

Prose Honorable Mention
“Magic” by Sean Sullivan
St. Francis Xavier School, 5th Grade

The day started like any other. I was skiing, then POOF! Who knows what happened, but I was in this big open place. There was nothing except a giant gray wall. I kept walking along this wall for what seemed like forever. I finally found a door, but it wasn't really a door. It was a portal. I considered whether I should go in or not for a quick second, then stepped through. Milliseconds later it seemed like I was just floating around but I was going very fast forward.

When I stopped I was surrounded by pink. Everything was pink except for this little green blob that was hopping along until it saw me. I was very confused and so was I. We stood there for a while just staring at each other. Then I asked him, “Where are we?”

The blob said, “We are in the country of the Pinkish People. Hurry! Follow me.”

“Where are we going?” I asked

The blob replied, “We need to get to the Country of Orange. It is the only safe place from the scaldera.”

I was confused and asked, “Who or what is a scaldera?”

He told me the legend of the Scaldera. He explained that it is a big cloud that comes every night in the fall and turns blobs into stone, never to live again. He said, “Us blobs have yet to find someone that is brave enough to fight this horrible beast. We better get going. It comes out at dusk.”

So into the Country of Orange we fled. I kept asking what the scaldera did and wanted to know in full detail what it looked like. The blob told me the scaldera would sneak close to you, turn into the shape of your best friend, and petrify you with a single touch.

Once we were in the Country of Orange, we rested in his fall house. I lay awake all night wondering, am I here to defeat the scaldera? The next morning, I asked the blob what it takes to defeat the scaldera.

The blob said, “The only thing that is fabled to defeat the scaldera is a flyswatter. It can't stand those things!” I asked him for his flyswatter and said, “Doesn't everyone have one?” The blob looked at me weirdly and said, “No! There is only one fly swatter in this world, and so far, we blobs have not found it.”

Then I said something I would never say. “I'm going to find it and then defeat that scaldera!” The blob looked at me weirdly again and said, “The last time I checked you did not have any idea about the scaldera. All you know is what I've told you about him. If you want to study, I can help you.”

“Yes, I do!” I said confidently.

On the way to the library the blob said that if I was going to get scaldera smart, I would need my nose in the books and my butt in a seat or else I would be no match for the scaldera. We checked out the books. The blob decided we should train at his happy place. It was a small mossy area by a calm spring. He owned the land so nobody else but him and those he invited could come to his happy place. I read as fast as I could. After a couple of hours, I told the blob I was ready to go find that flyswatter. I wanted to go so badly, but the blob said we must get some sleep. Our journey ahead would be hard.

We decided to sleep right there. The sun woke us both up and boy, was I hungry! We ate, packed up our stuff, and left to find the flyswatter. We were about a half an hour into our adventure, when the blob noticed our walking wasn't getting us anywhere fast.

He said, “We have wasted a ton of time walking.”

I asked, “You got another way?”

He said, “Uh-huh.” He pulled a toy car out of his pocket.

I asked, “How are we going to get around on that! It's too small!”

He said, “You just wait!” Then his toy car turned into a life size Bloodhound SSC, and said, “This will give us much more speed!”

I hopped in, and said to myself it can't be too fast. I quickly realized, I knew nothing about this car. When the blob gave me a helmet, I thought he was joking. He wasn't! We buckled up. He started the engine. It began to rumble and purr. He hit the gas! Instantly, we were going 1000 MPH. This thing was fast! I asked him how we would know if we saw the flyswatter. He reminded me there would be a big shake when anyone went within 50 feet of it.

We kept driving for hours. It felt like my face would be blown off if we went one minute longer. Then, the ground started to rumble. We found the flyswatter! Well, sort of. Now our problem is where exactly in the 50 feet around us is it?

Then I remembered that I read a book that said that all flyswatters are magnetic. I asked the blob if he had a magnet in his magical bag. He said, “As a matter of fact I do!” and pulled one out of his bag. As soon as the magnet was out of the bag the flyswatter zoomed toward them, and so did the scaldera! I saw him coming out of the corner of my eye. As soon as the flyswatter was in reach I grabbed it and whacked Mr. Scaldera as hard as I could. I had done it! I defeated the scaldera!

After that we went to every country and proclaimed the news. The blob then took me to the portal. The blob said, “Thank you! You have changed our lives!” and I stepped back through the ski hill.