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SUPER HAPPY MAGIC FOREST

AND THE DEEP TROUBLE



For the seas; let's make it our
quest to look after them.

OXFORD
UNIVERSITY PRESS

Great Clarendon Street, Oxford OX2 6DP

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First published in 2021
Published in this edition 2024

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British Library Cataloguing in Publication Data

Data available

ISBN: 978-1-38-2054553

1 3 5 7 9 10 8 6 4 2

Printed in China

The manufacturing process conforms to the environmental
regulations of the country of origin.



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THE SUPER HAPPY HEROES



Hoofius (faun)

A delightful mix of pointy and furry bits, Hoofius likes to take on the role of leader of the heroes. He takes questing very seriously and holds nothing but contempt for clothes and personal grooming.

Blossom (unicorn)

A champion frolicker, Blossom is impulsive and likes to live in the moment. His unpredictable nature surprises friends and enemies alike.

He also eats like a horse.





Twinkle (fairy)

The only airborne member of the group, Twinkle is a useful scout and surprisingly strong for her size. She's also easily distracted by anything cute or shiny.

Herbert (gnome)

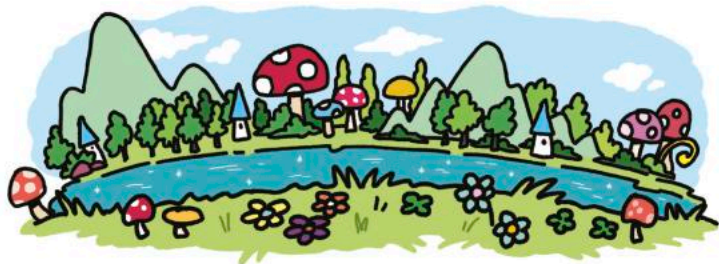
Rake-wielder and packer of picnics. Questing without Herbert would likely see you lost, hungry, and unable to identify wild flowers.



Trevor (mushroom)

Small, squishy, and great in an omelette; what Trevor lacks in size and limbs, he makes up for in smart ideas and sharp one-liners.





CHAPTER ONE

SOMETHING FISHY

This story begins in the SUPER HAPPY MAGIC FOREST. You may have heard of it. After all, it was number one on the latest 'Top Ten Places to Frolic' list and was awarded five golden stars in the *Best Places to be a Gnome* guide. You can't argue with that. I mean, you *really* can't. Nobody argues in the SUPER HAPPY MAGIC FOREST. They're too busy picnicking in the woods or singing from the hilltops or dancing in the meadows.

And sometimes, they're underwater . . .

... diving for TREASURE!



BEEN IN
THE WATER
TOO LONG

FRIENDLY
WATER
SPIRIT

BUTTERFLY
FISH



Indeed, it was the morning of the Super-Dive-a-Thon, when residents celebrated their forest's pristine waters by searching the depths of Lake Sparkle for the tasty treasures that grew there. Each resident was allowed to pluck just one treasure for themselves. The event martial, Tiddlywink the pixie, would see to that.



Being a magic forest lake, you'd be sure to find more than just pebbles and old boots below the surface. Delicious candy coral and glitterweed grew there, as well as rare lollipops and giant sherbet shells. It all made for a great day out, as long as you kept your wits about you.





Among those joining in the underwater fun were the revered heroes of the SUPER HAPPY MAGIC FOREST: Hoofius the faun, Blossom the unicorn, Twinkle the fairy, Herbert the gnome, and Trevor the mushroom.



While they were much better at vanquishing evil than they were at swimming and diving, the heroes enjoyed the occasion all the same.



Mushrooms
can't swim.

Ahh, aquashrooms.
How fascinating.

Hoofius was determined to find something extra special this year. Especially after last time . . .



His eyes darted as he combed the lake floor while ignoring the usual sweet temptations. Before long, he had swum far away from the Tiddlywink-approved diving zone. And then he saw it.



The mysterious creature drifted in the water, clutching a tiny trident and not looking very alive. Hoofius gathered the creature under his arm.

'I've found something!' he spluttered as he splashed and kicked his way past his friends to the bank of the lake. They followed, excited to see what it was. It surely had to be an improvement on last year's effort.



Other folk began to gather around, and the murmuring and gasping began.

'COULD A MEDICAL ATTENDANT PLEASE MAKE THEMSELVES KNOWN?' blasted Tiddlywink on his megaphone.

The crowd parted as a mushroom stepped through. Sporting a stethoscope and a pair of tight-fitting trunks, it was clear Dr Shroomsworth had come prepared for both work *and* play.

He knelt beside the creature, examining it from top to tail.

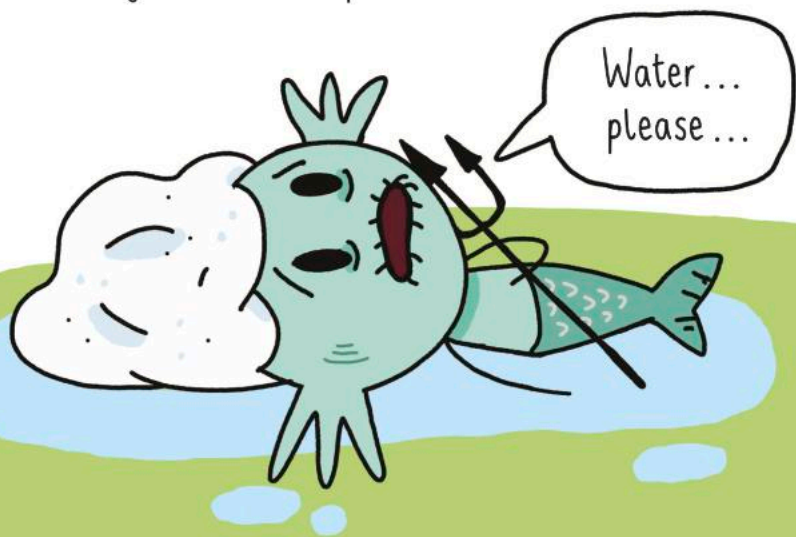


'Hmmm . . .' mused the mushroom. 'Humanoid top half . . . head, eyes . . . arms. But as for those gills and the tail . . . let's just say there's something fishy going on here.'

'FOR GOODNESS' SAKE, SHROOMSWORTH! IS IT *ALIVE?*' boomed Tiddlywink, enjoying his new toy. The crowd winced as the racket rattled through their ears. The creature startled awake from the noise.



'Nope. Definitely dead,' replied the doctor, turning back to his patient.



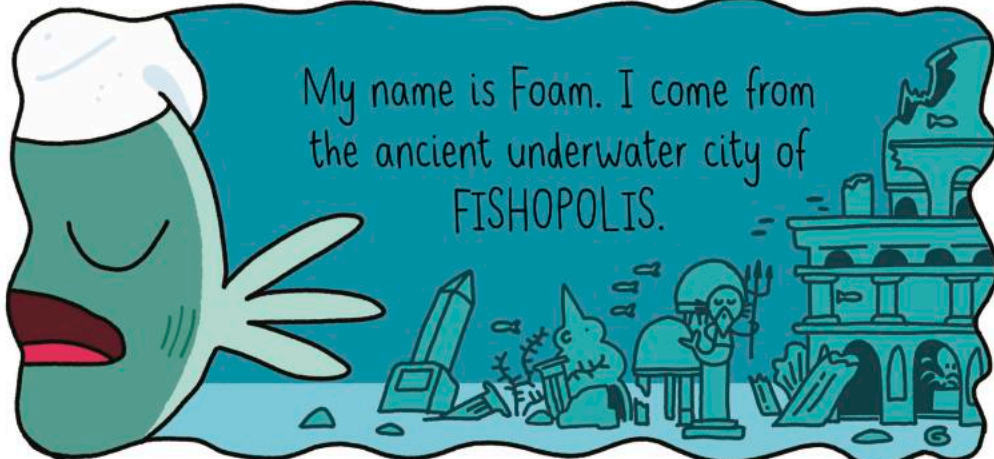
'WAH!' cried Shroomsworth, stumbling backwards in alarm.

Hoofius carefully lifted the creature and plopped it down into a barrel of water. It dove down to the bottom and then resurfaced, enjoying the feeling of water over its skin. And then it spoke.

'Phew, that's better. Merfolk aren't great with the whole "being on dry land" thing. It makes us go a bit crispy.'

'I knew it!' said Herbert excitedly. 'I've read about the merfolk before. But you live out in the deep sea. What brings you here?'

'AND MORE IMPORTANTLY, WHY DIDN'T YOU SIGN IN ON THE VISITOR'S LOGBOOK?' added Tiddlywink, unimpressed.



My name is Foam. I come from
the ancient underwater city of
FISHOPOLIS.

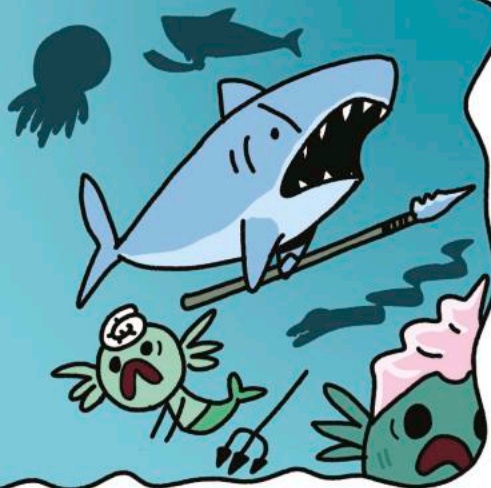
It is there that us merfolk have
tended to the Singing Pearl for
thousands of years.



But Fishopolis is no longer safe for merfolk.
The Singing Pearl can no longer be heard
because the big clam it sits in was shut tight
by a SEA WITCH!



And now evil things
have moved in and
sent the merfolk into
hiding, afraid that they
will be captured ...
or worse.



'I swam the seas looking for help,' continued Foam. And when I couldn't find any, I journeyed all the way upstream to this forest lake. And that's when you found me, tired and exhausted.'

'Well, you have come to the right place!' chimed in Blossom. 'My friends and I have done plenty of quests. We can help!'

'Ahem!' interrupted Tiddlywink, lowering the megaphone. 'I don't mean to sit on your cupcakes or anything, but this *fish-whopper-lis* place is deep underwater. And correct me if I'm wrong, but none of you can breathe underwater!'

Foam giggled. Or gurgled. (It was hard to tell.) She looked at the heroes.

'Have you ever heard of . . . *mersonification*?'