of the path.

“Here, Tig!” called Liam.

Tig didn’t come. Liam went over to look.

A cloud of flies buzzed up from the spot.

It was Mrs Spencer’s cat.

Its back half seemed to have  
disappeared. It smelt disgusting.

Liam felt sick.



Liam called Mr Marcus.

“It’s Mrs Spencer’s cat all right!  
I should say a fox has had it.”

7



He must have overslept.

He wondered why his Mum hadn't woken him.

He guessed she must have overslept too.

Well I can soon fix that, he thought as he dashed out of the front door and slammed it behind him with a loud crash.

Jack dived into the limo.

The driver had his cap pulled down low.

6

Jack couldn't see the man's face but Jack knew it wasn't his usual driver.

"Where's Billy today?" he said.

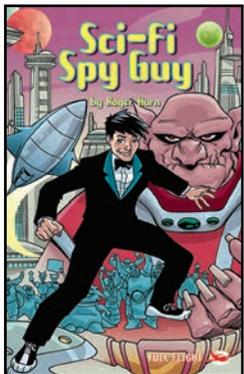


The man mumbled something.

Jack shrugged.

He didn't really care who drove him to the studio. All he wanted to do was go back to sleep.

7



Parliament is the place where the Prime Minister goes to talk about running the country.

It is one of the most famous buildings in London.

We were standing outside on the snowy pavement.

It was very early in the morning. There was no one else around but an old man feeding the birds.

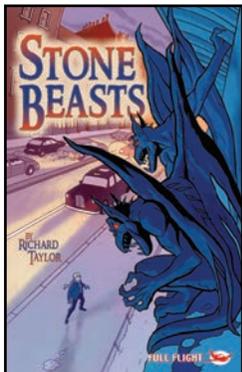
My teacher, Mr Collins, was telling my class all about the Prime Minister.

“The Prime Minister is the most important man in England,” he said, pointing at the buildings.

But I wasn’t listening. I was staring at a gargoyle.



It was the ugliest gargoyle I’d ever seen in my life. It sat above the main door, the one that the Prime Minister uses.



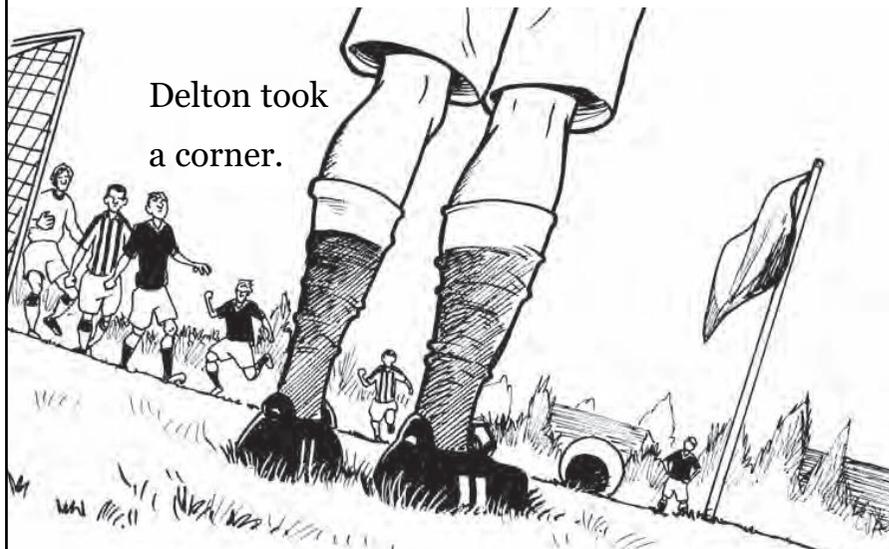
Today the team was playing away at Delton. Delton were top of the league.

But incredibly, Thornton were 2-0 up at half time.

Both Josh and Luke had scored and the Thornton team had begun to believe they could win.

But just as the second half began, things started to go wrong.

Delton took a corner.



The ball flew high in the air.

Luke and Zach, the Thornton goalie, ran and jumped for the ball at the same time.



The ball came off Zach's shoulder and went out of play.

But Luke and Zach smashed into one another and crashed to the ground.

