

The Curse of the Sacred Maze - written August 2016 and winner of the Henley Literary Festival creative writing competition for children, age 4-7 category, by Lachlan Hudson-Cubitt.

Roova Tush woke up one morning in his home in Romania. As he woke and watched the sun rise, he felt the need of an adventure.

Roova travels across the oceans in an old sailing boat. When he reaches South America, he makes to Paraguay.

Roova fights his way through the deep green jungle. Amongst the trees he finds a maze in the middle of nowhere. He decides to go in.

He seeks an old map and pair of shoes and thinks to himself 'I wonder who these belong to.' Roova was curious and walked further into the maze.

Roova didn't know this but the shoes belonged to Mario Mahrer. Mario had found the maze long before him.

Mario had got lost in the maze and was left to rot. Just then a skeleton appeared... Roova let out a loud, frightened scream 'Aaaaaahhhhh!' He started to run and run but the skeleton jumped and with a final scream Roova was gone. The only thing left was Roova's shoes!

Roova woke up inside the skeleton's belly. Inside he found a note which said: 'THIS MAZE IS CURSED - BEWARE'. Roova thought for a bit thinking no one deserves this, so he folded the note carefully into a paper aeroplane and threw it out of the skeleton's mouth. It did a loop the loop and landed at the entrance.

This became a warning to all those who came across the cursed maze. What about Roova? He was no longer an adventurer but his sign means no others will face the same fate as he does - roaming the cursed maze forever...

This is the prequel - written Dec 2016

The Ancient Atlantis Ghost

Roova Tush wants to go on holiday to Italy and he hears about this magical city called Venice. He hires a driver to take him through the wilds of the Alps to the ancient city of Venice.

When he arrives something very bad has happened. There had been a hurricane and the city was in ruins. He wandered through the abandoned streets and canals. He saw something move in the dark green, very, very dark green water.

The green of an evergreen tree.

On seeing this he was scared and almost fainted. The dark green water began to spin hurtling and pulling Roova towards the water. There he comes face to face with a ghost.

Roova did not know this but the ghost was the ghost of Posey Piddlington. He was an ancient explorer who died when his boat sank into the Atlantic. His boat had sunk in the Atlantic many years ago, as the boat went down he was still breathing. He held his breath until he found himself in Venice, then eventually he opened his mouth breathing the dark green water into his mouth and lungs, and died.

The ghost made a weeping sound, and a dozen more ghosts appeared. Roova let out a frightened bubble as he was underwater now he could not scream. He tried to swim away but the ghosts caught him and made a hurricane. They spun Roova round and round and flung Roova onto the streets. He survived, but broke his arm and decided never to go to Venice again.

As soon as Roova returned to his home in Romania he packed up his bags and moved house, for he lived near a lake. The ghosts of Atlantis still haunt Venice, they can never leave its canals but can still drag people in...

[Note for future stories - Posey Piddlington is the cousin of Mario Mahrer.]