

The Island's Prophecy  
By Lucy Lacocque

*When the fantastical islands of Santasia  
need help most, she shall arise from the trees and have to find  
magical creatures that will stop the Shadow Mountains  
so that the islands will be peaceful once more.*

The morning sun rises, peeking into the window of Leaf's treetop home. Leaf, a squirrel-like creature with ivory tusks, lives at the highest point of one of the tallest trees in Tree Top Towers, an island of Santasia. Awakened by the sun, Leaf yawns and stretches as she crawls out of her leaf-print hammock. Stepping into the treehouse's warm kitchen, Leaf sees her father preparing acorn pancakes while her mother sets the stump table. Leaf sits down and her stomach grumbles. Just as her father begins to serve Leaf some pancakes, the treehouse doorbell rings. Leaf goes to answer it. At the door, a smoke-blue fairy with glowing wings hovers urgently.

"Leaf, we need your help! The Shadow Mountains are taking over Santasia. You must stop them and find Penelope of Mushroom Village and Spring of Rainforest Frenzy," said the small fairy.

Leaf responds, "How would I be able to help them? I'm too small. And they are big magical creatures. Surely, they can solve this without me."

"You can certainly help. I've seen you reading about the Shadow War at the library. You are our last hope because you know all the history," said the fairy. And with this, *POOF*, the fairy disappeared in a sparkly blue firework.

Leaf returns to the cozy kitchen. She tells her parents that she must go to save Santasia. Her mother carefully packs her five acorn pancakes wrapped in a checkered cloth and places fresh rainwater in an acorn-shaped canteen. Leaf sets out courageously toward Rainforest Frenzy.

A few hours later, Leaf arrives at Spring's waterfall home. She finds Spring bathing. Spring is an aqua colored dragon with iridescent scales that shine brightly in the sun. Leaf asks Spring to help her with her mission and she agrees. They both set off to Mushroom Village.

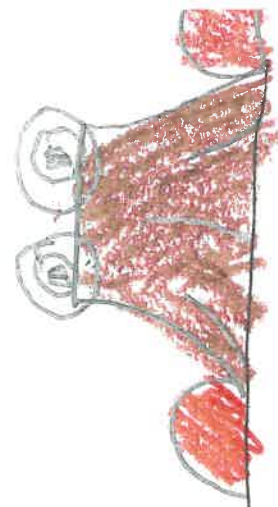
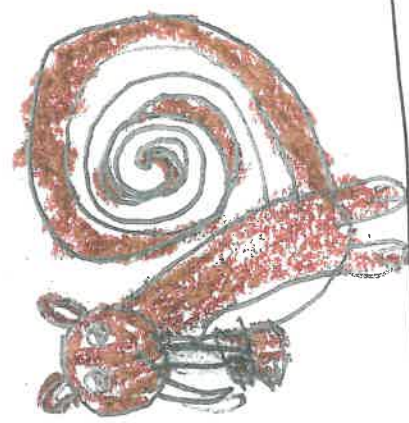
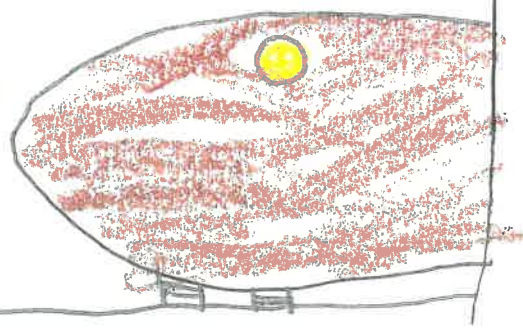
They find Penelope, a pearl colored griffin, sunbathing on a huge polka dot mushroom. Penelope is gently purring and looks like she is asleep. Leaf clears her throat quietly. Penelope's eyes snap open and she says, "What do you want?"

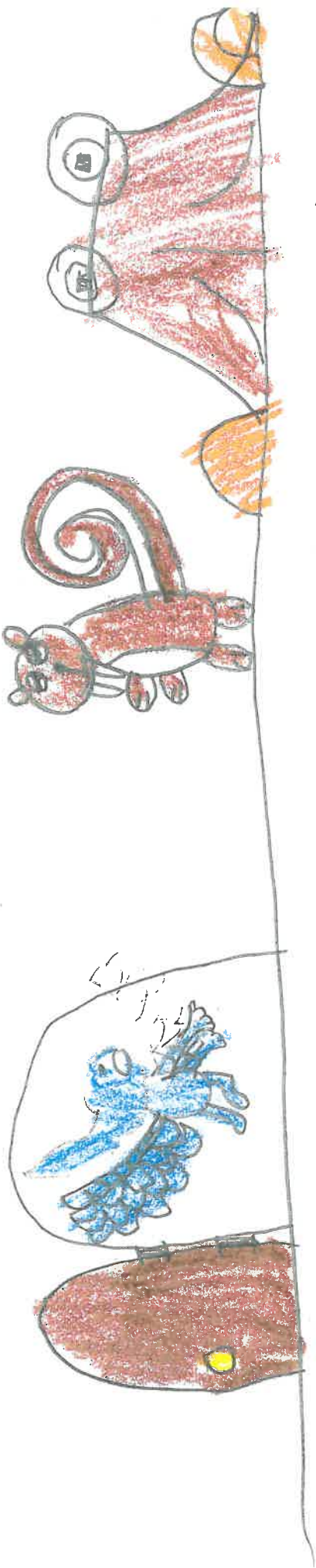
Leaf explains, "We must save all the islands from the Shadow Mountains. A fairy thinks we are the heroes. I'm not sure what to do. But we must try!" The grumpy griffin rolls off the mushroom, and they all head to the Shadow Mountains.

As the three heroes arrive at the Shadow Mountains, they see dark shadow creatures lurking, which makes Leaf, Spring, and Penelope jitter with fear. When Leaf sees the creatures she remembers one of her history books called "Ending the Shadow Wars." In the book, shiny materials that reflect the sun can destroy the shadow creatures, and they fade away like smoke. Leaf nudges her bright dragon and griffin friends into the last bit of sunlight. Spring and Penelope are so bright that Leaf has to cover her eyes. But as she peeks, she sees the shadow creatures fade away. The three heroes cheer with joy.

The prophecy was true. Leaf arose from the trees and with two magical creatures they saved the islands.

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Spring's  
home

