

Children's Short Story Competition

You've been sucked into the pages of your favourite book! What do you do?

Accidental Adventurer (*Ava Anne Appleton*) - by Wendy Harmer

How I met Ava

by Claudia Bradbury

I was reading my favourite book, *Accidental Adventurer*, on my bed when someone pulled me inside the book – a hand came out of the book and grabbed me! It was horrifying and exciting. 'Gasp'! I looked around but I didn't see Ava Anne Appleton and wondered, 'could Ava be outside of the book?' And then I saw her, Ava was reading the book... I yelled to Ava "can you hear me?" Surprisingly, she nodded which meant she could, so I said "I need your help". She said "OK". Then she tried pulling me out of the book. Sadly it didn't work. Then Ava told me the story of why I was inside the book. It went like this. 'I was tired of having to follow my roles in the book so I pulled you in so you could do my jobs like losing my shoe, falling overboard, making new friends, catching fish and losing my dog'. Once Ava has told me the story of why I am inside the book I am both mad and thankful. I wouldn't like any of those except making new friends and catching a fish, I thought. Now I was in the book and I didn't like it as much as reading the book, although I always thought it might be fun but I see why Ava wanted to get out. Then I tried pulling Ava inside the book, because if she was in the book and pulled me in, maybe it's only the person inside the book who can do it – and it worked! From then on, when Ava wanted to come out of the book she told me she wanted to swap places, and we did, and when I wanted to come out of the book we swapped places again.

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