To the makers of coffee, without whom this book wouldn't have got done x

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Jack the Fairy

THE NIGHT BIGFOOT STOLE MY Pants!



Tom McLaughlin

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MEET THE CHARACTERS



Jack

This is me! I'm Jack!
I'm ten years old.
Playing football with my
mate Charlie is the best.



Mum

This is my mum.
She always knows how
to make me laugh.



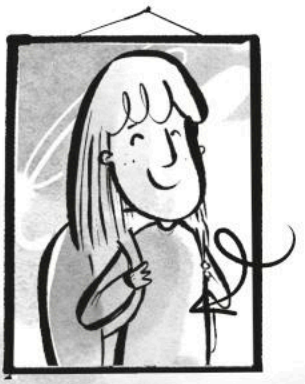
Uncle Dave

He's the BEST uncle in the world!



Charlie

This is Charlie, my best friend. She's ten years old and LOVES everything football!



Matilda

Matilda is the new kid at school. She's not my biggest fan . . .


MAGIC INFO!
TROLL FACTS
Ability to Smell Gold Grudges
Will Pick Up Weapons

Chapter 1
Wide Awake

'HIIIIIIIYAAAAAAA!' I check my dynamic pose in the mirror and then look down at my book, *A Compendium of Magical Beings* to make sure I'm getting it right.

'HEEEEEHHHHAWWWWYAAAAA!' I say again, adjusting my pose slightly.

It's really late but I can't sleep. A few weeks ago I found out some pretty big news and it's been hard to sleep ever since. You see, I found out that I'm not actually human, and neither is my mum or my uncle Dave.

We're all fairies!

I know what you're thinking—how come I only

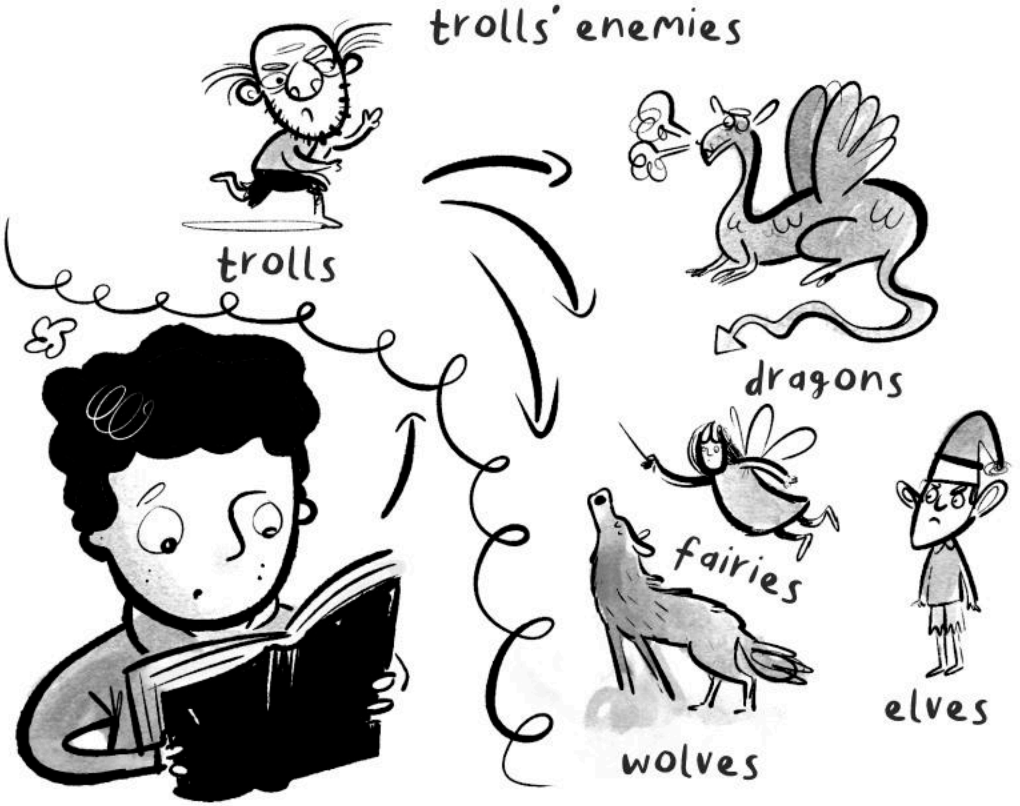
found out I was a fairy at the grand old age of ten? Well, my suspicions were first aroused when I woke up on my birthday and sprouted a pair of fairy wings. And then my uncle Dave said, 'Jack, you're a fairy, and so am I and so is your mum,' which is when I knew for sure.



Part of my fairy training is to study *A Compendium of Magical Beings*, which Mum gave to me. It has pretty much everything you need to know about all the magical creatures in the land, and how it's the job of us fairies to make sure humans live blissfully unaware of the magical creatures going about their business all around them.

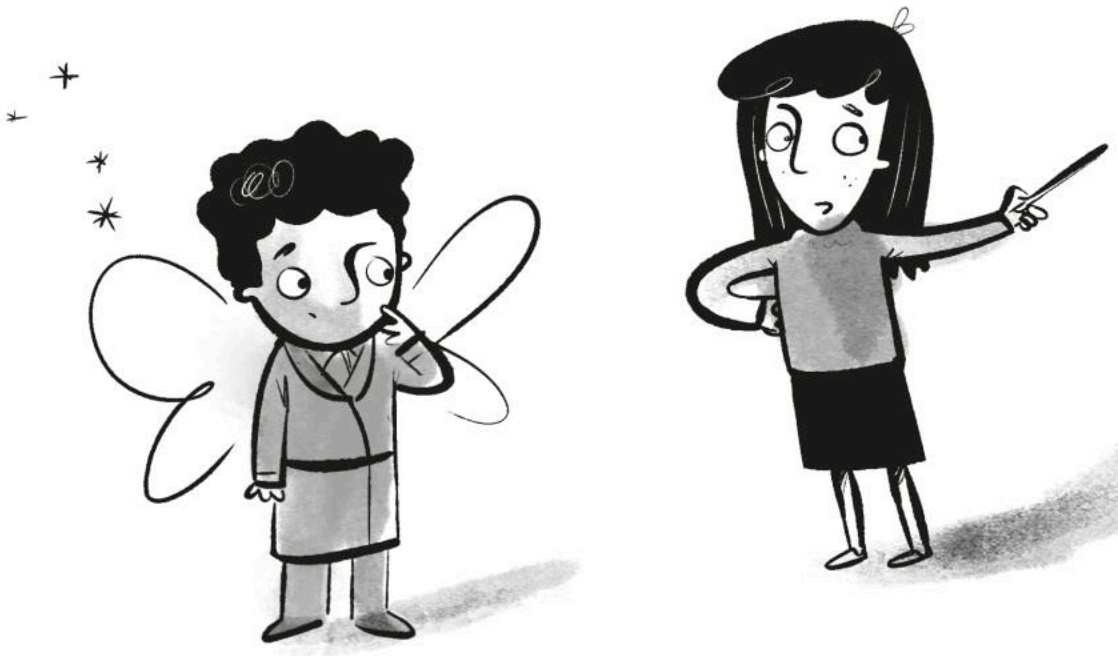
Tonight I'm reading about fighting creatures who might threaten our peaceful existence with humans, like dragons and trolls!

The books says that trolls have a terrific sense of smell and explosive tempers. Oh yeah, and they wear sparkly underwear which they claim has magical properties. This book really is an eye opener.



Reading it is making me want to go on a brave and daring adventure of my own. Sure, I helped some unicorns with a fart issue the other week, but that's been it really. I want to get out there, in the field. Really make a difference, you know?

Mum says I need to learn all the rules of being a fairy before I go on another mission, but there are sooo many to learn! You can't just fly around casting spells whenever you like or the humans will notice. Basically, it breaks down like this:



1. Humans and magical beings exist side by side but humans don't know about us, and that's the way it has to stay. Imagine if a bad person found out magic was real and used it for their own gains—it would be a disaster!

2. Magical beings like goblins, elves, mermaids, fairies, the Easter Bunny, and Santa Claus live among humans in disguise. To access our true form, we hold our noses and blow, like we're trying to make our ears pop. Try it! Although if you turn into a goblin, then on your head be it.

3. The exception is unicorns who live in their natural state, up in the clouds, and fart rainbows for the pleasure of all humankind.

4. It's our job as fairies to protect and serve magical beings and make sure that humans don't find out about us. We get involved if things get messy—if someone tries to kidnap the Easter Bunny or if a troll goes on a rampage for example. Fairies are the fixers of the magical world.

5. All fairies have a wand and can do magic, which is honestly the best part. To cast a spell, all you need to do is wave your wand and sing the thing you want to happen. For example . . . 'Turn that cat into a lion . . . tralalalala!' Argh! 'Turn it back agaaaain, tralalalaargh!' OK, so it was a mistake to sing that while there was an actual cat in the room.

As you can imagine it's a lot to take in, which is why I'm practising my wand technique in the mirror. I'm actually trialling a whole new fairy combat style, combining wand work with martial arts. I call it Taek-wand-oh! Geddit?!

I'm desperate to try out more of my fairy skills for real. I mean, what's the fun of being a fairy, if you can't be out in the world using your skills? I sigh. Oh well, I can still use my wand in the safety of my own bedroom I suppose.

'Pleaaase wand could yooooou . . .
make me a bowl of choco cheeeeews?'



I sing to the tune of 'Happy Birthday'. My wand sparkles and twinkles, and then a bowl of delicious cereal materializes in front of me. 'Ooooh, and a