My Twist on a Tale

Winning Stories

Archdiocese of Liverpool Secondary School Improvement Trust
My Twist on a Tale was launched on International Literacy Day 2019 with the aim of empowering children and young people to become the protagonist of their own stories as they assert their modern-day stamp on classic tales and create their own narratives to reflect their personal interests, background and experiences.

This book features 3 incredibly creative stories from children in the Liverpool Diocesan Schools Trust. We wish to congratulate them all on their fantastic work and for winning My Twist on a Tale!

At Pearson, we work to empower those working with children, young people and adult learners to explore the different dimensions of literacy, improve outcomes and inspire a life-long love of reading and writing.

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Finally, a solution to our global crisis. After all these years, all it took was a gifted girl.

For the entire two years that Elsa was in my class, something seemed a bit off about her. For example, she always walked away from arguments when she was about to lose her temperature. Also, she always wore these thin white gloves and never took them off in any situation. But now I know why.

Last year, Elsa revealed that she has the power to create ice. Suddenly, requests for her to travel the globe have been going through the roof. So far she has been to the driest parts of Africa and cooled it down and gave around half the population a lifetime supply of water. Thankfully, she has managed to lower the global temperature by two degrees.
Once upon a time on the estate. Where the floors are scattered with cigarette butts, where teenagers roam the streets, where you hear the echoes of parents screaming at their children, lived Rapunzel. She was always doing things she shouldn’t be doing. She would sneak out to see her boyfriend but her mum was obviously not pleased with her daughters choice in boys so she grounded her with a firm warning.

Rapunzel was all you could imagine she looked like. Fake tan so dark her fingers were green, eyebrows that took up her whole forehead, hair bleached so many times that one tug and it would snap, two orange lines down her face. But the thing she was known for were her bright blonde, ratty extensions that trailed behind her when she walked. Late one night, she wanted to see her boyfriend as she’d been locked in her room for 2 weeks. She tried to sneak out of the house but was caught by her mum. They got into a huge argument, extensions were being tossed and pulled, shoes were flying and some hurtful things were said.

Clearly, the grounding punishment wasn’t working so her mum took away the one thing she loved with all her heart. The one thing she couldn’t live without. Her extensions.

She cried and cried for days about her hair, but her mum stuck with her punishment. Rapunzel never snuck out again.

Or so her mother thinks…
Sebastian Carlon was an ordinary boy, living an ordinary life...

Until one day, something made his world implode!

Like most days, Sebastian woke up, seeing his scruffy uniform hung up on the rusty, brass peg. The echoing sound of his mother’s voice drifted into his room. A weird sensation awoke inside of Sebastian... a sensation he had never felt before... As like nothing had happened, he stomped down the stairs to eat his breakfast, Cornflakes. He was sick and tired of the flavourless taste and the constant milk droplets around his mouth. His nickname at school was ‘The lil’ old man’ as the milk looked like a beard.

Like any other typical Friday, he walked down the street. The air was crisp and the leaves glistened gold. The milkman sung, the post-lady whistled. Everything was calm and relaxing. Minutes later, he arrived at school, not knowing the day ahead of him would make his life change.

He walked in, being welcomed by his best friends, Harry and Jess. They headed into the most boring lesson of the week, maths. It was like a whirlwind of hell and boredom. Little did they know, this lesson would take Sebastian into a whole new way of life, a whole new REALM! Today was the dreaded TEST DAY! Nobody could bear the thoughts of getting a bad grade or a detention for disturbing others. The test began, all the students got started. Well... That was except for Sebastian, who just sat still, staring at question 1 inquisitively. The question penetrated his mind, which made him fixate on it.

Then, what he thought was a dream, came something that would change
his whole life. A sudden burst of power awoke inside him. Then, suddenly, the ordinary pencil slowly started to lift up, writing the answer! Sebastian was utterly bewildered. He had never seen anything like this before. What was happening? He had no clue….

Far, far away, in a whole different realm, The Conductor of Dark Magic chose Sebastian as his next representative to destroy EARTH! His other representatives had well…..not turned out too good. He thought Sebastian would be perfect. He would load all the magic into a laser gun, which would blast it out and hit a random person. It would immediately possess them under the orders of The Conductor. Everything they touched they…. CONTROLLED! It would make them ROGUE! Slowly, they would develop into a monster. Not just an ordinary monster, one that destroyed humanity!!

Like nothing had happened, Sebastian handed his test in to Ms. Alyssa. A shocked look appeared on her face, being greeted with the sight of EVERY SINGLE question correct. Shell-shocked.

Speechless. Words couldn't describe the emotions she was going through.

Next lesson was English, with Ms Em, Sebastian loved English... well except for today. All his thoughts were changing. He didn't even want to hang with Harry and Jess anymore. His attitude was completely going into a whole new way. He refused to do any work, getting multiple detentions. Yet, he still didn't turn up to any of them. He got in more trouble in one day than the whole of his school life. No one could figure out this peculiar mystery.

The end of school bell rang, floods of children poured out. Sebastian was eager to leave, eager to get home. He barged past all the students, without the thought of how much harm he was causing. He started to snarl at the sight of his former friends, purposely trip over strangers and lock himself in his room all night. Would he ever be the same? Probably not...

The birds sang, the sun glistened gold rays. What a lovely morning it was.... Until Sebastian woke up, that was. Thoughts ran through his mind- 'Ugh... I'm skipping school.' ‘ MUM PASS THE MILK NOW!' Finally he let his thoughts out.

"MUM PASS ME THE MILK OR I'LL SENT YOU TOO THE DARM REALM!"

"Awww... Sweetie munchkin.... You're so creative. There's no such thing as a- "

She paused...

A ball full of black dust started so evolve in Sebastian's hand.

BOOM!

She was gone... Gone forever...

All the power was in Sebastian's hand. He was unstoppable. He could do whatever he wanted.
A collection of the winning stories from the My Twist on a Tale Writing Competition 2019 written by children across the United Kingdom.

The stories within were selected by our judges for their exceptional writing, creativity and for their representation of a modern day, diverse Britain reflecting the writer’s own personality, location, heritage, interests or experiences.

#MyTwistonaTale