

Helping you choose books for children



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Opening extract from

The Chronicles of Spiderwick

Written by

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Hogshead

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These pages show some things that I
Have collected as the years went by.
Folk leave such treasures lying round
On tables, shelves, or on the ground.
Be neat and tidy is what I say,
And put valuable things away.
These things were once owned
by others—
Like Spiderwick, Mallory, and
her brothers.



Arthur Spiderwick with his wife, Constance,
and daughter (Great-Auntie) Lucinda



THE CHRONICLES OF SPIDERWICK

A GRAND TOUR
OF THE ENCHANTED WORLD
NAVIGATED BY THIMBLETACK

Based on the bestselling series by
TONY DI TERLIZZI
and HOLLY BLACK



Simon & Schuster Books for Young Readers
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Thimbletack

Your Friend and Guide

*About myself I dare not tell,
To learn, ask those who know me well.
Then cast your eyes on tales of old,
for in those tales my tale is told.*



MYSTERIOUS CREATURES of SCOTLAND

No stranger being can be found than the brownie. Unlike a ghost or a poltergeist, these tiny creatures are of great value to any household. They will do odd jobs around the house, in the stables, or in the farmyard, but never stray far from home. Once a brownie has adopted a house or a family, it will remain loyal forever, and ask for nothing in return.

In many grand houses, a small seat near the fireplace is always left vacant for the brownie to ensure that he knows he is welcome, although the owners of the house may never see their little worker. At Leith Hall in the county of Dumfries, there was



BROWNIE RESEARCH

Once you know where to look for them, brownies crop up everywhere.

There was a baseball team called the St. Louis Browns who had a brownie as their mascot.

The Brothers Grimm wrote a story about the elves and the shoemaker. An old cobbler who laid out his tools and materials in his workshop at night ready for work the next morning regularly came back to find that all the shoes had been made for him during the night by the elves. Only these were not elves at all. The story was originally written in German. The elves were called Heinzelmännchen, which is German for "brownies." In German the word elf is simply Elf. "The Elves and the Shoemaker" should really have been translated as "The Brownies and the Shoemaker."

*Brownies are a blessing true,
But anger one and pity you.*

Dear Boggart,

We are writing you to say that we are sorry we messed up your first house. We hope you like what we made and that even if you don't, that you'll stop pinching us—and other things—and that if you have Jeffrey and Lemondrop to please take care of them because they are good mice.

Yours sincerely,

Mallory Grace Jared Grace Simon Grace

THE PLAIN DEALER

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and after buying the Cleveland Browns NFL team in 1961 for a reported \$4 million, one of Art Modell's first moves as the new boss was to begin the process of removing the team's famous "brownie" logo from official literature, including game programs.

Modell was said to detest the brownie character, and before long the little guy had almost

*Make no difference anyway.
Brownies have no time for play!*



If you like
Chocolate Soda



Drink
BROWNIE

*As a girl, Lucinda played
With Jack, and many were miflaid.*

*As sketched, this likeness is very clear,
Showing my smile from ear to ear!*

*This cap is made
of mouse leather.*

Notes and Observations

Brownie

Taste (Blandish)

Taste (Sweet)

Hausmannchen (German)

Jack of the Bowl (Switzerland) - These brownies are famous for taking the first drop of milk from a bowl.

Lives in the walls of a house, under the floorboards, or in disused storage spaces.

Approximately 6 inches (15 cm) tall.

Mixed, modern-like features.

Large, yellow teeth.

Long hair, like straw.

Ported, no belly part.

Furry arms and legs.

Large hands, rough from hard work.

Large feet.

Wears doll clothes or homemade outfits.

Coloration: Dull, brownish skin tone.

Voice pattern: Talks with a high-pitched, staccato.

Tends to speak in rhymes and riddles.

Character: Crafty and a hard worker.

Artistic and a gifted housewife/craftsman.

Feeding habits: Vegetarian. Eats porridge, bread, cheese, or other dairy products.

Drinks milk or water, occasionally tea.

Special powers: Usually, certain magic skills. Can transform appearance.

*I want
brownies
as much as
can be,
a brownie
of hindus*

*I spoke with This
about my theory
transformation. It*

PLATE I



*This brownie lives within
the walls of our house.*

His name is Thimbletack.

*A badminton shuttlecock,
with a straight pin in its
center as his feather duster.*



BROWNIE