



CK Reporter of the Week  
Kate Erickson, Centennial

## Kids' favorites team up for new book

**E**nvision the seamless melding of opposite genres combining the labor of 2 opposite world-renowned literary geniuses to rise the phoenix of a masterpiece from the ashes of the gears grinding in the minds of R.L. Stine and Marc Brown.

That vision has become a reality with the children's book "Mary McScary," cleverly written by R.L. Stine and stunningly illustrated by Marc Brown.

Marc Brown and R.L. Stine were chosen by Laura Bush to represent the United States at a children's literature event in Moscow, Russia hosted by Lyudmila Putina, the ex-wife of Russian President Vladimir Putin.

R.L. Stine explained what happened after they had been friends for awhile: "When having dinner with our wives, Marc said that we should do a book together."

They decided that this would be a good idea and set up a meeting with Scholastic.

R.L. Stine had the idea of introducing a not bossy, but assertive, scary girl resembling the legend of Bloody Mary.

Stine titled it "Scary Mary" and his wife, who also happens to be his editor, changed it to "Mary McScary."

Marc Brown said that she is, "just like a little (actress) Joan Crawford, or a young Beyoncé."

R.L. Stine wrote five different versions of "Mary McScary."

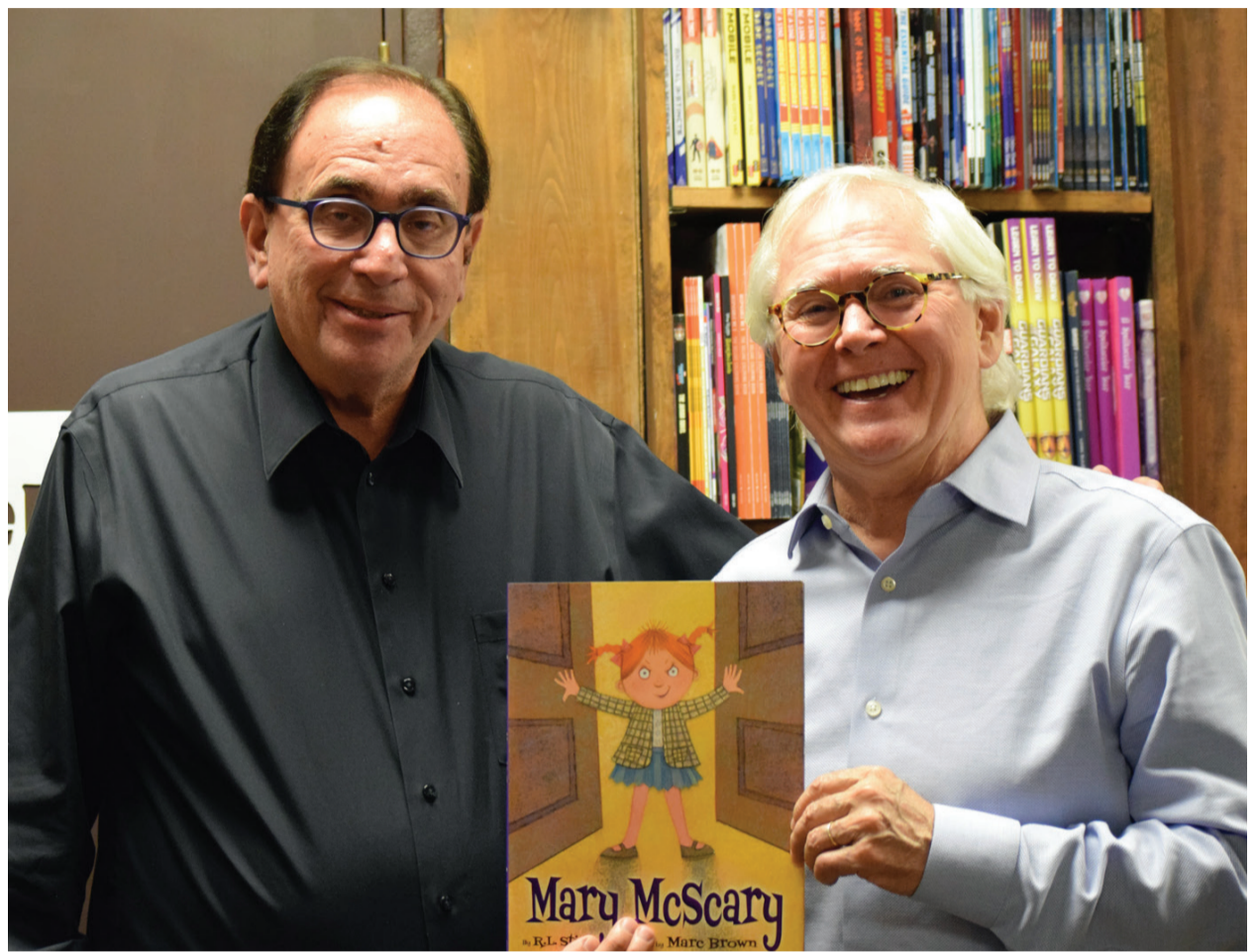
Marc Brown also went through some labor-intensive work as it took him six months to create the art for this book.

He used X-Acto knives and razor blades to cut precise pieces of paper to create each and every illustrative detail for this book.

When creating the art for "Mary McScary," Marc Brown hid special, detail-oriented aspects to the art of this book that you have to pay attention to find, for example, an Early Ann Folk Portrait hanging on the walls as a tribute to the folk art he and his wife collect.

This dynamic duo recently introduced "Mary McScary" to their enthusiastic fans at the Colfax Tattered Cover.

This book portrays the versatility of two worlds



R.L. Stine (left) and Marc Brown with their new collaboration, "Mary McScary." photo/Kira Zizzo

colliding: The Marc Brown characters, so wholesome and full of humility, and the embodiment of suspense and malevolence of R.L. Stine's style weave the perfect yin-yang.

The end of the story clearly had a taste of "Arthur," cute and funny, leaving you with a smile and chuckle.

This event started out as a book reading then progressed with an unexpectedly entertaining twist to the evening.

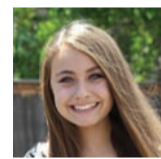
Marc Brown drew the monster versions of randomly chosen children from the audience.

Both authors took turns connecting with the audience and it was quite a positive experience.

The diverse crowd, young and old were captured by

the entertainment the night held.

Engaged, these true fans eagerly raised their hands and expressed their passion for Marc Brown and R.L. Stine's work.



By Kira Zizzo,  
13, a CK Reporter  
from Highlands Ranch

## Roll up, Roll up, for the latest in frozen treats

**"C**haos and Cream" is a Denver-based ice cream shop.

But, it is no ordinary ice cream shop.

The average ice cream store experience is walking in, looking at buckets of ice cream through the glass, and then choosing the type you want.

This is much different.

The workspace needed is so small that it is a stand outside other stores rather than a store itself. It has a menu with flavors like Strawberry Avalanche and Smart Cookie.

But here's where it's different. Have you ever had ice cream made in front of you?

This is Thai-style rolled ice cream.

Using a cold platform, workers freeze an ice cream base (the cream part), and then flatten it.

Because they flattened it, they can easily roll it up with what looks like metal spatulas.

The ice cream is made to order, so that you can see that your ice cream is 10 seconds fresh.

While I was there, they had my mom and I taste test different types of mint chip for a wedding on Saturday, which they do quite often, apparently.

I interviewed co-founder Brian Rosen and found some interesting stuff.

For instance, it's legally impossible to get a patent on rolled ice cream.

Rosen says that he and his partner, Bernard Friedman, found a rolled ice cream shop in New York, where it had come from Thailand.

So, he and Friedman founded "Chaos and Cream," and he could only trademark the name and logo, which he did.

Halfway through our interview, a girl and her mother came by, and after a

question, he turned around and said hello to the girl and her mother, and had a super short conversation with them while their ice cream was made.

After that, he turned back to me and explained that the girl was in school year-round and that he knew her because they had been the first customers at the new location.

That just blew my mind that a company owner knew his customers by name and sight and was friends with them.

You could tell that he knew the employees well, too.

Also, while I interviewed him, he focused on me, instead of my mom. Most people, I've found, focus more on the adult.

This was a great experience, and some good ice cream, too!



photo provided/Chaos & Cream



By Jack Vanourek,  
12, a CK Reporter  
from Littleton

**ENTER FOR THE CHANCE TO WIN FOUR TICKETS TO THE SPECIAL ADVANCE SCREENING OF**



Screening takes place on Sunday, October 1 at 10am.

**THIS FILM IS RATED "PG"**  
One entry per person.  
Entry deadline: September 28.  
Winners drawn on September 29 and notified via email.



#MyLittlePonyMovie  
www.mylittlepony.movie

Log on to [LionsgateScreenings.com/MLPcokids](http://LionsgateScreenings.com/MLPcokids)

**OPENING IN THEATRES EVERYWHERE ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6**

# Twilight Sparkle a delight for younger kids

**"T**wilight Sparkle," the latest addition to the "My Little Pony" stable, is a toy that has a lot of moving parts when turned on.

She has sensors, and to activate them a child must touch the sides of her horn, push the star button on her hoof or scratch her cheeks.

Then she will respond with a movement or begin to speak.

For example, she lights up her horn, flutters her wings, moves her eyelids, her head, her neck or one leg.

She talks about magic spells, tells stories and sings songs, though she is a little repetitive with her sentences.

She is a very interesting and responsive toy.

When I opened the box, I was very impressed how large the toy is. If a child is getting this as a gift they will be positively surprised about this.

The batteries are located on her belly under Velcro next to the on and off switch.

The batteries were not easy to get in and it requires four C batteries, which are not cheap.

The pony itself is also quite pricey with a retail price on the Hasbro website of \$129.

Twilight could use a volume button because her voice is quite loud and this will probably get annoying for older siblings or parents eventually.



If you leave her alone for a while she will go to sleep and make sleeping noises.

The fabric is very pretty and sparkly, but it is not very fuzzy and I would not recommend cuddling or sleeping with her because she has parts that are hard and mechanical.

This toy would be very good for children under the ages of 6, but ideal for 4 and 5 year olds.

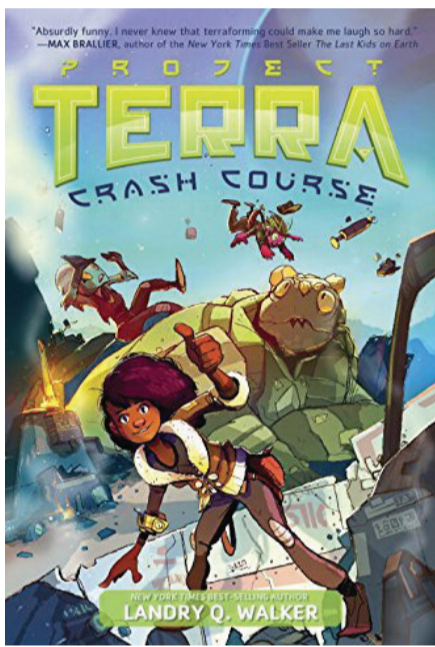
It would be better if a child knew about the TV show My Little Pony, because the songs and stories have a lot to do with the series.

She is not completely consistent with the actual series, however, because the series makes her seem more a bookworm.

This toy was fun to play with and any four year old would love this as a gift.



By Lilly Warneke, 9, a CK Reporter from Golden



## Unusual fantasy includes real theory

"Project Terra: Crash Course" by Landry Q. Walker is a very unusual and intriguing book that, even though most of the characters seem like there is almost no way for them to exist, is based on the actual theory of terraforming, or creating planets using science.

It's about an eleven-year-old girl named Elara from Vega Antilles V, a remote farming planet in a region of space known as "nowhere."

She wants to become a terraformer, so she travels to another planet to attend the Seven Systems School of Terraforming.

Some of the kids at the school are humans like Elara, but others are completely different, like her roommates Beezle, a blue-skinned alien whose mind is connected to something called the Overmind, and Clare, a square-shaped sponge who

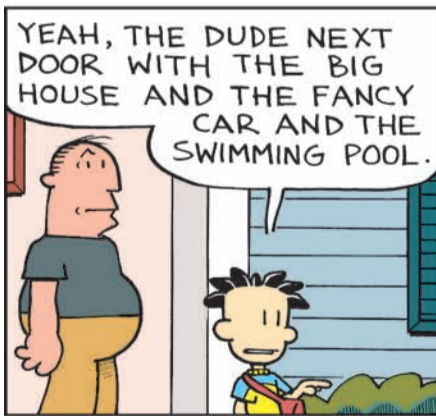
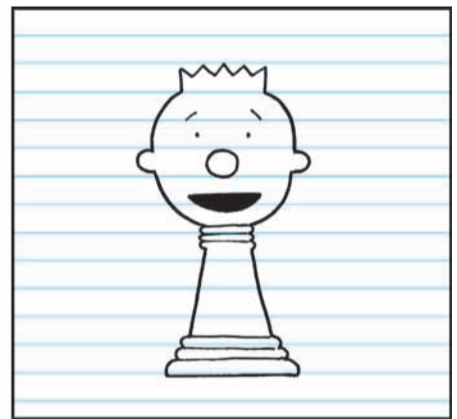
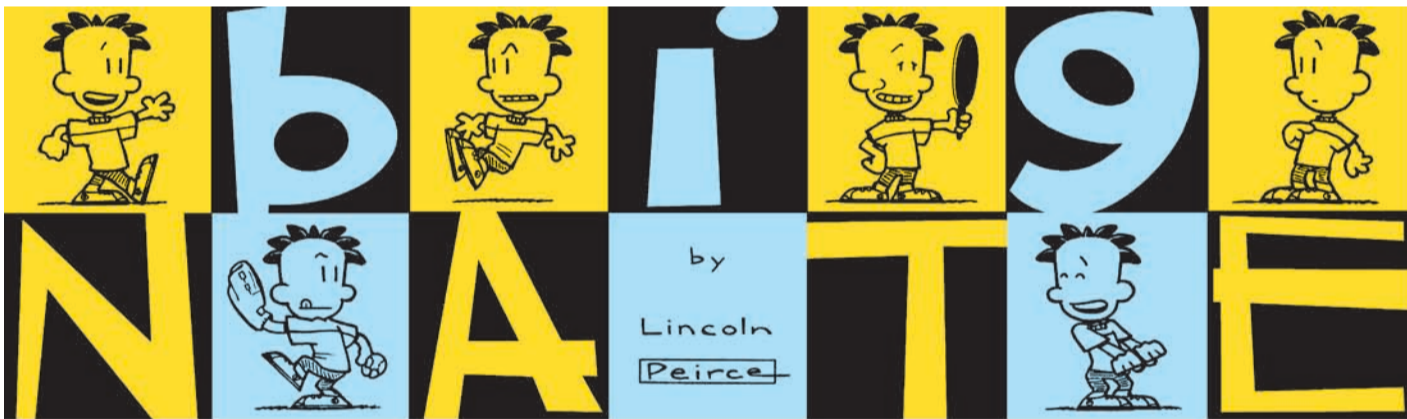
can't even move.

Elara is sent on field trips to dangerous places like a desert that not even the teachers know much about, and is accidentally flown to the school's moon – just in time to see it blow up!

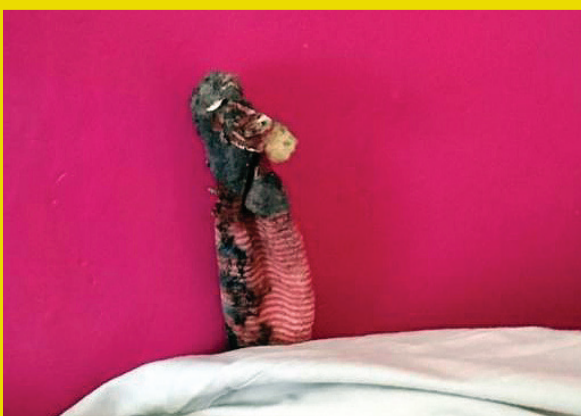
This is undoubtedly a very weird story, but is great for anyone who enjoys science fiction!



By Nandi Strieker, 10, a CK Reporter from Antonito



## Terrible, horrible, no good, very bad monster discovered



**T**he Royal Society for the Protection of Animals in Coventry, England, was called upon by a frightened homeowner recently.

Her teenaged daughter had spotted what looked to be a striped lizard peeking out from under her bed.

The mother and daughter had no idea where the sneaky reptile had come from, but they were afraid that it was dangerous and could even be poisonous.

The RSPCA quickly dispatched Victoria Hurr, one of their animal control officers to the scene to capture the horrifying lizard.

According to a press release, Hurr used her flashlight to examine the beast, which was seven inches long and two inches wide, and discovered that it was still just peeking out from a pile of sheets and wasn't moving.

Then she discovered why. "That's when I realized it wasn't

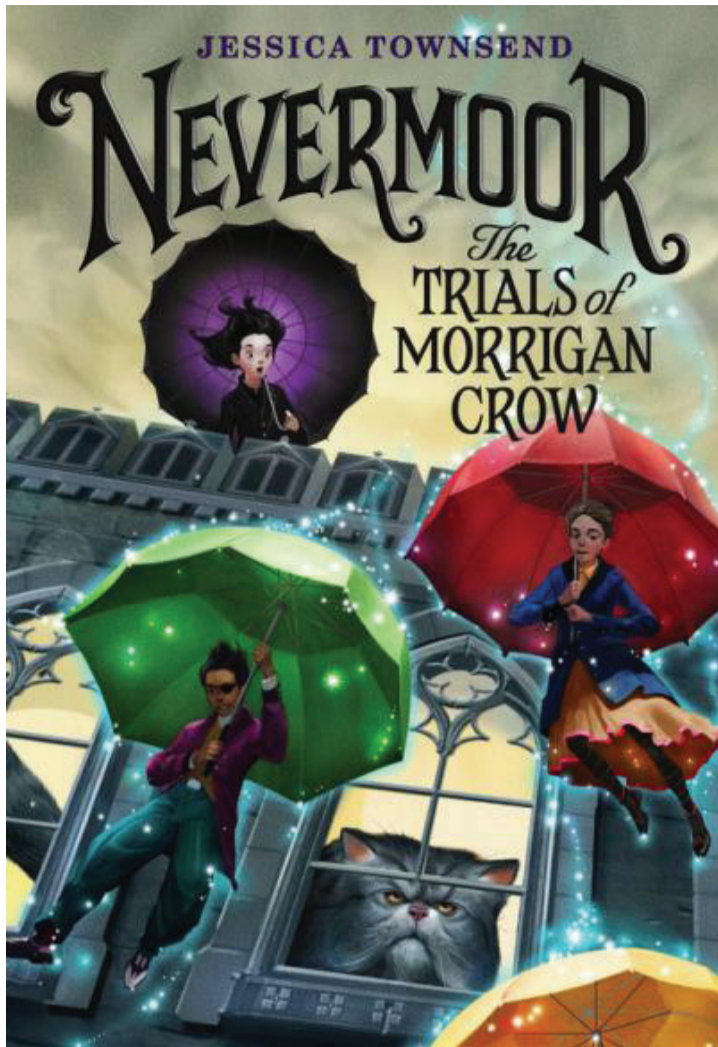
a lizard at all," she reported. "It was a pink stripy sock."

As an experienced expert, she was able to give the family some good advice to help them avoid future sock-lizard invasions.

"I advised the young girl whose bedroom it was to tidy her room and to take care of her socks, but not before reminding her that another one will turn up soon as they are usually in pairs," Hurr told the press.

photo/RSPCA

# Suspense, mystery mark start of a new series



Imagine a world where an umbrella can let you float down the side of a building, a cat can be as big as an elephant, and a hotel room can morph to fit your preferences.

And imagine seeing Santa and the Yule Queen duel with feats of festivity, or traveling on the Gossamer Line.

Explore the magical land of Nevermoor, in "The Trials of Morrigan Crow," by Jessica Townsend.

In a normal world, Morrigan Crow is a cursed child, fated to have been born on Eventide night... and to die the same day ten years later.

Her dad is the governor, who is also having to pay for every bit of trouble in town thanks to his bewitched daughter.

Even if she stays in her room all day, she is an excuse to lie and get recompense for things Morrigan wasn't at all a part of.

As she shuts her eyes in preparation for inevitable death, she feels bad for all the evil she has caused by her very presence.

But instead of death taking her by the hand, it is a ginger-haired explorer named Jupiter.

Morrigan is taken to a whole new world, where she, as an illegal immigrant to Nevermoor, hopes to join the Wondrous Society.

The Wondrous Society is Nevermoor's elite. Each member has a special talent.

If Morrigan can get through the entrance trials, she can escape the law that would kick her out of the land.

There's only one problem: Morrigan doesn't

think she has a talent, and Jupiter won't tell her what he thinks it is.

This story is full of wonder and magic and laughter, but also of sinister plots, all somehow wrapped around her.

Will Morrigan find truth through the half-lies she has been told, and escape both the threats from the outside and from within?

Was she ever actually cursed at all? Find out in this epic novel.

"The Trials of Morrigan Crow" is a quirky adventure story with a feel for adventure, heartfelt characters, and a whole lot of magic.

My first impression of this book was an Alice and Wonderland theme, but it actually has a lot more depth.

There are themes of self worth and natural curiosity, and the subtle tension adds to the feeling of suspense.

I love how this story builds and builds until every mystery is explained near the end.

It also leaves off at a cliffhanger, so I hope we can expect a sequel.



By Sylvia Goodman, 12, a CK Reporter from Centennial

# Kenyans head for do-over presidential election

Kenya is seen as one of Africa's most modern nation, a democracy with a solid economy.

But Kenya is about to become the first nation in Africa to do something even the United States has never done: In October, they will go back to the polls to elect a president all over again.

In August, Kenyans elected Uhuru Kenyatta, the son of the nation's first president, with 55 percent of the vote.

His chief opponent, Raila Odinga, the son of Kenya's first vice-president, finished with 44 percent of the vote.

At least, that was what the election commission reported when they announced that Kenyatta had won.

Odinga's party did not accept the results.

It's not unusual for a losing party to say that they were cheated and that the election was unfair, but, in this case, the Supreme Court looked into the situation and found that there were serious problems with the election.

The biggest problem was that the election commission had announced the final results be-

fore all the votes had been received from some distant voting locations.

Then, when the Supreme Court began to ask for information, the election commission refused to provide it.

After investigating the elections carefully, the Supreme Court ruled by a vote of 4-2 that the problems were serious enough that it was not possible to say for certain who had won.

September 1, they ordered the country to go through a second election within 60 days.

Supporters of Uhuru Kenyatta were furious and said the court had "stolen the election."

Supporters of Raila Odinga, of course, were happy, saying that a fresh, fair vote would give them a victory.

There have been demonstrations by both sides and things have become violent from time to time, but many Kenyans are calling for calm and hoping the new elections in October will be better run so both sides can accept the results.

Now the company that owns Kenya's 45,000 election computers must back-up the old results while re-setting each machine for the new vote.



Above, a supporter of the Kenyatta government urges both sides of the issue to be non-violent, to put aside tribal loyalties, and to work for the good of the nation. (AP Photo/Ben Curtis)



## Sudoku

	2				
	4			6	5
5			4		
2				1	
3		1		2	
					3

**Rules:** Every row across, every column down and each of the six smaller boxes must contain numerals 1,2,3,4,5 and 6, one time and one time only.  
The solution to this week's puzzle is on Page 4.



## Brainteaser

**John Chapman, known as "Johnny Appleseed," was born on this date in 1774, so our answers this week will begin with "A" for the apple trees he planted.**

1. Spiders and scorpions are in this group of arthropods, the one with eight legs.
2. This element is a very useful metal, usually refined from bauxite.
3. Denver-based, one-name author of "Crispin: The Cross of Lead," "Nothing But The Truth," "The Secret School," "Catch You Later, Traitor" and other books.
4. Our northernmost ocean
5. The ski hill known as "A-Basin" is actually named this.
6. Doctors give you this type of drug to put you to sleep during an operation, or to deaden the feeling in an area they may work on while you are still awake.
7. He became President of the United States when James Garfield was assassinated.
8. Type of sale in which people bid to see who will pay the highest amount.
9. To show approval of someone by clapping your hands
10. Its capital is Buenos Aires.

(answers on Page Four)

# Small study says even one-time vaping can damage your heart

People who hoped that e-cigarettes were a healthy alternative to smoking got some bad news.

According to a study published in the Journal of the American Heart Association, even one-time vaping can cause heart damage.

Dr. Holly Middlekauff, who led the study, explained their project:

"While e-cigarettes typically deliver fewer carcinogens than are found in the tar of tobacco cigarette smoke, they also usually deliver nicotine. Many believe that the tar, not the nicotine, is what leads to increased cancer and heart attack risks. So, we asked the question, are e-cigarettes safe?"

This was a small study, only 33 volunteers, but the answer seemed very clear.

When they vaped with e-cigarettes that contained nicotine, their body responded by releasing epinephrine in a way that is seen in the hearts of people with heart disease or who are at risk of heart attacks.

Non-nicotine vaping did not produce this effect.

This doesn't mean that, if you vape one time, you will fall over dead. But it also means that the harm vaping can do to your heart doesn't require you to vape a thousand times over a million years.

Middlekauff says they have more to study, but for now, you should avoid vaping at all.

photo/njoy



# Beyond These Pages!

## Hot Links to Cool Sites!

**NASA's Space Place**

<http://tinyurl.com/ckspace>

**NIE Special Report**

<http://tinyurl.com/ckniereport>

**Headline Geography**

<http://tinyurl.com/ckgeography>

**Pulse of the Planet**

<http://tinyurl.com/ckpulseplanet>

## How to become a NextGen Reporter!

<http://tinyurl.com/colokidsreporter>



### To read the sources for these stories

Scary scary lizard?

Kenyan Elections

Vaping hazard

go to <http://www.tinyurl.com/ckstorylinks>

# Ariadne and the Magic Thread

## Chapter Three: The Hostage Ship

*Our story so far: Every year, Princess Ariadne goes to meet the hostage ship that brings 14 young Athenians to Crete each year, to be sacrificed to her father's monster, the Minotaur.*

**A**riadne stood on the wharf, looking out to sea. Along the waterfront, the crowd was already beginning to shout angrily, and the guards were working to keep them under control.

A Greek ship was sailing through the entrance to the harbor; That was what had the crowd so furious. It was clearly the hostage ship, for billowing in the breeze was a set of black sails, a silent protest from the Athenians whose young people were aboard.



The open area around the dockside was thronged with people, pressing up against the line of guards. The long, straight road from the harbor up the hill to the palace was lined as well, the crowd ending at the prison where the hostages would be kept until they were put into the Labyrinth.

Four years ago, the crowd that met the hostage ship got out of control. Instead of just shouting insults and spitting on the Athenians, they had begun throwing trash and rocks, and several of the young people were seriously injured. Ariadne had seen those wounded hostages carried into the prison and had helped tend their wounds, cleaning and bandaging them so that, a few days later, they could be killed by the Minotaur.

Every year since, she had come to the dockside when the hostage ship arrived, to walk up to the prison alongside the hostages. The crowd still shouted insults at the Athenians, but they did not dare throw anything for fear of hitting the princess.

Perhaps the hostages were doomed, Ariadne thought, but that was no reason to treat them badly. Each year, all the young people of Athens who had reached a certain age had their names put on clay disks and dropped into a jar, one jar for boys and another for girls.

Seven names were drawn from each jar, and those 14 sons and daughters, rich or poor, powerful or friendless, plain or good-looking, talented or hopeless, were led onto the ship with the black sails and sent to Crete and the Labyrinth, to be killed and eaten by the horrible Minotaur.

And each year, Ariadne was one year older.

This year, the hostages were only two years older than she was, and she could barely remember her brother who had died in Athens. They couldn't have had anything to do with his death. They were little children then, too, just as she had been.

Some people in Knossos said it didn't matter exactly who did it. And, anyway, the hostages were just Greeks, after all. They were crude, they didn't have nice cities, they didn't speak properly. They were a violent, warlike people who did not treasure life, and so death for them was not such a tragedy as it would be for Minoans.

Most of the Minoans who said this did not speak the Greek language themselves, and had never met any Greeks. Most had never been anywhere but right here on the island of Crete.

Ariadne would see few of her friends in the crowd. She and her friends learned Greek in school, and had met Greek traders who visited Crete on business.

Some, whose parents were important merchants, had even lived in Greek cities, among the Greeks. Some of them said that the law made it safer for Minoans who lived among the Greeks, that, because of the price Athens was paying, the other Greeks knew better than to harm any of King Minos's people.

But they didn't talk about it very often, and none of them came to see the hostage ship arrive.

The law said that these 14 young Athenians had to die, but it didn't say that anyone had to watch them die, and it didn't say that anybody had to come see their faces and begin to think of them as people.

It was easier to stay away, and, though there was always a large crowd that came every year when the hostage ship arrived, there were many other Minoans who did not.

As the ship drew closer, its black sails were lowered and the long oars came out to row the final distance to the pier, where four guards went on board and searched the Greeks and their ship for weapons.

Satisfied that the hostages and the ship's crew were unarmed, the guards led the young people from the ship and lined them up on the pier.

Most of the girls looked down at their feet and some of them were weeping. Greek women were different from Minoans, Ariadne knew. They did not grow up boxing and vaulting over charging bulls in the arena alongside their brothers like Minoan girls did. They were not allowed to go into business, or even to choose their own husbands.

They always seemed more shy and more frightened than the Athenian boys. A tall girl towards the back of the group looked around for a moment, but as soon as she saw Ariadne looking at her, she quickly dropped her eyes and pulled the veil on her head closer to hide her face.

But one of the Athenian young men stared directly at Ariadne, and, once he caught her eye, she found herself staring back. He was handsome, very handsome, with broad shoulders and well-muscled arms, and his dark eyes gazed into hers without flinching.

He took a step forward, ignoring the guard who moved to keep him in line. "You are the Princess Ariadne, daughter of King Minos of Crete," he said, in the Greek language. He did not wait for an answer. "I am Theseus, the son of King Aegeus of Athens."

Ariadne did not know what to say.

How do you welcome a prince to the city where he is going to die?

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For a teaching guide, go to <http://tinyurl.com/ckserial>

## Sudoku Solution

6	2	5	3	4	1
1	4	3	2	6	5
5	1	6	4	3	2
2	3	4	5	1	6
3	5	1	6	2	4
4	6	2	1	5	3

## Brainteaser Solution



(see Page Three)

10 right - Wow!

7 right - Great!

5 right - Good

3 right - See you next time!

1. arachnids 2. aluminum 3. Avi 4. Arctic 5. Arapaho Basin  
6. anesthetic 7. (Chester A.) Arthur 8. auction  
9. applaud 10. Argentina

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