



Collins

GLUTEN FREE

With a pinch of
ELVEN touch



Written and Illustrated by
Sashreek Indukuru

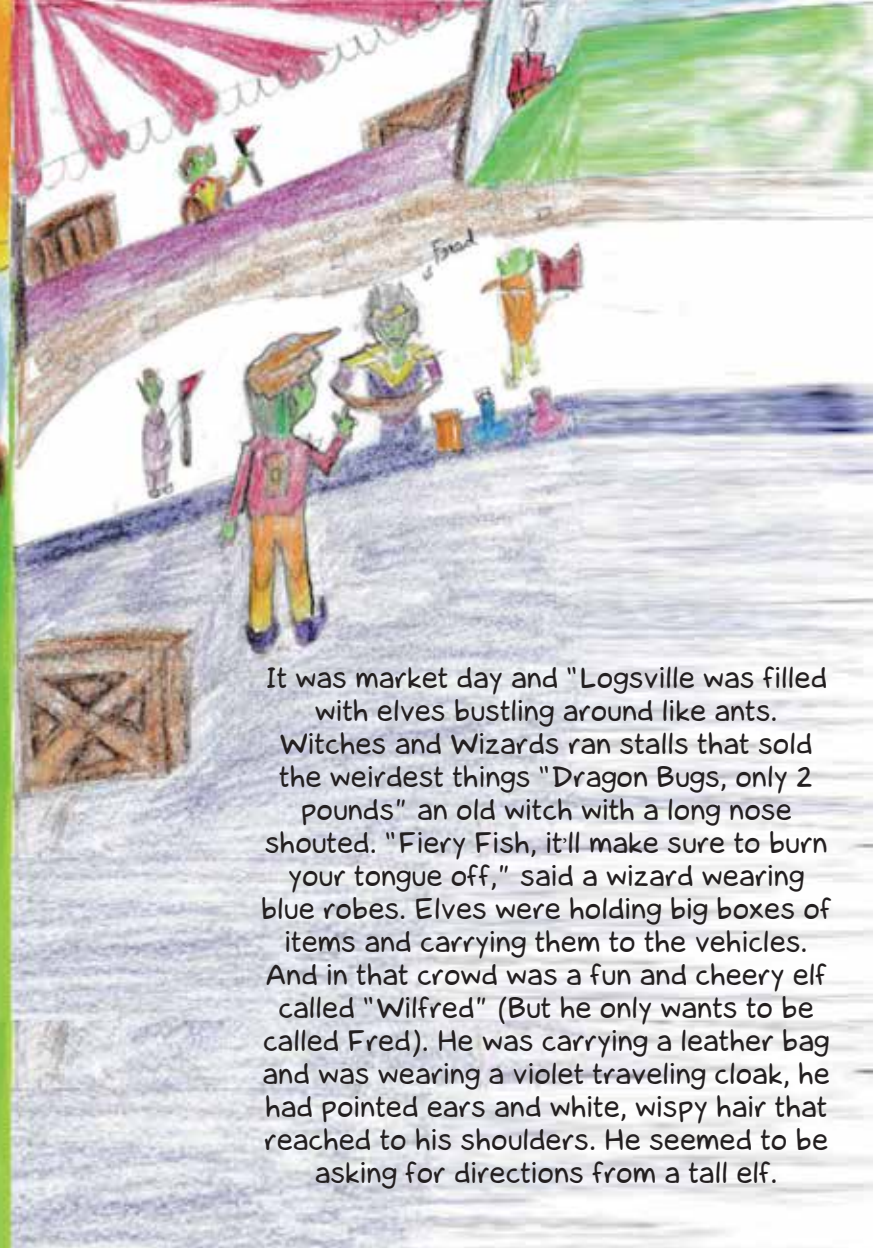


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The smell of fresh water, the sound of chirping birds, and the nice sight of "Houronus" was too good to be true.

The place was rolling with elves, dragons, witches, wizards, and more creatures magical, mysterious, and beautiful alike. A land full of great big trees with trunks housing talking squirrels, and its leaves reaching unbelievable limits.

Amazing kingdoms and cities hanging in the sky, underwater, and even in the volcanoes. Right near this amazing place is "Logville" The city was far more than normal.



It was market day and "Logville was filled with elves bustling around like ants. Witches and Wizards ran stalls that sold the weirdest things "Dragon Bugs, only 2 pounds" an old witch with a long nose shouted. "Fiery Fish, it'll make sure to burn your tongue off," said a wizard wearing blue robes. Elves were holding big boxes of items and carrying them to the vehicles. And in that crowd was a fun and cheery elf called "Wilfred" (But he only wants to be called Fred). He was carrying a leather bag and was wearing a violet traveling cloak, he had pointed ears and white, wispy hair that reached to his shoulders. He seemed to be asking for directions from a tall elf.

Fred set off to Auntie Betty's Flower Emporium. He held up his hand in the sky checking the direction and set off North-East. He reached a path after what seemed to be hours but it was just mere minutes.

Fred jogged forward until he reached the end of the path, then he started to climb a giant hill in front of him. He nearly fell 4 times but managed to recover quickly. It was nearly dusk now, he needed to hurry. He quickly increased his pace and went running.

He finally reached Auntie Betty's Flower Emporium and it was one of the most beautiful thing you'd ever seen.

It was a GIANT house with red roof tiles, it had chimneys which were giving out smoke. It reminded Fred of the yummy cupcakes that his mum used to bake him.



Auntie Betty's Flower Emporium was on top of a hill near "Horus". It was a huge tower with flowers.

There were daffodils, marigolds, sunflowers, and roses. Her garden was covered with flowers too. The entire hill was full of flowers. Fred knocked on the door and Auntie Betty greeted him, she invited him inside and ran to the kitchen to bring some tea.

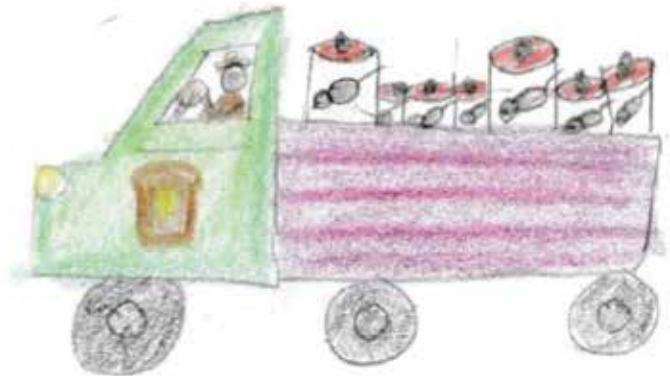
Fred went inside and noticed that Auntie Betty was acting strange. She kept glancing out of the window, then suddenly while she was serving him some tea, someone knocked on the door. She urged Fred to hide in the closet. Unaware of the situation, Fred hid...

Fred then heard a break so he peeped through a crack in the closet. A man with a huge gun came inside with 2 guards standing behind him, he then proceeded to suck up the nature's magic from all the flowers in the emporium, Then he shot Auntie Betty with the vacuum gun, she turned to sand and all that was left is her clothes, or so Fred thought, a green sort of mist was up above Auntie Betty's clothes and the man sucked the mist up and stored it inside a jar. He took a marker and labeled it. Then suddenly something moved in what was left of Auntie Betty's clothes. It was a rat. It tried to escape but the guard caught it.



The man with the vacuum said, "Ahh, another person caught." OH NO, he has turned Auntie Betty into a rat, after this realization hit Fred, he was shocked.

Fred peeped outside the closet and was shocked to see the guard loading many jars into his van. Fred came out after a few minutes when the van left. He walked in circles for a bit in Auntie Betty's Flower Emporium, thinking of what to do.



Fred then came out of the closet after the guards left and then ran back to the Logsville market. It was all gone, it seemed to be deserted, the high trees were all dried up and there were so many fallen leaves, it seemed like the entire source of life was taken from nature. He then walked slowly thinking about what to do when he stepped on broken glass. Then he noticed the lid of the glass having the same symbol as the van, "The Buttered Bread", beside that were small footprints which resembled that of a rat leaving the broken jar. Now Fred understood that his whole town was now nothing more than rats. But someone had escaped the bad guys.



He followed the footprints, it seemed to go on and on but finally he reached a bush. He scoured around pulling branches and twigs trying to find the escaped person. And then suddenly something jumped on him and he caught it. It was a green rat hiding in the bushes, he picked it up, and the rat shouted, "HEY" After calming it down he spoke to it and found out the jar it had been captured in had fallen and he escaped. Fred found out that its name was "Maddy". They then devised a plan to overthrow the bad guys and save the town.



Maddy showed Fred the way to the main headquarters as he could smell the strong scents of butter and bread. Fred and Maddy bond over the trip and they finally reach the main HQ. It looked like a GIANT factory and it had the same "Buttered Bread" symbol there. It had HUGE walls made out of thick metal and a giant nameplate that read "The Buttered Bread Factory" Fred and Maddy look like ants next to it. It also had smoke coming out of its chimneys and Fred could also smell the strong stench of dough. They then opened the door and proceeded to go in and look further.



Then they finally reached a room which was filled with some glittering gold substance, they thought it was gold from a distance and came closer only to realize IT WAS DOUGH. Maddy smelt that it was also gluten-free and was good for making bread. Then suddenly the room started to move and a huge batch of flour dropped from the ceiling, Maddy and Fred somehow manage to get out of the heap of flour before the water came splashing down. Then after a while, some rumbling could be heard and 2 hands that looked like they were made of trees sprouted from the ground and started to knead the dough. Fred and Maddy nearly turned to mush before they could escape. They ran to another room, cursing the bad guys for using the "Elven Magic" that they stole from "Horus". Then they reached a conveyer belt and jumped on it.



They went through the conveyer belt and finally reached the room of the bad guy. There was a giant nameplate that read "Aster Van Doughus" And also a portrait of a thin man wearing a white turtleneck and square glasses were hung on the wall. They look around the room when suddenly the door opened and Aster Van Doughus walked in, he seemed a bit thinner than in the picture and he was wearing a golden turtleneck and holding a long staff with a gem on the top. Fred and Maddy could sense the magic in it. He then spotted them.

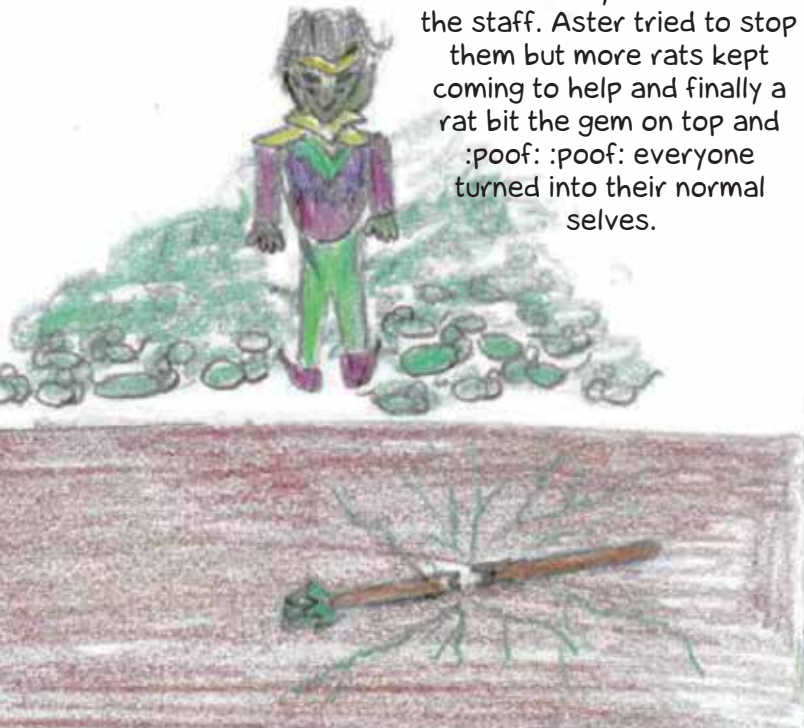


He then attacks them by waving his staff and the tree hands sprouted out of the ground. They wrapped around Fred and Maddy, He then summoned the tree guardians and ordered them to attack Fred and Maddy. They somehow escaped the trees and ran to a different room while the guardians were right on their tail. They finally stopped and turned left into a room, which had all the jars with rats in them, all scratching and making noise, they also spotted the throne room next to them.

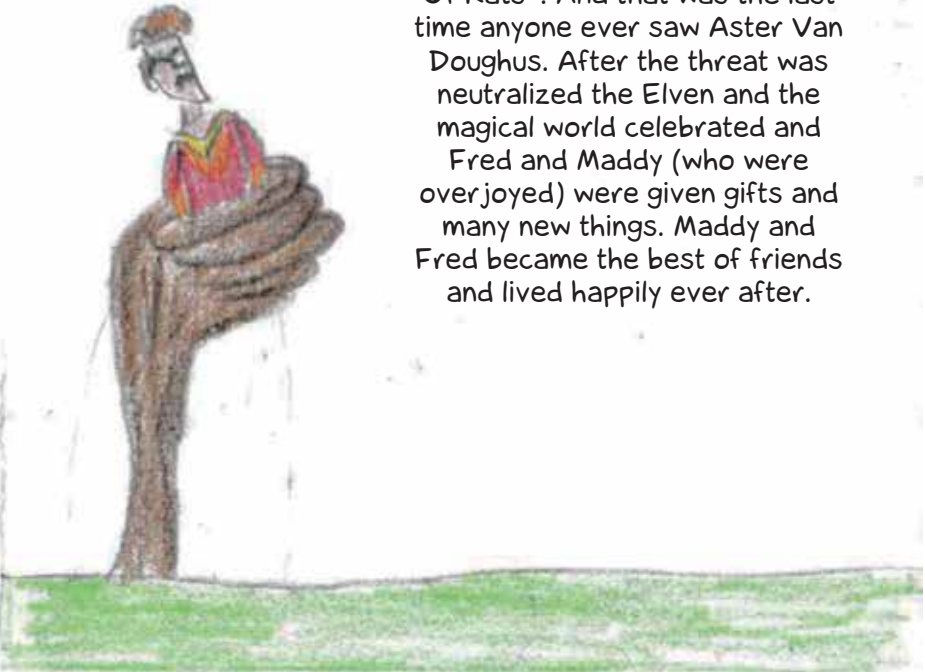


Aster found them and caught up to them, and started summoning the elven magic. Just then Fred gets a good idea and started breaking all the jars full of rats. Rats of every color poured out and stood next to Fred and Maddy. Aster laughed and asked "Rats, of all animals, you chose rats" he kept laughing when Fred stated his iconic line of the book. "Yes, rats and as a matter of fact Rats. Eat. BREAD." Fred emphasized the word bread which triggered all the rats to go eat everything, soon the throne room was just a pile of trash, then Fred beckoned the rats to attack Aster's staff which unsurprisingly was made of...., you guessed it, BREAD!!!.

The rats finally chewed down the staff. Aster tried to stop them but more rats kept coming to help and finally a rat bit the gem on top and :poof: :poof: everyone turned into their normal selves.



But before they could celebrate Aster tried to escape. But without his Staff, he was unaided. The Eleven elders then used their magic to summon tree hands again and used them to hold Aster. Then they gave an order to banish him to the 'Realm Of Rats". And that was the last time anyone ever saw Aster Van Doughus. After the threat was neutralized the Elven and the magical world celebrated and Fred and Maddy (who were overjoyed) were given gifts and many new things. Maddy and Fred became the best of friends and lived happily ever after.



About the Author

Sashreek Indukuru loves reading fantasy books and drawing the characters, playing scrabble and eating potatoes. If he could have a super power, he would want the ability of super speed because he likes to do tasks fast and also because he is bad at time management. Sashreek aspires to create a new species of plants or animals. He would like to make the world a better place by stopping carbon monoxide emissions.

Mentor

Poonam Dasilva
Dhanashri Ubhayakar



Fred is a normal elf living in his hometown of Hourons when something sinister happens.

Yes!! the Elven world is REAL!! Fairies, Wizards and Witches, Nymphs and Nereids, Gnomes and so much more are hiding right under our noses. A sinister plot is put into action when an evil bread-making maniac turns the whole town into RATS!! And the very string that binds the magic of elves is taken away. Will Fred and his rodent friend Maddy save the town? Read through these ancient texts and flip these rusty pages to know more.