

A pixelated illustration depicting a character in a blue suit and brown hair being crushed by a large, red, mechanical object that is engulfed in flames. The character is positioned on the left, with their body being compressed by the red object on the right. The background is a dark, smoky grey. The title 'ALIEN INVASION' is written in large, white, bold, sans-serif capital letters with a black outline, centered vertically. Below the title, the text 'by the bookworms' is written in a smaller, white, lowercase, sans-serif font, also with a black outline.

ALIEN INVASION

by the bookworms



THE KIDS' CANCER PROJECT WRITE A BOOK IN A DAY

Parameters Form

Team Details

STATE: V ... IC

DIVISION: M id dle S chool (R e q u i r e d w o r d c o u n t 3 5 0 0 t o 5 0 0 0

SCHOOL/GROUP: w o r d s)

TEAM NAME: S C o l l e g e

TEAM ID: (S A N D R I N G H A M)

Parameters and random words

Parameters

Random words

Primary character 1 1. W e a t h e r f o r e c a s t e r C ... r i e ... p

Primary character 2 ... W e i g h t l i f t e r e ... l a s t i c

Non-human character P i g e o n C ... l u m s y

Setting F o o t b a l l g a m e b ... r i g h t

Issue S ... h i p w r e c k e d

Instructions

- Start no earlier than **8am**
- Write an original story:
 - based on all **five parameters** (above)
 - including all **five random words** (above) as written, 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**
- 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 9pm**

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 by 9pm

Your paragraph textWe would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of this land on which we stand on our grateful feet, touch with our thankful hands, and look after with our pride and souls, of the past, present and emerging elders who help look after this lushful land. And we would also like to acknowledge the amazing people who are reading our book that we worked hard on, and that it may bring lots of joy, peace, love, fun, prosperity, health, hope and happiness to their lives.

In our book, Alien invasion, it follows a school secretary who finds herself in trouble after the school therapy dog starts talking! It was based on five parameters; A secretary, takeaway food seller, dog, car park and an alien at school! We also had to include the following words:

- **Event**
- **Crisp**
- **Elastic**
- **Clumsy**
- **Bright**

The target audience is 10 -16 year olds. Enjoy!

The students involved in writing this were:

- Jack A
- Ethan N
- Evie M
- Molly R
- Josh K
- Alice M
- Amalia V
- Edie T

Copyright

Published by The Bookworms, Sandringham College, 356 Bluff road, Sandringham, 3191.

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- ☐ All rights reserved. This book is copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study, research, criticism or review, as permitted under the Copyright act, no part may be reproduced by any process without written permission Enquires should be made to the publisher.

A subtle beginning- Judith's POV

“Breathe in, and out,” the lady on the podcast speaks softly, “calm your racing hear-” Judith slams her laptop closed at that. She can’t calm down, not at this stage. 178th day working at Central East High, also known as hell on earth. The classrooms? Run down, decrepit. The students? Horrid, evil little creatures with no respect. Yet, Judith stays positive every day, working towards finally mastering a good relationship with the wretched students who go there. At least the teachers are slightly kind towards her, but they don’t pay her much attention as she’s just a lowly secretary for a low-budget public school.

As she pulls up to the staff carpark, she gains some courage and hopes that today will be a day full of joy. That hope gets crushed into a million pieces when a group of teenage boys walks past. Their leader; Jake. The worst of them all. It all started when Judith got told about the new Australian phone law that bans students from using phones during school hours. Therefore, when Judith caught Jake using his phone during school hours, things got ugly. Apparently confiscating a student's phone was called for absolute hate from not only the student you told off, but the students of the entire school. While that may be dramatic, it accurately sums up what it feels like to make someone mad, especially someone like Jake.

Judith lets out an exasperated sigh as she prepares herself to get out of the car and face the world. She steps out of her red suzuki swift with a fake smile and messy grey bun, and deep smile lines. Her shoes crunch the red autumn leaves, a sight to see in a place like Central East High. The buildings are worn down, the carpark’s yellow lines fading away with time. She walks through the teachers carpark, with a walk tainted by unconfidence. Yet finally, she reaches her favourite destination at the school, the one she stares at all day from the administrative office, grateful for a view of a nice place. The place; the canteen.



The school is set up so that there are 3 buildings surrounding the carpark, the office, the canteen, and the science building, which makes it easy to get around.

The carpark was starting to fill up, students and teachers arriving for the school day. Before she reaches the canteen, she stops to make sure her grey hair is neat enough, if her work clothes are tidy to make sure the teachers don't make fun of her.

The smell of fairy bread, sausages in bread and vegemite wafts through the air from the school's breakfast club. Although the guy who works at the canteen is odd and secretive, he's good company for a lonely woman.

"Hey Judith, how's your day goin'?" The masked canteen guy asks, with concern in his voice.

"Spick and span! I'm having a bit of trouble with students, but there is always an upside," Judith starts, only slightly believing her words "I'm just yet to find it." , she adds with uncertainty. "What about yourself, how have you been?"

The man behind the register starts rambling on about something to do with the state of the canteen (which is breaking down), but Judith only half listens, making short remarks every now and then. In her mind she's focused on surviving the day, with a warm cup of coffee in her hand, and the school's therapy dog, Lochie, in the other.

"...So this morning I took Alien to the vet, because he ate 2 blocks of chocolate, and he--"

"Sorry to interrupt but, may I order a coffee? Just my usual, I have to make sure I get to the office on time." Judith didn't want to be rude, especially not someone as nice as the canteen guy.

"Right away Judith! Sorry for the monologue."

Relieved, Judith sat down on a nearby bench that teachers often hit given its closeness to the carpark, but the chances of getting hit by a car while waiting for coffee is very low.

"So, I've asked before and I'll ask again, what is your name?" Judith inquired.

"Well, is it needed? Why do you need to know my name?"

Something about his tone sounded defensive, like he needed to prove something.

"Well how else will I address you? What do I call you, canteen guy?"

"Yes. Oh! Here, your coffee is ready!" The switch up was eerie, but Judith put it to her memory and let it go for now.

She collects her coffee, pays and begins her journey to the office.

She walks past students rushing into the school, one particular student giving her an evil eye. Lost in thought, Judith runs into a student, almost spilling her coffee.

"Oh dear! Are you okay? I'm so sorry, I'm really **clumsy** today!" Yet, the student doesn't seem to take the apology seriously, she just looks Judith up and down and walks away.

Judith solemnly continues her walk towards the office, awaiting the sadness she knows will cloud her day.



A day in the office- Judith's POV

Judith slumps into the office where her desk is just as the bell rings for the start of the day. Right behind the secretary comes the therapist officer and the therapy dog, Lochie. He is about 10 weeks old now, so he is still very young but very cute. Lochie walks into the office and quickly finds the dog bed that the school has for the therapy dogs. He snuggles up into it with his little teddy bear, which, mind you, is already half torn. Judith looks over at him and smiles.

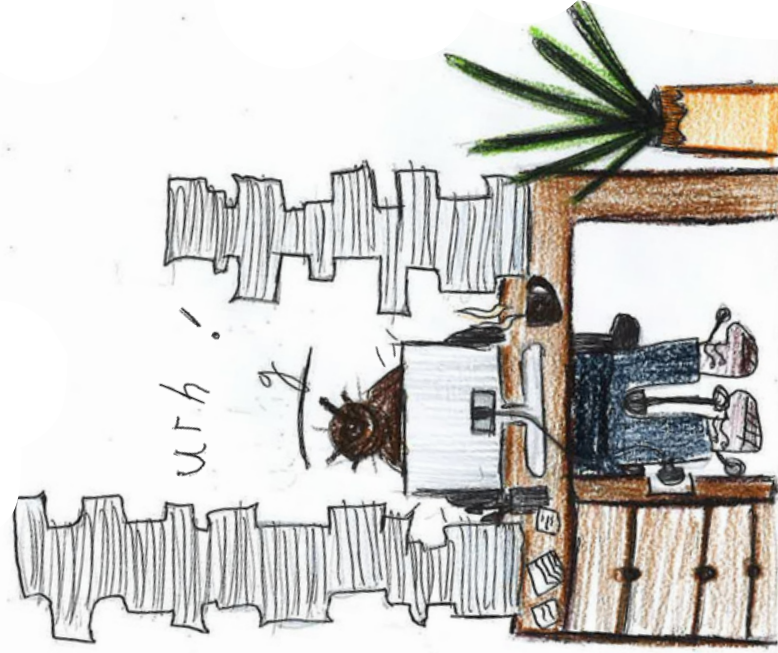
Even though she is busy, she can't help but think that Lochie is adorable.

As the day goes by, Judith gets more and more impatient. There is so much paperwork to finish, along with online work about school enrolments and other school stuff. Her desk is covered with papers, forms and an **event** to plan, while her computer is filled with tabs that she needs to complete. Judith sighs as she looks at the long list of things she still has to do. Every time she finishes one task, another one seems to appear. She starts to feel tired and frustrated by all the work. Meanwhile, Lochie is happily lying in his bed, cuddling his half-torn teddy bear. Judith looks at him again and wishes that she could just forget about all the paperwork for a while and play with him instead.

Judith stood outside and watched as the dog was taken to help a student in the science lab. She was curious about what was happening, so she decided to watch carefully. The dog was led across the car park by its owner. The science lab was directly opposite the car park, so it did not take very long to get there. Judith followed them with her eyes as they walked towards the science building. The dog seemed calm and well trained. It stayed close to its handler and did not get distracted by the cars or the students and staff walking nearby. Judith wondered why the dog had been brought to the science lab. She thought that maybe the student needed help with something. When they reached the science room, the therapist and the dog went inside. Judith stayed outside and watched from a distance. Everything seemed normal at first. There were students working at their tables and teachers moving around the room. Judith

could see people talking and carrying different pieces of equipment. Suddenly, Judith heard a strange noise coming from inside the science room. “BOOM!”

A loud explosion shook the building. Judith jumped in shock. She froze for a moment because she did not know what had happened. Her heart started beating rapidly. She looked towards the science lab and saw people rushing around inside. Smoke began to come from the doorway. Judith became worried about the students, the teacher and the dog. She wanted to know if everyone was safe. Without wasting any time, Judith ran towards the science room to see what had happened. She could hear people shouting and moving around. The quiet car park had suddenly become noisy and chaotic. Judith hoped that nobody had been badly hurt. She also wondered what had caused the strange explosion in the science lab. The lab smelt of chemicals that no wonder it caused the room to fill with smoke and Jake to break his lower thigh muscle and leg to snap.



A science explosion – Lochie's POV

The kid I was going to help was called Jake. I was walking across the crusty musty carpark towards the science lab. I had to hop to it, duty calls and I needed to get to the science room. On my way there I spotted some suspicious looking students talking about a potion and some sort of scheme. I managed to catch the words; puppy, talk and boom. The teacher walking me unlocked the door for me and let me go in. The therapy teacher left me and let me go into the classroom by myself.

When I walked in there were no tears. There was no screaming. No panic, fear or over the top nervousness like any therapy dog was used to. The student I was sent for looked happy. More than happy. Cunning. Jake blocked my way out, picked me up and placed me on the science table. They had a weird, neon red potion bottled up right next to me, and I had a strange feeling that I was the test subject! Suddenly the **bright** light radiating from concoction seemed brighter than ever before. Jake got some **elastic** bands and tied me up to the table. I made a small whimpering sound. I won't translate what that meant into English. Jake took the potion with the red gloopy stuff. Whatever the stuff was, it was crawling near to the edge of the bottle, the first drop oozed over the edge and fell. I squeezed my eyes shut. The next thing I knew there was a loud bang and smoke erupted around me. The **elastic** bands snapped. The kangaroo anatomy poster on the wall fell off and onto the floor. Fear clouded my mind. "AACKK!! What's going on?!" I yelled. In English. I yelled in the human language that they used at this school. The kid understood me. I can now talk in English. That defies all logic. Best I regroup and tell Judith about this.

(Which I could do now because I can TALK!!)

I bounced out of the science room, with eager eyes. "Judith! Judith!" I ran out to the office, yelling her name. (Which I can actually do!! I can't get over how I can talk!!)

Judith walked out of the office looking at me as if I'd just grown a second head. "Oh yeah, I can talk now." I said casually despite X really really excited. She stared at me blankly. I took this as a sign I should explain.

“I was walking across the car park to get the student who was in trouble in the science room and I was captured by the student who by the way they tricked me and there was some red goo and the kid poured it on me and then everything went boom and then I could talk.” I knew I could talk yet after looking back at that sentence, I definitely needed grammar lessons.

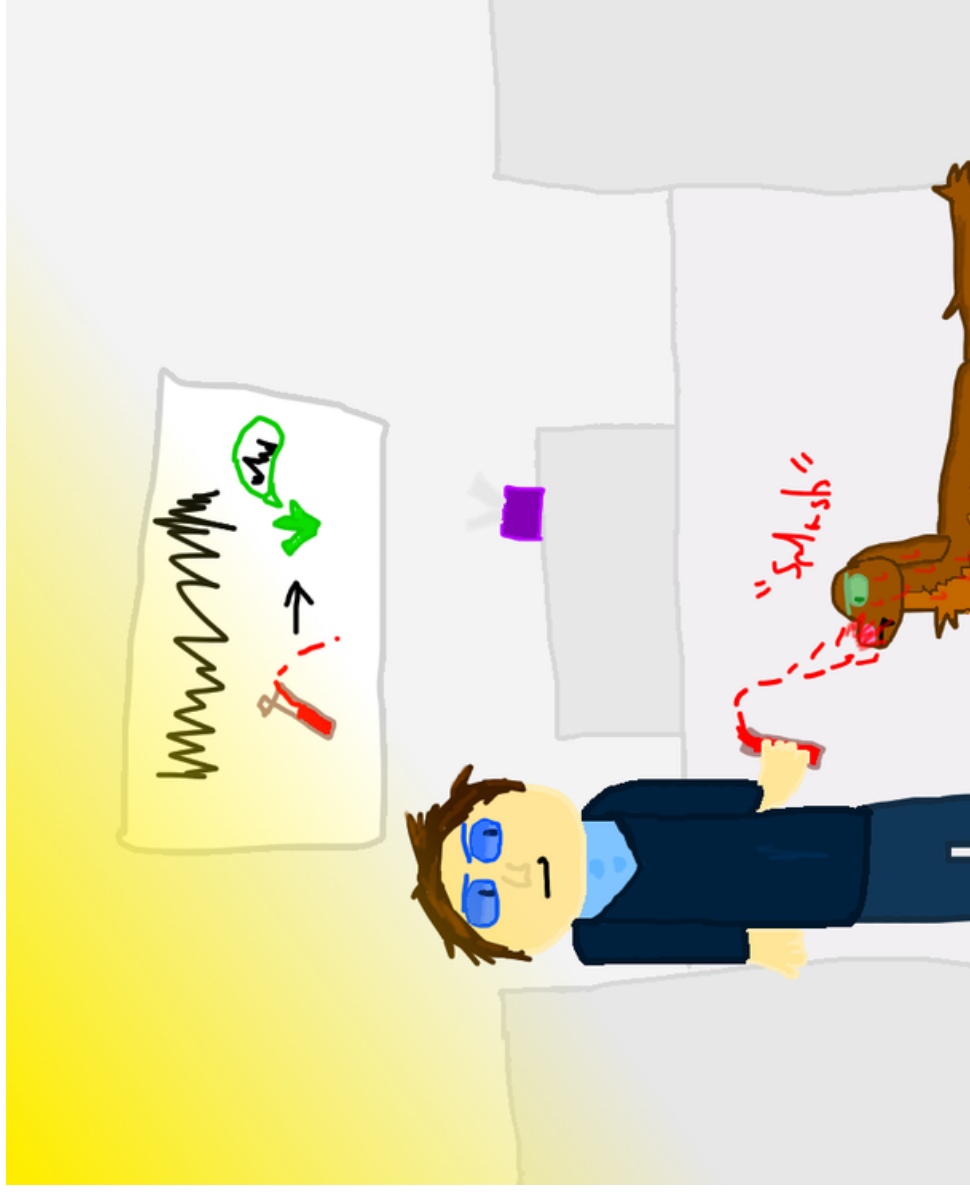
“You know, I can’t believe you can just suddenly talk. That is completely illogical! I must be dreaming!” Judith replied.

I nudged her with my nose. “Did you feel that?” I asked.

“Yes.” She replied.

“Then you’re not dreaming and I can talk.” I said, sounding like some brainrot addicted kid. “Wow, I can talk. Now I can talk, all I want to do is talk!! I wanna talk about EVERYTHING!” I added yelling into the air.

“Woah, calm down Lochie, you’re not going to suddenly stop being able to talk.” Judith said, looking slightly nervous. But I guess anyone would be if the dog you share an office with just started talking thanks to a student. “We should probably go and check if anyone was hurt.”



The Car Park- Judith's POV

Judith and Lochie hurried into the school car park with the food guy behind them. Smoke drifted from the science building while alarms echoed across the grounds. The cold afternoon wind pushed leaves and rubbish across the asphalt. Lochie stayed close beside Judith, his golden fur covered in dust.

Judith stopped beside her small hatchback and looked around. The car park was usually crowded with teachers, parents, and cars, but now it was almost empty. Several vehicles had cracked windows, hanging doors, and deep dents from the explosion earlier that afternoon.

Broken glass glittered across the ground beneath them. She took a breath, trying to understand what had happened. “We need to work out what we're dealing with,” Judith said. Lochie looked towards the food guy and gave a quiet growl. “I think we already know,” he replied. The food guy simply smiled and leaned against a damaged car.

Judith had known him for years. He had served her coffee almost every morning and always seemed relaxed, friendly, and completely unconcerned. Even after the explosion, he looked as though nothing unusual had happened. His blonde hair blew across his face as the wind grew stronger around them. Judith noticed.

Judith felt a chill despite the **crisp** cold air. “What are you?” she asked. The alien smiled. “You already know.” He raised one hand. A bolt of green energy shot across the car park. Judith and Lochie jumped apart as it smashed into a parked vehicle nearby with a crash.

Lochie charged immediately, barking furiously. The alien turned and pushed him away with a burst of green energy. Lochie flew backwards and landed hard beside another car. Judith rushed towards him, but he scrambled upright before she reached him. “I'm okay,” he said. Judith nodded and faced the alien.

The alien floated higher above the car park. Dark clouds twisted overhead, and thunder rumbled in the distance. Green sparks surrounded his body. Judith could feel the tyre iron shaking in her hand. She knew she was frightened, but she refused to run. The alien raised his hand again towards her.

Before he could fire, Lochie charged again. He leapt through the air and slammed into the alien. The impact knocked him sideways. Judith saw something strange. A bright green light was pulsing in the centre of his chest. It grew brighter whenever he used his powers. Judith suddenly understood the weakness.

“Lochie, keep him busy!” Judith shouted. Lochie grabbed the alien's arm with his teeth and refused to let go. The alien struggled violently, sending green sparks across the asphalt. Judith ran towards them with the tyre iron raised above her head. She pulled it back and swung with every bit of strength she had left inside.

The tyre iron struck the glowing centre of his chest. A deafening explosion shook the entire car park. Green light erupted from the alien's body and threw Judith and Lochie backwards. Judith hit the ground hard and struggled to breathe. Lochie rolled across the asphalt before quickly standing again nearby.

The alien screamed as his body flickered violently. He rose into the air one final time, surrounded by swirling green sparks. Then, without warning, the energy vanished. His body dropped heavily onto the asphalt. He remained completely still. The wind stopped almost instantly, leaving the car park strangely silent again.

Judith slowly pushed herself upright and looked towards the alien. Lochie stood beside her, watching carefully. “Is he dead?” Judith asked. Lochie approached the body and sniffed him. He waited for several seconds before turning back. “Bloody hell, yes,” he said. Judith stared at the food guy silently.

She remembered the mornings when he had served her coffee. He had joked with customers and always seemed cheerful. Judith had never imagined that he was hiding such a dangerous secret. Now the friendly food guy was gone. She felt strangely sad, even though he had attacked them only moments earlier.

Judith looked towards the school and saw smoke still rising from the damaged building. She knew teachers would soon return, and questions would follow. Nobody would believe that the friendly food guy had been an alien. She glanced at Lochie, who wagged his tail despite everything they had survived today.

Together they walked back across the car park. Judith lowered the tyre iron and finally let herself breathe. The school was safe, but the destruction around them was impossible to ignore. Lochie looked at the wrecked cars and sighed. “Damn,” he muttered. Judith smiled weakly. “Come on, mate.

A fortunate ending- Judith's POV

The battle was finally over. Judith took a deep breath. In... and out. The usually **bright**, shiny roof was coated in a thick layer of ash from the rubble below, so much that it coated Judith's mouth. It flickered between as orange as the vivid, Autumnal leaves and charcoal black. She couldn't move. All she could do was watch the fire before Lochie softly bit her hand and guided her away into her office.

Judith fell back into her disgusting, decrepit old office chair. She hated it. It squeaked when it spun, it clicked randomly and was probably older than her. But just today, she was beginning to realise that maybe, she didn't care. If the people running this school didn't appreciate her, did she really have to stay? Lochie didn't say anything. Or... maybe he did? Judith wasn't listening. Despite her fear she could feel something else bubbling up in her chest. Pride. She actually fought an alien! She could do anything this world threw at her. Or any world for that matter! She finally turned away from the window and saw Lochie with the office's scarlet red, rotary phone, calling the fire department. A jab of fear grabbed her heart for just a second. She had completely forgotten! What would she say to them? Aliens attacked and set the school on fire? She had to think of something quickly.

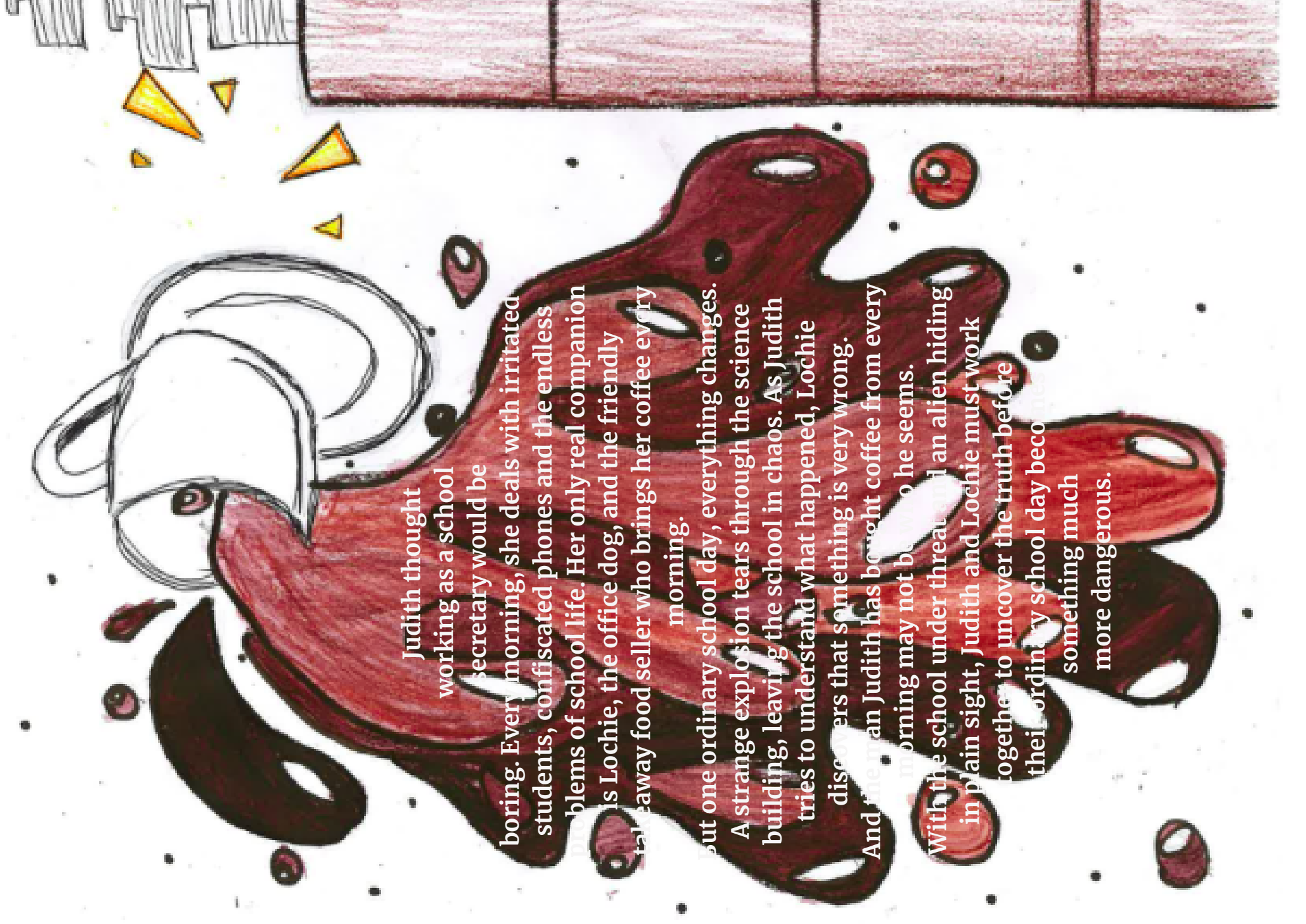
She picked up Lochie and hugged him tight. She'd had a great idea. Possibly a terrible idea, but possibly an idea that could kill two birds with one stone. Lochie's tail wagged as Judith described her idea to him. They sat together and watched as the white and red firetruck pulled into the car park, sirens blaring and lights flashing, as people clambered out of it and put out the fires. It didn't take long. The feeling was sort of... disappointing? She had fought actual aliens and cleanup only took around 7 minutes. She went outside to talk to the firefighters.

“Where did these fires come from?” The tallest one demanded “There’s this kid, Jake. I saw him in the parking lot. He was playing with firecrackers in the parking lot. I didn’t notice him in time.

He threw one of them at the petrol tank of one of the cars. It exploded... all of the cars went up” She caught her breath. They nodded. A police car arrived. They were told the exact same story. When they finally left to investigate Jake, Lochie strolled into the room, which was strange because Judith didn’t know he had left. But she noticed one thing. The drawer of confiscated items was wide open, and there were no firecrackers to be seen! Lochie bolted to his bed and curled up. A wide smile crept up onto Judith's face. Lochie truly was the best friend she could have.

She decided that, even with Jake gone, she couldn’t bear to stay in this school forever. Maybe she could do something else. Something that would make others happy, as well as herself. She scrawled a note onto a spare piece of paper, the sound of the pen scratching the table resounding like the hiss of an angry cat. The ink didn’t have time to dry on the page before a new sentence was written. Everything Judith hated about this school was being compiled into the longest resignation letter the school had ever seen. Judith ran out of the office, leaving the note behind and Lochie soon ran after her. She was going to work somewhere happy, where she could improve people's lives. She was going to live a peaceful life in the local library with Lochie, aiding whoever needed help studying. They walked together, the cool shade of the eucalyptus trees shielding them from the warm Australian sun hanging above the clouds in the perfect, extensive sky...



A cartoon illustration of a white dog with a large red stain on its head and a red puddle on the floor. The dog is looking down at the stain. The puddle is shaped like a large, stylized letter 'A'. There are several small red droplets scattered around the puddle. In the background, there is a red brick wall and some yellow triangular shapes.

Judith thought
working as a school
secretary would be
boring. Every morning, she deals with irritated
students, confiscated phones and the endless
problems of school life. Her only real companion
is Lochie, the office dog, and the friendly
takeaway food seller who brings her coffee every
morning.

But one ordinary school day, everything changes.
A strange explosion tears through the science
building, leaving the school in chaos. As Judith
tries to understand what happened, Lochie
discovers that something is very wrong.

And the man Judith has bought coffee from every
morning may not be who he seems.
With the school under threat and an alien hiding
in plain sight, Judith and Lochie must work
together to uncover the truth before
their ordinary school day becomes
something much
more dangerous.