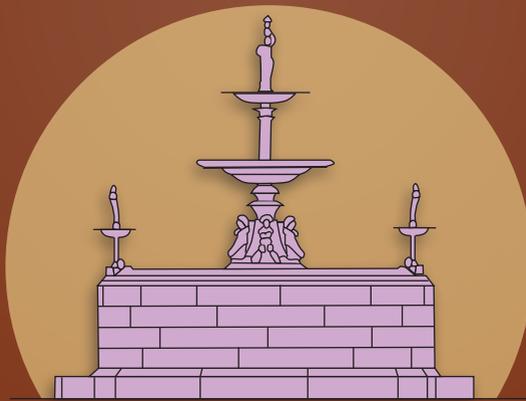


Zetland Park

# FOUNTAIN TALES



STORIES BY  
FINN HUNTER  
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## About The Project

To celebrate the Grand Re-Opening of Zetland Park in 2022, school children were invited to enter their stories into Falkirk Council's Fountain Tales Creative Writing Competition.

Fountain Tales is part of the Zetland Park Regeneration Project, a £2.5m initiative to restore and enhance Grangemouth's principle open space and celebrate the heritage of the Park. Through the project, Zetland Park regained its place as a vibrant destination where communities come together, become more involved and enjoy greater pride in their treasured Park. For local schools the Park is becoming an extension of their classroom, for nature the Park has provided new homes for wildlife, and for users of all abilities, ages and backgrounds their Park now has a reputation for quality and inclusive facilities, events and activities.

During the project, the children's author Victoria Williamson worked with film-maker Graeme O'Hara to create a series of inspiring short films exploring different aspects of the creative writing process which can be accessed here: [Fountain Tales Video Resource](#). Primary schools from around the district entered their pupils' work into a writing competition which Victoria judged; you see the results before you.





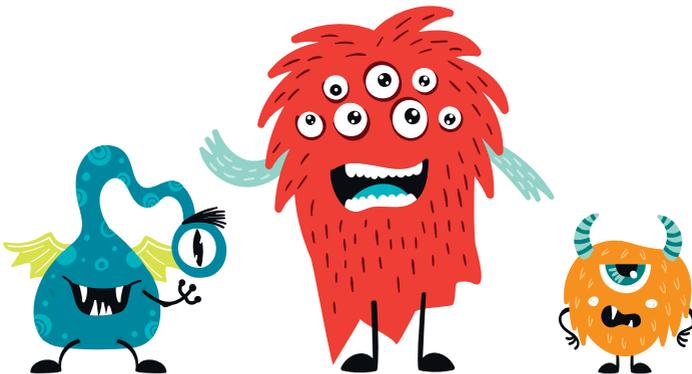
# The Missing Lady

## By Finn Hunter,

### St Patrick's Primary School, Denny

Once upon a time in a beautiful park called Zetland Park, Grangemouth, there was a majestic sculpture of a small lady on top of a fountain. The lady was said to be carrying something on her head. However in 2022, it's gone! This is the story of the missing lady...

This all started one night, when a group of monsters (Bob, Larry and Joe) were planning to steal a stone sculpture of a lady on top of Zetland park's fountain. Some people say they had been planning this for years -- maybe even more than a decade. So one night they strolled down to the parks fountain and they saw it, the stone lady. They thought this would be worth thousands of pounds. That's when the idea strikes them "Are you thinking what I'm thinking?" asked Bob (the large monster). Larry and Joe replied with "Well are you thinking it's finally the time to steal the sculpture?" "EXACTLY!" Shouted Bob. So that's how it all started.



This story begins on a very tragic day when the group of monsters came out of the palace they live in (no one actually knew who lived there, they thought it was either abandoned or someone lived in it that never comes out of their house). When they got out Bob tip-toed round the park until he saw the beautiful lady on top of the fountain. The rest of the monsters came round and their jaw dropped when they saw the beauty of the statue, SNAP! Larry (the tiny goblin) had stepped on a twig and snapped it! The security guard turned around but luckily the monsters hide behind trees and bushes. Once the security guard had turned his back they started investigating more. They figured if they brought a hammer they could just knock it off the fountain, so that's what they did.

With one quick swoop, it tumbled off down to the ground!



Luckily they all caught it, they threw it in a metal box and ran but they didn't notice the security guard had watched the whole act. As soon as they got back to their dusty, dirty palace, they hid it. One of their other criminal acts was pick pocketing, they had a drawer full of phones from pick pocketing!

Larry had a great idea "BINGO!" Larry screamed.

"What is it?" the other two enquired

"Why don't we sell the sculpture on a ton of websites and we don't ship it to them, we just keep it and let the money roll in!" Larry explained

"That's such a great idea, we'll done Larry, how devilish!" said Joe.



When they had got it on all the websites they found (and on all the phones different accounts) they started getting payed, the money kept coming through, they where rich! Once they had reached one million pounds they bought cool things to jazz up their house. After the orders arrived they smashed the phones so as they couldn't see anymore messages.

## 1 Month Later

Eventually, the police found out about their scam, the police thought they were actually humans. They finally came to their palace and knocked down their door, found the statue and tried to get the monsters. Joe and Larry jumped out the window but Bob couldn't fit because he was so corpulent and found it cumbersome trying to fit through the window. Later Bob got caught and asked where his friends were but the police officer was awful scared of monsters! Soon enough the police officer got over his fear and started to chase them down.

"Backup required. Chasing monsters," he panted into his radio. So a few more police cars came and finally got them!

The police officers chucked the three monsters in one of their vans and took them to a jail especially for bad monsters like them!

"You're staying in here till you die boys!"

All the monsters apologised to the police officer and the police officer felt a tiny bit bad so lowered the stay to just one year.

"But when you're out your becoming a full time security guard", said the police officer.

The monsters weren't too sad about that, they were just happy that they were allowed out.

When the police officers got back they returned the statue to the fountain and the whole of Grangemouth was happy again! Best of all they had a giant reopening party for Zetland Park!

# **The Blue Moon Fountain**

## **By Jenna Buchanan, P6W**

### **Victoria Primary School, Falkirk**

One cold gloomy day in Zetland Park, no one was there because it had been raining heavily that same day. The most popular spot in the Zetland Park was the Fountain; it was always crowded with tourists and photographers, but that was not the case today.

That night there was supposed to be a blue moon, and legend says that the Lady on top of the two-layered fountain dressed in a long dreary dress with a vase on top of her head would come alive. And people being people, they all wanted to catch the statue moving! So every year on a blue moon there were camps being set up everywhere for people to stay up all night to catch the statue move... but it never ever did. Only smart people knew that it wouldn't come alive if everyone is waiting for it.

FLASH! Lightning struck. Then on the news a Breaking News report came up, and the reporter said *"Good evening folks, Andrew Walker here to tell you that nobody should be going anywhere! You should all stay inside your houses. Weather reports say that there is a nasty storm coming. There will be lightning, thunder and rain so stay inside folks. That's all from me"*.



That night nobody was camping out in the park except for me. I didn't care that there was lightning and thunder. I wanted to catch this statue move and make millions from it. As I hid behind the cold messy bushes I didn't see any movement through the misty foggy rain. I pulled my Polaroid camera out, to try and catch the statue move, but there was nothing. Suddenly a few moments later I saw something moving in the distance near the fountain... it was probably an animal but I was not taking any chances.

I slowly crept over to the fountain on my tippy toes through the uncut branches of the thin trees. Each time I took a step, I could hear about ten twigs snap beneath me. When I got to the fountain there wasn't much left of it. The Lady on top of the fountain was gone and the second layer of the fountain was missing.

I was shocked. I didn't actually think that the myth was real. FLASH! Another bolt of light night struck near the canal, and then a shadowy figure popped up out of nowhere, right next to where the lightning struck. Then it started to walk over to the canal so I followed it. As I got closer and closer, I started to think that the figure had a vase on top of her head, and a long wavy dress... it looked exactly like the Lady on top of the statue. As I got closer I realised that in fact it was the Lady. I had caught it moving.

I immediately pulled out my camera to catch the statue, but then I noticed that the way she was going was the path to the canal. The canal was a green-brown colour. I was so busy trying to get I good video of the statue, then I realised that I was heading right into the canal water. So I carefully and quietly took a step back, but the statue was walking right into the canal. As the statue got deeper and deeper it started melting away into the waters of canal and then it was gone.

I thought to myself that at least I had a recording of that statue. As I walked back to the park every time it took a step, I could hear my feet squelching. I sat myself back down on the edge of the fountain to take in what I had just witnessed. I decided to watch the video back but when I pulled out my camera it slipped out of my hand and fell into the fountain. I immediately put my hand in the fountain to try and get it back, but there was nothing there, and no camera in the fountain.

And that's when I knew that my chances of proving the that the myth was real, was gone.



**The Missing Lady**  
**By Lexi Kennedy**  
**St Patrick's Primary School, Denny**

*Long, long ago, in Zetland Park in the town of Grangemouth there was a fountain. A very famous fountain, with a very important and stunning sculpture of a lady on top. This is the start of a new adventure...*

The Plan

Once on a stormy day, Rosie and Joseph took a new route to school. On that route they passed a park that had a spectacular fountain, they felt like they had seen it before but something was missing? After a few minutes of just standing and staring, trying to remember, unfortunately nothing came back to their heads. Bitterly they decided to just keep going and tell their friends. Finally when they arrived at school their friend Julie came over and said

"Guys where have you been? We were meant to meet at 8:45 and it's now 8:48"

They reply laughing "Really? Three minutes late ... hahahaha".

20 minutes later, "Alright class", beams Miss Wollyfoot, their formidable but friendly teacher "It's Geography day!" The class start yelling "no" and "ugh" making Miss Wollyfoot snigger even more.

About two hours later it was finally break-time so Rosie and Joseph told all their friends and decided to design a plan. They sneaked into the classroom and grabbed a bunch of paper from Miss Wollyfoot's desk. Afterwards when it was home-time they took their friends to Zetland Park. Their friends also noticed something. Eventually Graham said "I know what's missing - the lady!" which made everyone a bit confused, but they just went along with it. Meanwhile they headed over to Julie's house because she had a humongous treehouse in her garden, it was painted rose with a shade of lilac and had a faint scent of lavender. Inside it had a bunch of posters and pictures. After a while they finally had torn all her posters off and mounted their plan.



## In Action

Rosie and Joseph made the plan and explained it in great detail to everyone. Rosie said “It’s not that hard, just look for a lady statue”. (Spoiler Alert! She was wrong.)

The next day they went across the path into Zetland Park. Luckily Joseph found a strange looking sheet of old, tattered paper lying under a big oak tree

“It’s a map!”, yelled Joseph excitedly,

“No, it’s a puzzle”, explained Julie.

“It’s both!” they all scream.

“It’s very complicated” said Rosie a little disheartened, “Let’s go to the fountain and try to make sense of it there”

They all replied “Okay, good plan”.

At the fountain they were all squeezed tightly together trying to look at the sheet so eventually one of them fell in (Joseph)

“I’m soaking!” exclaimed Joseph clearly embarrassed.

“Wait, what’s this? It looks like a tiny hole. I’ll press this scarlet red button right here”, Joseph says while jumping back in.

“Oh no, that button looks suspicious and odd” whispered Julie. Too late, as Joseph firmly pressed the button. Suddenly a dark, shady tunnel pops out of nowhere!

“Ahhhhhhh”, they all get sucked in.

“Ewww I see spiders and spider webs”, said Rosie all freaked out,

“Don’t worry, this must be a clue”, explained Graham confidently,

“Fine, I guess it’s okay”, squealed Rosie trying to be brave.

After a while of wandering through the gloomy, mysterious tunnel they came across a foggy stream with murky water clashing against the mossy stone wall.

“Wait, this must lead to something!” yelled Joseph while jumping into the stream excitedly. They all jumped in after him

“Eww there are dead rats in here” said Julie wrinkling her nose in disgust,

“No there’s not”, said Graham clearly annoyed.

“Let’s just keep going”, said Rosie. They continued walking and eventually they found something.... it was an old and dirty blue backpack. They carefully opened it up and inside they found a flashlight. They tried it and “Ahhh my eyes. They’re burning. I think I’m going blind!”, weeped Joseph.

“Maybe don’t point it at your eyes”, said Julie exasperated.

“Hahahaha” chuckled Graham.

Rosie said “Come on, let’s just keep going” gesturing for them all to follow her.



Eventually they finally found an exit high up in the wall  
“But we can’t get up there though”, said Graham trying hard not to start crying. Suddenly, “Eeeeeeee help!”, breathed Julie in fear turning around.  
“What? Aaaaah is that a skeleton?” whispered Graham in disbelief,  
“Not just that, there is also a zombie, look ..... eeeeeewww!”squealed Rosie, trying to point but shaking from head to toe in fear as two looming figures appeared from the depths of the tunnel.

“Hello, I’m Joseph. Nice to meet you”, said Joseph timidly while shaking the monsters’ huge, grubby hands.

“No, don’t worry. We won’t hurt you. We’re here to help”, said a deep booming voice

“Yes, we have a ladder” squeaked a high-pitched voice.

“A ladder!” screamed everyone in joy “Can we borrow it please?”  
“Of course!”, the monsters replied.

After a long, long, LONG time they finally climbed up and reached the exit but.....

### The Mission

Once they got out they were all extremely relieved, however Graham realised that it was a big waste of time as they hadn't found the lady.

“Don't be so down, it's okay, it's not like you have a time limit”, squeaked the skeleton, his bones rattling.

“Yeah, it's not the end of the world”, muttered the zombie. They found their way back to the fountain and there they discovered a keypad that wasn't there before.

“Oh it's a keypad, we need a code”, said Rosie all nervous.

“Let's just go have a look”, replied Julie reassuringly,

“Fine”, huffed Rosie dragging her feet as she turned away.

“Look, I found a code!” screamed Rosie in joy climbing out from under a bench.

“Let's go look”, replied Graham.

Finally when they got back Rosie exhaled loudly “Let's try it,” but guess what ...

“That’s a reset, not a code!” huffed Graham in disappointment.

“Ewww, what’s that smell? It smells like crusty, old socks .... yuck!” said Julie in disgust, her nose wrinkled.

“Ewww, I think it’s from the backpack,” said Joseph as he cautiously opened the old, used up backpack and there it was, the code! But the sheet didn’t look too fresh, it was green with disgusting mould on it.

“Rosie, quick put it in!”, screamed Graham impatiently. “I have, it’s generating”. A few minutes later it was still generating and finally..

“Wait it worked!” shrieked Rosie in relief,

“Yay it worked” they all screamed in happiness. They watched in amazement as the lady appeared right out of the top of the Fountain, just where she belonged, the sun breaking through the clouds to shine down on her.

“Wait, where are the monsters?” questioned Joseph suddenly.

“I’m sorry, but they had to leave”, said Rosie sadly.

“SURPRISE!” yelled the monsters.

“There they are”, gasped Joseph in relief.

“Well done guys, that was amazing, you done it!” replied the monsters, not looking nearly so scary out of the tunnel, in fact they looked quite funny in the daylight!

A month later their success was on TV and even the local newspaper which was delightful! Despite it being very scary and creepy at times,

it was a fabulous adventure ending with the beautiful Lady of Zetland back where she belonged, watching over the Park.

# The Lady On The Fountain

by Eva George, Class P4BR

Beancross Primary School, Grangemouth

*Victoria Williamson wrote this opening paragraph  
and pupils were invited to finish the story...*

By sunset the park was deserted. One lone woman was all that was left of the day's crowds and she shivered as she finished her job gathering up the fallen decorations. Annabelle Walters was superstitious, and she had a terrible feeling a storm straight after the park's official opening was a warning of coming danger. The sky had turned dark and stormy. The wind whistled around the abandoned water fountain and the stone statue that stood at the top. Annabelle was just about to head for home when the storm finally broke. A flash of lightning lit up the sky. Out of the corner of her eye she caught sight of a sudden movement. She whirled round. There was no one there! There was only the fountain standing exactly where it was supposed to. The water stirred up in waves by the fierce wind. But something wasn't right. The statue at the top seemed to be different. Annabelle could have sworn the lady was holding a water jug just moments before, but now it was gone.



*Eva George finished the story like this...*

The lightning flashed again. Annabelle gasped. The statue was no longer gazing off into the distance, now the lady was looking directly at her! Then the lightning flashed again and the statue was back in place. The water in the fountain turned into a swirly portal and it was splashing. Annabelle heard a million sounds in her ear. One was a baby crying, another one was a woman screaming, “Help!”

The woman screaming kept getting quieter until it sounded like it was whispering “die!”

Annabelle begged and begged for it to be a dream. Suddenly the statue was in her face and she closed her eyes and opened them. It was a dream! Annabelle was at home in her bed. She felt like getting a drink or a snack so she got up when suddenly someone from under the bed grabbed her leg and pulled her under the bed. Annabelle was never seen again. Maybe it was not a dream after all!





We hope you enjoyed reading these stories from Finn, Lexi, Jenna and Eva.

If you want to write your own Fountain Tale you can find inspiring videos here:

[Fountain Tales Online Learning Pack](#)

Visit our author Victoria Williamson's website here: [strangelymagical.com](http://strangelymagical.com)

and our film-maker Graeme O'Hara's website here: [bobstrainsset.co.uk](http://bobstrainsset.co.uk)  
and don't forget to visit [Zetland Park](#) to see the real Lady On The Fountain!



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