



The Cruise Heist



By the Dalrymple Dashounds



Write a Book in a Day



**THE KIDS'
CANCER
PROJECT**

Science. Solutions. Survival.

PARAMETERS FORM 2019

TEAM DETAILS

STATE: TAS

DIVISION: Primary School

SCHOOL/GROUP: Launceston Library Community Writing Event

TEAM NAME: Port Dalrymple School 1

TEAM ID: 263

PARAMETERS AND RANDOM WORDS

Parameters

Primary character 1 King

Primary character 2 Paramedic

Non-human character Cockroach

Setting Cruise ship

Issue A burglary

Random words

Community

Skipped

Magic

Canvas

Sings

INSTRUCTIONS

- Start at 8am
- Write an original story:
 - based on all **five parameters** (above)
 - including all **five random words** (above), and in bold type
 - with some identifiable **Australian content** (in theme or setting or characters, etc)
 - keeping within the allowed word count (remember every word on every page counts)!
 - include this parameters form in your book **immediately after the front cover** in both the hard and soft copy.
- Remember: **Every** word on **every page** counts. This includes your front cover, back cover, blurb, acknowledgements and copyright form.
- **Be sure to give yourself enough time to submit your book and complete the following checklist before 8pm.**

Log on to the Team Coordinator Portal to:

- Check the spelling of your team name and team members' names (how these are spelt on submission will be how they are displayed on certificates)
- Complete the Declaration
- Submit your finished book in **both** PDF and plain text format
- Mail a hard copy of your book on the next business day to:

Write a Book in a Day, The Kids' Cancer Project, PO Box 6400, Alexandria NSW 2015

Message of Goodwill

On behalf of Port Dalrymple School, we hope you get better soon. We wish you good luck and a smooth recovery. We hope that you like our book.

**All the best
Dalrymple Dashounds**

Thank You

Thank you to Mr Flanagan for driving us up to the LINC Library in Launceston at seven o'clock in the morning. Thank you to Mrs Broomhall for coaching us all day and buying us pizza for dinner. Thank you to Mr Grubert for accepting us into the Write a Book in a Day competition and giving us tips along the way. Thank you to the Library staff for allowing us to use the Library. Thank you to the pizza people for giving us pizza. Thank you to everyone that helped us during the day.

List of Authors and Illustrators

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Prologue:

How it all began

Barbara stumbled into the hall, red-faced and exhausted. Harley the guard stopped her.

"The King requires you in the throne room. I am here to escort you there." The colour drained from Barbara's face. This couldn't be good. She wiped her face quickly on her sleeve, removing the sweaty sheen and followed the guard. The throne room was bathed in an eerie half-light, due to the time of dusk that approached. The young King sat astride the magnificent throne that was much too big for him. She fell to her knees she listened as King Geoffrey started to speak.

"It has come to my attention that your skills are falling short of my expectations. Thank you for your service." Barbara couldn't believe her ears. 13 years she had been in his **community**. She silently brushed past the smug looking Harley while angry tears pricked at her eyes. A small voice beckoned her from the corner of the room. Revenge is sweet.



Chapter 1: The Cruise Starts

King Geoffrey gazes up at his birthday present in awe. The massive cruise ship stands proudly in the water, waiting for a command. His butler ushers him inside and up to the command room. It stretches out around him. He cuts the ribbon holding the scissors with his fat stubby finger's and walks onto the ship's bow with his dog named Max. Max barks loudly in joy of what is to come. The King's butler rushes him to his room. King Geoffrey squeals at the sight of his perfectly decorated room, then jumps up in the air as the big fog horn goes. He struts out to the boat's bow and sees four **magic** turtles swimming along the side of the gorgeous boat. He turns around and sees a small cockroach scattering into the shadows of the deck but ignores it completely. Max barks at the suspicious shadow but the King doesn't notice.



Chapter 2: The Sneak In

The suspicious shadow of a middle aged woman with long, curly hair creeps on board the massive and magnificent cruise ship. Walking in plain sight, no one seems to notice her. In the medic room, this very suspicious lady stood looking around while her co-workers stare at her, confused. They haven't seen her around before, but she is wearing a paramedic's uniform almost identical to their own. As they leave to go back to their jobs, she slips into a closet and shuts the door before she starts to unpack her things. She unpacks containers with clothes and hair stuff. She takes out an inflatable mattress and she starts to pump it up when a little squeaky voice pipes up.

"Hello." It says. She screams quietly in fright and looks in the corner of the large, dark closet where a small cockroach stands.



Chapter 3: The New Friend

"Hello?" It asks again, looking frightened.

"Uh, hi?" She says, her fear fading to confusion.

"Who are you?" Asks the cockroach.

"My name is Barbara." The lady replies, still confused about how a cockroach can talk.

"My name is Jimmy, do you want to be friends?" The little insect asks her. Barbara has to think for a bit, but then she comes up with an amazing idea. He can help her with her evil doings!

"Sure!" She says to Jimmy. In Barbara's mind she **skipped** with joy, then Barbara leans down and slowly shakes Jimmy's hand as she whispers into his ear, "Can you help me by listening to the king and telling me what he said? I'll reward you with food each time you do it." The cockroach seems deep in thought.

"Hmm... Ok. So, when do I start?" Barbara breathes a sigh of relief and replies with,

"Now."



Chapter 4: Barbara's Evil Plan

The next day while Jimmy the cockroach is off finding out secrets about the King, Barbara is looking for information in books. She pulls out a book and the bookcase starts to advance towards her.

"AAAAHHHHHH!!!!!!!" She screams in terror, hoping no one heard. She starts to back up and trips over her own feet, falling down.

"Owww....." She moans through the pain. She gets up and looks at the bookcase.

"Huh? A... hidden room?" She says quietly to herself. She walks in and finds a **canvas** laid out on a table.

"YES!!!" She says ecstatically as she pulls a pen out of her pocket. She starts jotting down how she's going to steal all of King Geoffrey's valuables and what she's going to do with them.

Meanwhile, Jimmy the cockroach is heading to the room to hear Barbara's plan of action. He scuttles in.

"So, you're going to distract the King and I'm going to steal his valuables!" Barbara says proudly, Jimmy nods with no expression on his face. Barbara continues excitedly,

"Now..... Let's put this plan into action!"



Chapter 5: The Burglary Begins Part 1

As Barbara sneakily walks out of the dark hidden room she **sings** her victory song. She finally thinks everything is going to plan. Mixed emotions swirl inside of Barbara's stomach and a sudden creeping doubt starts to overwhelm her. Is this REALLY the right thing to do? She shakes off the feelings as best she can and tries to continue walking down the long, narrow hallway. She makes sure she steps carefully over all of the objects in her way, quiet as a mouse, so that no one will hear her. Creeping down the hallway, Barbara looks around nervously, wondering if she would get caught or not. There isn't really anything she can do now, though, since she has already got Jimmy involved in everything. She sighs a deep, reluctant sigh. The plan has already started. Jimmy is distracting King Geoffrey, so she has to hurry. She doesn't want to ruin the plan for herself or for Jimmy. She has to go on...

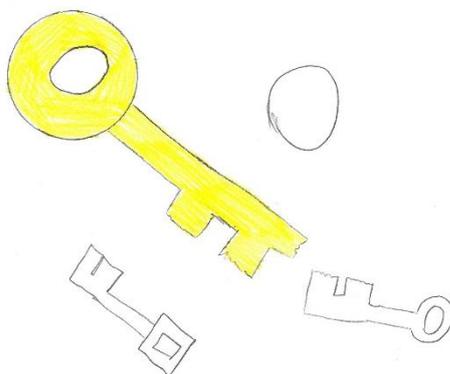


Chapter 6:

The Burglary Begins Part 2

Barbara clears her mind and sticks with the plan as she creeps down the hallways, trying desperately to find the King's bedroom. This is a massive ship, after all. Making her way down the right hallway she finally found the right door that read,

'Kings Bedroom. DO NOT ENTER AT ALL EVER!' Barbara ignores the sign and slowly opens the door, clutching the golden door handle like it's her life ring. When she opens the door, she sees that the young King is not in his bed. He must be in the throne room. He falls asleep there a lot. Barbara sighs in relief. Everything is going smoothly. She steps inside, trying not to make the floorboards creak underfoot. Her eyes dart over the room, noticing the safe in the corner. She also notices the heavy gold lock on it. Looking secretly around the room, she sees a glint of gold on the bed spread. Lying there, in plain sight, was a big, glittering golden key. In Barbara's mind, she was screaming with joy. She had found the key to the safe! She creeps over to the neatly made bed and takes the key gently in her warm hand. Opening the safe, she sees bars of gold, gems, money silver and bronze. She quickly grabs as much as she can, locks the safe and puts the key away. Rushing out of the room, Barbara starts to pack her stuff so quickly that it's a miracle she doesn't drop anything.



Chapter 7:

Doubt

The small cockroach watches as the paramedic, Barbara, disappears out the shadowed door. He starts to feel guilty because he knows how it feels to be deceived. Before he came to the cruise ship to live, he got kicked out of the cockroach community. Jimmy has mixed emotions. Should he tell the King? Or shouldn't he? He is so confused that he lets out a small scream of frustration. King Geoffrey jolts awake at the sound. Assuming that he imagined it, the King drifts slowly back off to sleep. Jimmy's stress hasn't gone. He has no one to talk to. He tries to find Barbara but she's packing to leave, mounds of gold and jewels by her side. The King is still sound asleep on his makeshift throne, probably dreaming of cupcakes and rainbows. The cockroach hesitates. Barbara seemed so happy at the thought of revenge and she promised that she would let him live with her in her luxury new home that she was going to buy with all the jewels and gold. What is he going to do?!



Chapter 8: Change of heart

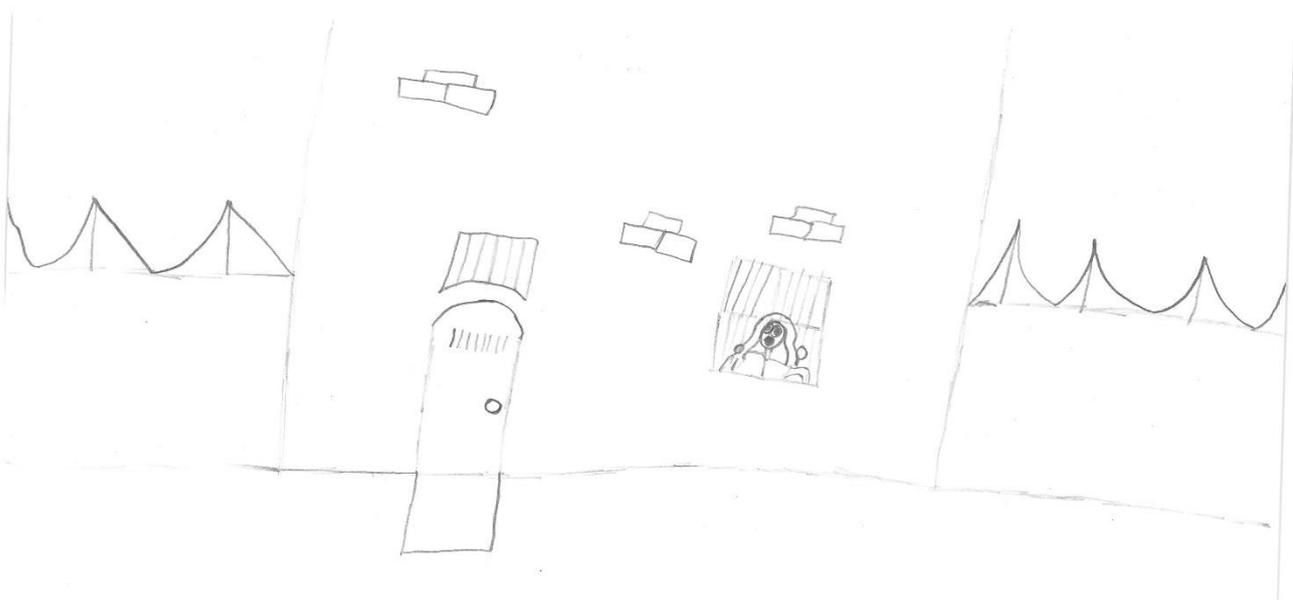
Jimmy the cockroach races through the halls to the throne room, making up his mind. He jumps onto the couch where the young King sleeps. Jimmy can't -won't- let this dastardly deed go as planned and let this young, innocent twelve year old get robbed. Jumping up and down on King Geoffrey's chest, Jimmy begins to get frantic. It's taking too long! The King wakes with a start and Jimmy tells him everything, including that he helped this burglary go through. To Jimmy's relief, the King doesn't blame him for anything and sets out at once to stop Barbara, Jimmy's former friend. The cockroach jumps onto the edge of the King's pant leg just as the door slams shut behind them. He tells the King how to get into the secret room and they rush in. Barbara struggles out the back door, carrying as much gold as she can carry. More, even. King Geoffrey slams his hand down on a giant red lock down button that sounds an alarm. Guards in black clad uniform grab the escaping woman, dragging her away. Her pockets are emptied and everything is returned to where it is supposed to be. The King is very happy with Jimmy, saying that the cockroach can come and live with him in his great castle in Sweden.

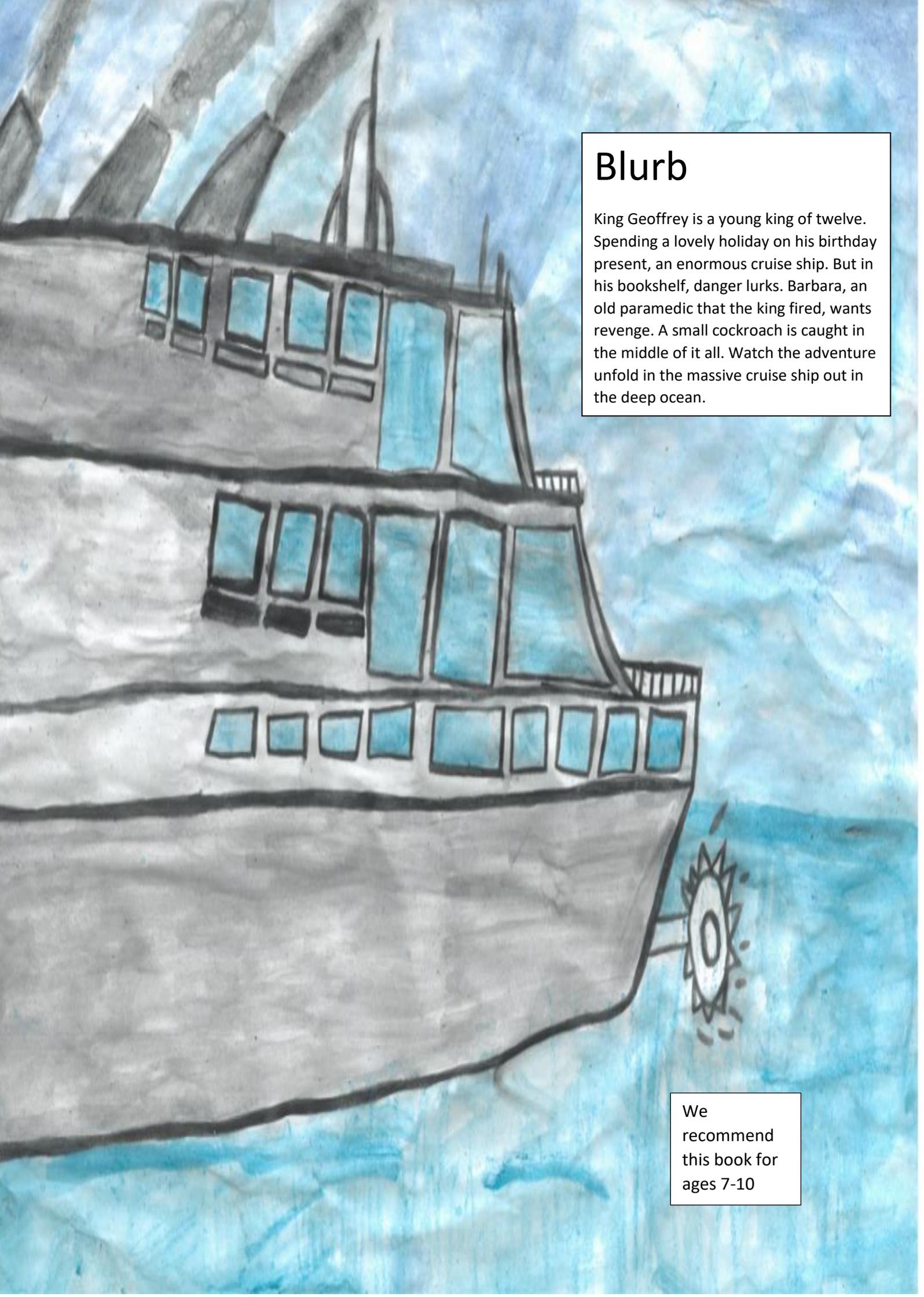


Epilogue:

Happily Ever After

King Geoffrey helps Jimmy the cockroach down from the cruise onto the grassy ground of his land in Sweden. His twenty story castle looms above them, making Jimmy, who had been talking non-stop since they started to head back home, so shocked that he became still as a statue, his mouth shut tight. As the King settles the small insect high up on his shoulder, he taps Jimmy's little brown back lightly, jolting the creature back to earth. They walk through the open draw bridge and into a brightly decorated living room. Pictures of old men line the walls and the floor is carpeted in thick, fluffy rugs that look like they are made of chinchilla fur. Jimmy's eyes widen, taking in his new home. Home. That was something he hasn't had in a long time. His last home was in a sewer with other cockroaches but they kicked him out for being too nice and giving the rats, who the cockroaches hated, food. It was good to have another home. A proper home. He is finally free.





Blurb

King Geoffrey is a young king of twelve. Spending a lovely holiday on his birthday present, an enormous cruise ship. But in his bookshelf, danger lurks. Barbara, an old paramedic that the king fired, wants revenge. A small cockroach is caught in the middle of it all. Watch the adventure unfold in the massive cruise ship out in the deep ocean.

We
recommend
this book for
ages 7-10