

Chapter 1 Shelly's Story

When Shelly told our teacher Mr Tann she'd been abducted by aliens, he laughed.

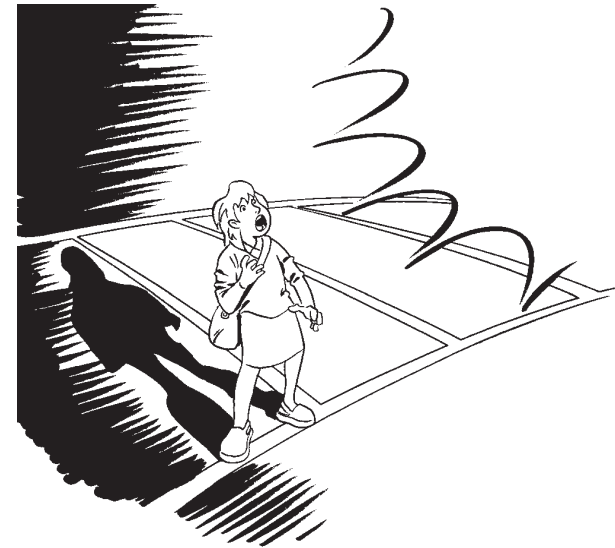
He said, "Now now Shelly."

and, "I don't think so."

and, "It must have been a dream."

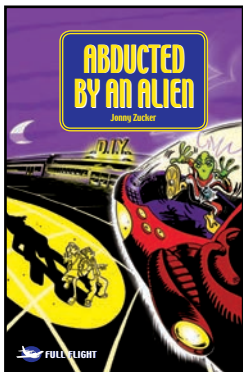
But Shelly wasn't having it.

"It was on my way home yesterday after school," she told him.



"I was going through the DIY store car park when there was a big flash of light. Suddenly I was in the air being sucked into this alien spaceship. I bumped my head when I got there."

"What did they look like?" asked Mr Tann, "were they green with three heads?"



I. THE GOALKEEPER'S KIT



4

To be a goalkeeper you need some basic football kit.

Boots for grass and trainers for a hard surface are needed. Shin pads are very important as they can stop a goalkeeper getting badly hurt.

Tracksuit bottoms are useful because they protect your legs better than shorts. This is very true in a playground!

A goalkeeper's top with elbow pads can make your life as a goalkeeper a little bit safer. Goalkeeping gloves are important because they protect your hands and hold the ball well.

5



Chapter 1 - The Dream

Jamie could see the finishing line.

High above him, at the top of a steep, muddy hill.

There was so much noise, Jamie couldn't think. Teachers, parents and kids from school, all staring at him. He felt the sweat run down his face.

Jamie was pumping the pedals of his bike like crazy, but he felt like he was stuck in one spot.

"What is this?" he kept asking himself.

"What's going wrong?"

Then he heard a loud voice, through a speaker.

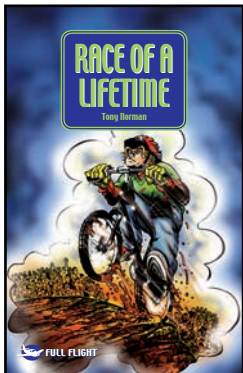
"And here's Jamie Collins, riding the oldest bike in the race. Better late than never, Jamie!"

The truth hit Jamie like a smack in the face. The people on the hill weren't cheering. They were laughing. Laughing at him and his stupid old bike.

Jamie felt a burst of anger deep inside.

He pedalled faster and faster.

He had just one thought in his mind.



Characters

Miss Potts – OK teacher

Mr Denton – Head Teacher

Spud – Techno Wizard

James – All mouth

Kate – Girl DJ

Dean – Moaner



Scene 1 – The Playground

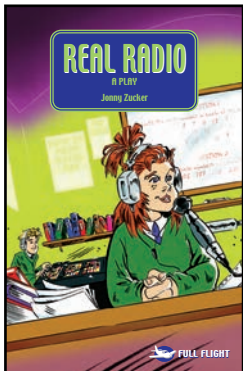
Spud, James, Kate and Dean are sitting on their favourite bench.

James: Real Radio is going to be the best radio station in the country.

Dean: Don't be silly. It's only a school radio station.

James: Yeah, but we've got the top team. It's going to be the best.

Dean: I think you're getting a bit excited.



Chapter 1 **Nearly There**

"Nearly there," Mum said.

Josh said nothing. He didn't want to be there.

There were no more street lights. Just wet fields with cows in them.

Josh wanted to be back home, in the city.

"You'll be sharing a room with Tom," mum said. "It will be like having a brother."

It will be pants, Josh thought.

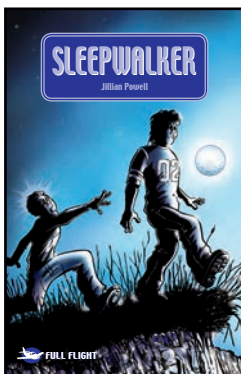
Josh had only met Brian's son Tom once. But he knew he was weird.

Spookily, they shared the same birthday. But that was all they had in common.

- Tom didn't have a football team.
- He didn't know the first thing about PlayStation.

What did he do? He collected fossils. How weird was that, Josh thought. Filling his bedroom with old stones.

Josh closed his eyes. He tried to imagine his old room, back home. Except it wasn't home any more.



1. RED HOT RACERS

The speedway stadium is packed.
The fans look tense as they wait to see
their heroes.

Suddenly, four top riders burst out onto
the track and the crowd goes wild.

The cheers almost drown out the roar
of the motorbikes as they cruise to the
starting line.

The speedway stars wear leather racing
suits and coloured helmets. They look
cool, like comic book heroes.

They line their bikes up at the starting
gate and rev their engines to full power.
It's time to focus hard on the race ahead.



Then the starting gate whips up into
the air. The bikes rush forward and
speed into the first corner. They are
just centimetres apart, as they slide
round the bend.

The racers have just one thing on their
minds and that's winning.

Welcome to UK speedway, the home of
the red hot racers!



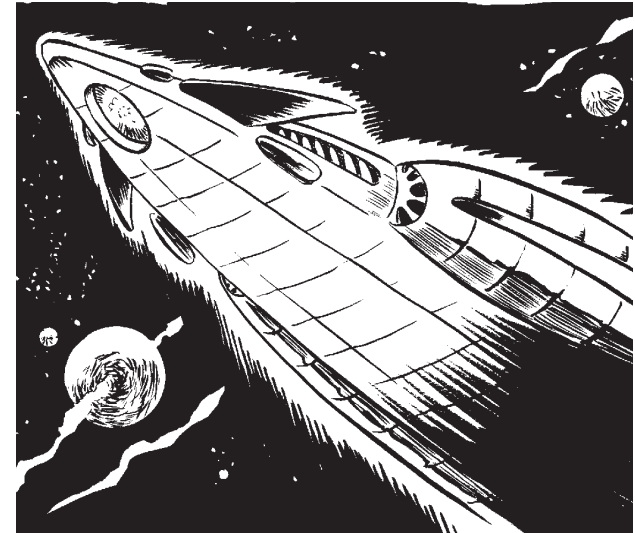
Chapter 1 - Todd's Problem

Todd knew that he was lucky. Most boys of his age never went into space.

But Todd's mum and dad were part of the crew of a huge starship. The ship, called The Searcher, went on missions across the galaxy.

There were nearly two thousand people on the ship. The crew could take their families with them.

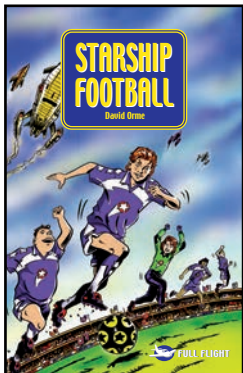
There was always plenty to do on the ship. But Todd and his friends had a problem. They lived for the one thing they couldn't do on the starship.



They loved football.

Of course, they could watch as much football as they liked. All the big matches between planets were shown on the starship TV.

They could even play 'virtual' football.



Chapter 1 - Bad News

Tom's mum forgot everything.

- She forgot his dad's birthday.
- She forgot to make his packed lunch.

She even forgot to tell him about the visit from his American cousin Ben.

He found out one Saturday morning when he turned on his computer.



Tom

From: ben623@aol.com

To: tom58@hotmail.com

Sent: 5 July

Subject: My summer in England

Hi Tom

You won't remember me, but I'm your first cousin from America. I last saw you when we were both about two years old.

Anyway, isn't it great about my trip over to England for the summer! I'm really looking forward to it.

Best wishes

Ben.

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Chapter 1 - The Staircase

“Me first.” The others stood aside.

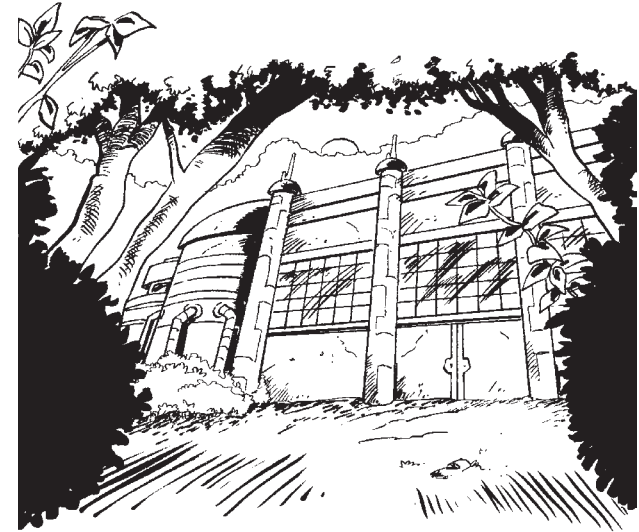
“Count how many seconds to the bottom,” Joe said.

The staircase curled below like an iron snake.

“Here goes!” Joe let out a battle cry.

Then he pushed off, sliding faster and faster, round and round.

“Five seconds!” Roy shouted.

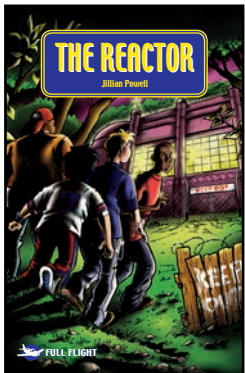


The others followed, one after the other. They landed in a heap at the bottom.

“Wicked!” Joe said.

“Cool,” Asif nodded.

There was always something new to do in the Reactor. That was their name for it.



Temper Temper

He kicked it, he smacked it,
he got a stick and whacked it,
but no-matter how much he attacked it,
he couldn't make it move.

He pulled at it, he tore at it,
he shouted and he swore at it,
but no-matter how much he got sore at it,
he couldn't make it move.

So Dad left his car at the shops,
caught the bus home,
and was mean to us for the rest of the day.

Mike Jubb



Michael Owen

Michael Owen, Michael Owen
Runs so fast his pants are showing
Kicks the ball for all his worth
Now it's orbiting the Earth.

Roger Stevens

A Footballer's Prayer

Dear God
Please bless my feet
May they kick a ball
Real sweet!
Keep my balance
Keep me on my toes
Help my team mates
Outfox my foes
May my feet
Lead me to victory
Win the match and win the double
And may my feet always
Walk away from trouble.

Roger Stevens

