

FREE BOOK

WORLD
BOOK
DAY

9 MARCH 2022

25 YEARS

WELCOME TO

GRIMWOOD



FIVE
FREAKISHLY
FUNNY
FABLES!

NADIA SHIREEN



Greetings!

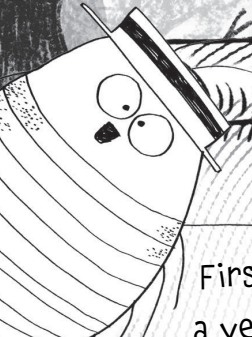
My name is

ERIC DYNAMITE

and though I may look like a humble
woodlouse, I'm also your guide and
friend. Welcome! Take off your coat,
grab a chair, do a little dance
and sit yourself down.



woodlouse



First of all, I'd like to wish you
a very happy **WORLD BOOK DAY!**
(Unless you are reading this before
World Book Day, in which case I'd
like to wish you a very happy
DAY BEFORE WORLD BOOK DAY!!!!)

(Or maybe you are reading this
after World Book Day, in which case
I'd like to wish you a very happy
DAY AFTER WORLD BOOK DAY!!!!)

Anyway, the main thing I wanted
to say is **WELCOME TO GRIMWOOD!**
Grimwood sits deep, deep, deeeeeeep
in the countryside. At least I think
it does. If I'm honest I've never

actually been there. But it is most
definitely a **WOOD**, which means it's
full of **TREES**. You know, those big
things made up of old pencils. There
are also, um, leaves. And mud! And
stones! And occasionally squashed up
fizzy-drink cans. All the wonders of
nature are there, oh yes.

I suppose I should introduce you
to some of the animals who live in
Grimwood, just in case you haven't
met them before. Do wash your hands
afterwards, though. We don't know
where they've been.

STARRING:

TED!



A cute little fox from the Big City who thinks everything in Grimwood is amazing. He likes theatre, smelling flowers and everything being great.

Ted's older sister, a streetwise fox who thinks Grimwood is utterly bananas. She likes her mobile phone, growling and looking after Ted.

NANCY!



WILLOW!



Bouncy and ferocious, Willow the rabbit has a big heart and endless energy, but she will thwack you in the face if you call her cute, OK?

TITUS!



The mayor of Grimwood. Titus is a kind old stag who is good at baking and cries at soppy films about dolphins. Wants everyone to be lovely to each other.

INGRID!



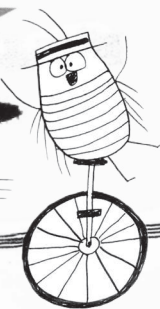
An extremely glamorous duck who used to be in the movies. Owns a global chain of luxury hotels but currently lives on a pile of old shopping trolleys.

FRANK!



A grumpy owl with massive eyebrows who secretly likes everyone. He spends his evenings reading difficult novels and listening to jazz.

Righty-ho, campers,
enough of my witterings. Let's
catch up later, yeah? Yeah. Yeah?
Yeah? OK then, toodley-pip and
goodbyeeeeeeeeeee!





PROLOGUE

The Great Capering

It was a warm spring afternoon in Grimwood, and Ted was woken from a deep, delicious sleep by his best friend, Willow the bunny. She was slapping him in the face with a giant kipper.



‘Ow, ow, ow! Stop!’ he cried.

‘Wake up, wake up!’ hooted Willow, hopping up and down on his chest. ‘For ’tis the night of the Great Capering!’

Ted rubbed his paws over his snout.

‘The What Whatering?’ he said.

‘The Great Capering!’ repeated Willow, waving her kipper in the air. She grabbed his paws and started to pull him out of his dark and cosy den.

Ted’s big sister, Nancy, groaned from her bed and covered her head with a pillow.

‘Keep it down, you horrible brats,’ she grunted.

‘Sorreeeee!’ trilled Willow, not sounding sorry in the slightest.



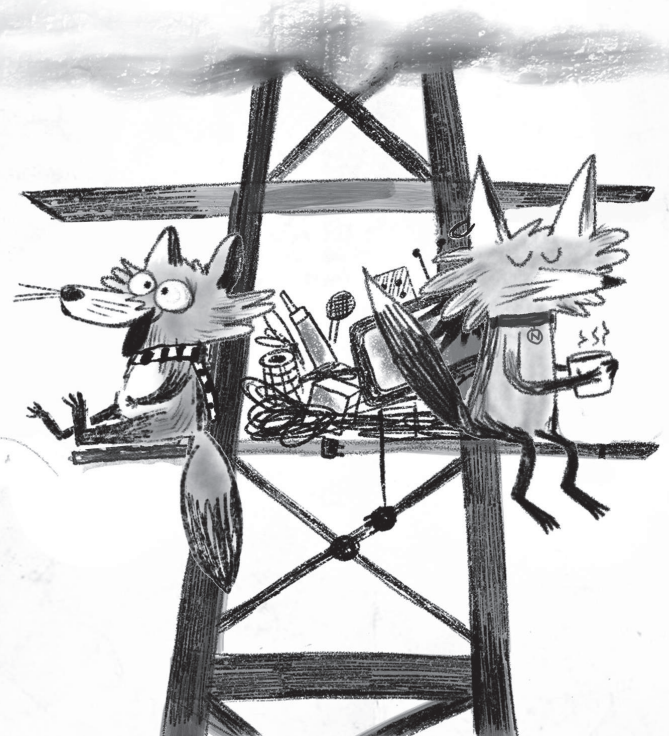
Ted allowed himself to be dragged into the daylight by his hoppity pal. He yawned, stretched his arms and took a deep breath. After growing up in the smog of the Big City, Ted still loved gulping down the fresh air of the countryside.*



When Ted first arrived in Grimwood, he had imagined that it would be full of kindly bears falling into honeypots and wise old badgers picnicking upon the riverbank. But Grimwood wasn't that kind of place. At first glance, it looked like any old forest. There were trees and earthworms and grassy hills and muddy bits. There were daisies and pine

cones and massive logs all over the place.

But after a while, he realized that there were also abandoned shopping trolleys, flying squirrels, badgers in Jeeps and a giant electricity pylon called the Magic Tower that buzzed and crackled and filled Grimwood with a most peculiar energy. It wasn't quite what they had been expecting, but Ted and Nancy had grown to love it.



*You can read ALL ABOUT the WILD adventure of how Ted and Nancy got to Grimwood from the Big City in another book called, er, Grimwood. Available in all good bookshops RIGHT NOW, oh yeah!



Come on down to

GRIMWOOD

Join the gang as they tell **FREAKISHLY FUNNY** stories round the campfire.

Meet Nancy the fox with attitude,
Willow the rabbit (who is **NOT CUTE**),
Frank the no-nonsense owl,
Ingrid the movie-star duck
and Titus the forgetful stag.

Laugh your head off
(before it gets bitten off!)
with these gloriously silly Grimwood
tales for World Book Day.

'This book made my face
hurt. Relentlessly funny'
Rob Biddulph

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ISBN 978-1-3985-0967-2



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