



CK Reporter of the Week
Lilly Warneke, Golden

New 'Aladdin' lacks the old magic

Most kids grow up watching the beloved 1992 classic "Aladdin," but now kids may grow up watching this new reboot.

However, despite incredible special effects, jaw-dropping costumes, and the actors and actresses doing incredible work, the movie seems like a hastened rip-off of the original.

Throughout the movie, there were unimaginable special effects, from the magic carpet scene to the scene in the cave.

This may have been one of Hollywood's best special effects job.

Despite the special effects and costumes, this movie does not live up to the original whatsoever.

And, in the multiple market scenes, there were lots of incredibly accurate costumes, while Jasmine's dresses throughout the movie were beautiful.

Yet it constantly felt as though vital pieces had been cut out.

Lots of iconic scenes from the movie were either taken out entirely or merely butchered down.

Another piece of this new adaptation that just doesn't quite work is Aladdin almost constantly, until the end, misjudging Jasmine and making her seem like less of the amazing woman she is.

Some of the pluses, of which there are few, are that Aladdin (*Mena Massoud*) and Jasmine (*Naomi Scott*) complement each other throughout the whole movie.

From a new dance scene in which they sway so in synch, to the "A Whole

New World" scene where they sing in perfect harmony, the two couldn't be more perfect for their roles.

However, that is not to be said for all the actors in the movie.

Will Smith, who plays the Genie and who has appeared in all the "Men In Black" movies, does not seem to be the right fit for this role. He doesn't seem to be prepared for a kid-audience role.

Another piece of the movie that makes it so much worse than the original is the fact that it has a 40-minute longer run time, which doesn't make sense, since scenes that felt key to the original movie are missing.

It is also frustrating, having seen all three Disney adaptations -- the animated movie, the TV series and this latest live version -- to have what felt like key details fully excluded, and having new irrelevant ones added.

Despite the special effects and costumes, this movie does not live up to the original whatsoever.

Some of the roles feel miscast, key scenes are left out, and women are downgraded.

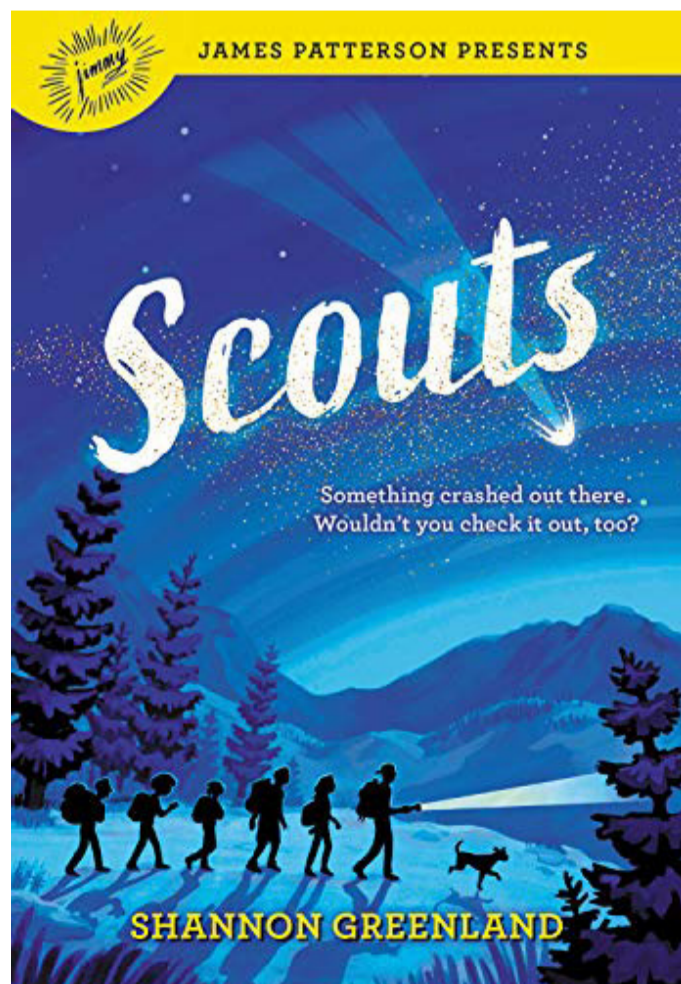
There are also multiple points during which little kids could be easily scared, and given nightmares.

This is not a movie that I believe is worth spending 128 minutes of your time to see.



By Ariana Bates-Ehrlich,
12, a CK Reporter
from Denver

Loyalty, courage, cleverness combine in novel



"Scouts," by Shannon Greenland, is about Annie.

Annie is not your typical teenage girl. The year is 1985 and she has more friends that are boys than girls.

Her town does not have a scout troop, so she likes to think or at least joke that she and her friends, Rocky, Beans (*yes, that's his name*) and Fynn, are the scout troop.

They go camping, climb other people's buildings, and hangout.

Annie's week is thrown for a loop when Fynn's cousin Scarlett comes to town.

Since Annie's only friends are boys, she is not exactly accustomed to girls.

Not only that, but they had plans to climb up the neighbor's silo to watch a meteor shower, which is not encouraged.

Somehow, though, they get Scarlett to climb up and not snitch.

The meteor shower starts and it is beautiful, until a meteor is headed their direction and does not look to be stopping.

They all duck, and the flying chunk of space rock whizzes over their heads, landing about 15 miles away.

Luckily for them, Beans is one of the smartest kids in the grade, and, by doing a quick calculation

he is able to draw up a map to the meteor and their journey begins.

However, this particular quest has more depth than the curiosity of a few kids.

Beans' parents recently split up, and consequently they have been struggling to make ends meet.

The only scouts that know this are Beans and Annie, and they are hoping to sell chunks of the meteor to get money and save his house.

However, the path to the meteor is filled with all sorts of obstacles, from raging rivers to life threatening crazies!

This is a book that seemed hard to understand at first, but, as the plot developed, it became hard to put down.

I really enjoyed it and am sure to read it again sometime.

It is a moderate read at 273 pages. I recommend this book for anyone between the ages of 10 and 15.



By Jack Vanourek,
13, a CK Reporter
from Littleton





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Zoo joins in rescuing African flamingos



The lesser flamingo is related to the taller birds familiar in the United States
(Photo: Denver Zoo)

Recently, there was an emergency rescue in South Africa to help the lesser flamingos, a smaller type of flamingo than the tall, familiar birds native to this hemisphere.

The rescue got under way in January. Kamfers Dam in the Northern Cape dried up because of an intense drought and mechanical errors.

Many baby chicks and unhatched eggs were abandoned by their parents and became overheated and exhausted.

Fortunately, volunteers from America and Europe came to help.

The group of American volunteers included staff from the Denver Zoo: Anton Morrison, Eva Smoot and Katie Vyas.

Morrison provided insight about his experience in South Africa helping the lesser flamingo chicks.

Asked about his reaction to hearing about the crisis, Morrison said that it was crazy to think that this was happening in real life and real time.

He explained that the Disney nature film, "Crimson Wings," which spoke about the adult flamingos abandoning the chicks that were too small to move around or the chicks that weren't hatched, was similar

to what was happening in South Africa.

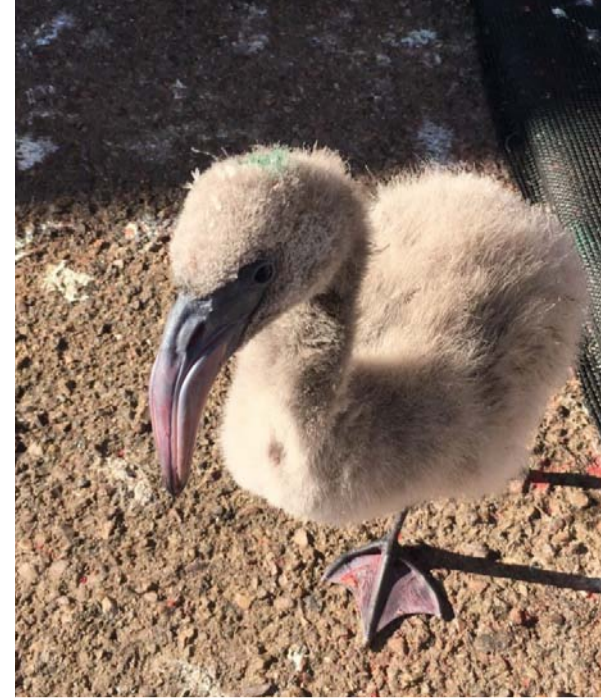
As for the flamingos that could move around on their own and were older, their parents brought them to water where they could access their food source: blue green algae.

But as the water dried up, the flamingos' food source went away, causing them to need to move on in order to survive.

He explained that when he first arrived in South Africa, the people who were working around him had to do their normal jobs plus help the flamingo chicks.

There was also a holiday the first week that he arrived, causing people to be constantly in and out of the hospital where they were treating the birds.

Some of Morrison's jobs included tube-feeding the chicks and monitoring them, as well as what would have been his normal jobs at the Denver Zoo: cleaning and making sure they had fresh food and water.



A young lesser flamingo at the University of Pretoria in South Africa
(Photo: Denver Zoo)

(The lesser flamingo species is currently listed as "near threatened.")

Though this rescue has required many supplies, resources and time; Morrison said that it was very rewarding to see the start of the flamingo chicks being released back into the wild.

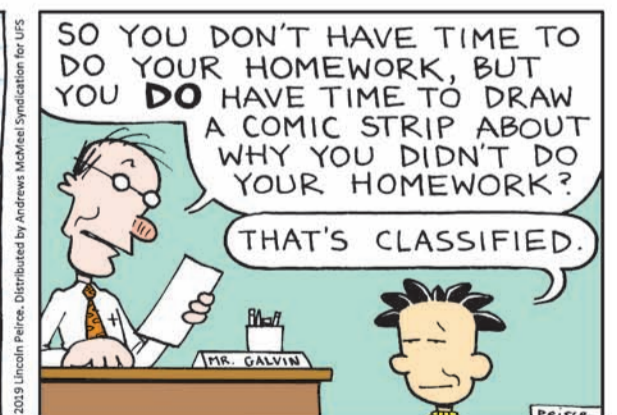
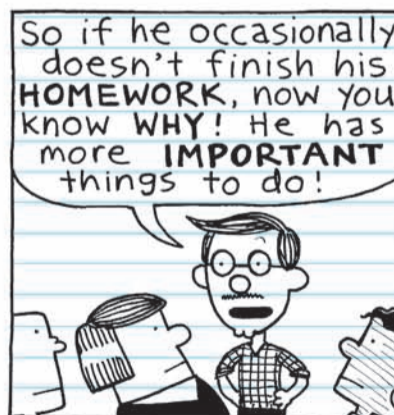
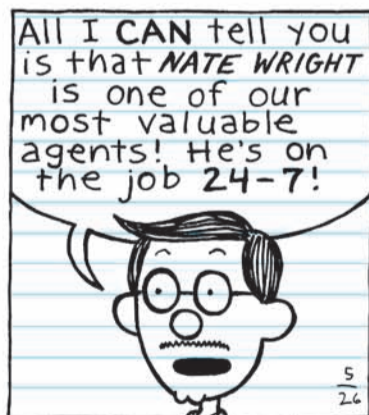
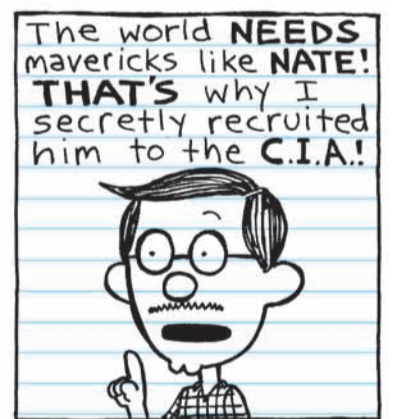
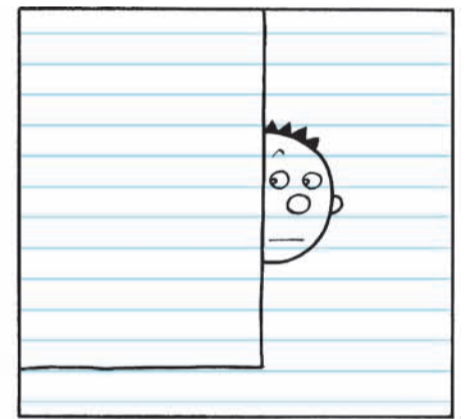
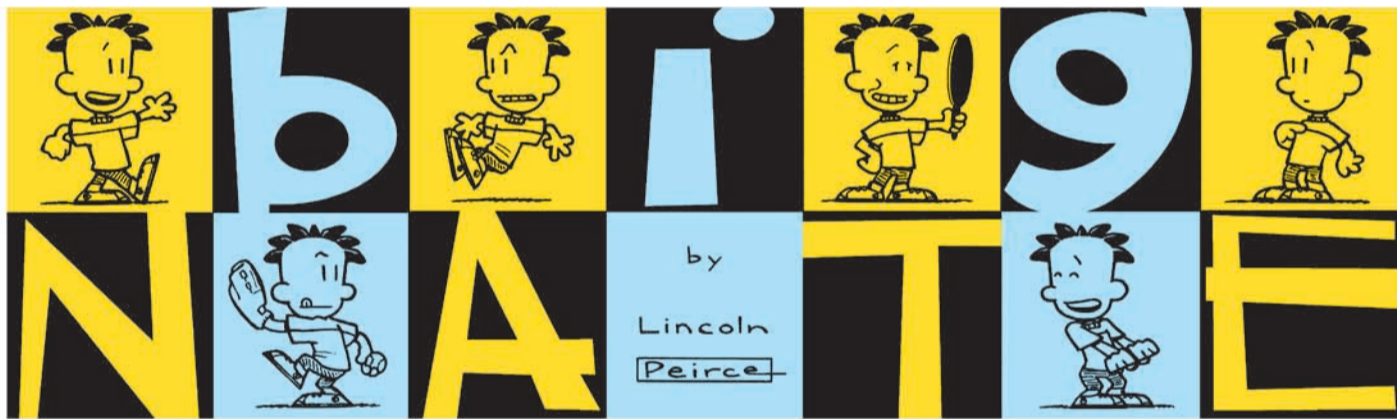
He had been treating the chicks since Day 1; seeing them in critical condition and requiring special attention and medical needs up until the chicks starting to get healthy and eating on their own.

"It's so amazing ... it seemed unreal ... it's an amazing feeling and it just shows how much zoos try to help animals get back into the wild..." said Morrison about how rewarding it was to see the flamingos released.

"I knew that this was exactly what I was made for," he said. "I know it sounds corny, but it felt like everything I've done kinda led up to me being able to go help out there."



By Avery MacKenzie, 13, a CK Reporter from Fort Collins



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Happy ending in the garbage war

In our April 30 issue, we reported on an argument between Canada and the Philippines over shipments that were supposed to be recyclable plastic but turned out to be filthy, unrecyclable trash.

A furious Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte had even threatened war over the mix-up, which had left his country with 2,500 tons of nasty garbage.

Later, instead of threatening war, Duterte said he would simply load the garbage onto ships and dump it into the ocean within Canadian waters.

Duterte has a reputation for wild statements, but he seems to have finally gotten the attention of the Canadian government.

Canada has agreed to pick up the garbage and take it back to Canada.

It hasn't been explained how Canada will pay to repair the situation, which was caused by a careless private company.

But this happy ending is also a chance to remind people everywhere about how recycling works.

When you put out materials for recycling, they have to be clean.

Pizza boxes aren't recyclable because of the grease on them, and one beer bottle with a little left over can ruin a whole box of paper and cardboard.

Learn the rules and follow them! photo/Correogsk

Reliving the first moon landing with IMAX film

"Apollo 11" is a new film at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science's IMAX theater, featuring never-before-seen footage of the well-known story of man's first space mission to the Moon.

In 2017, a team from NASA and the National Archives and Records Administration discovered 11,000 hours of unreleased film from before, during, and after the Apollo 11 journey.

They also found recordings of all communications sent between NASA's headquarters and the spacecraft. It was this footage that was meticulously edited and made into the movie, which commemorates the 50-year anniversary of the moon landing.

One unique aspect of the film is that it is in a 70mm format, meaning the quality of the film is very in-depth and zoomed-in.

For example, as Neil Armstrong is putting on his helmet before embarking on the mission, you can see every individual hair on his head.

The film features original footage of the Apollo 11 mission including of the launch complex, spectators enthusiastically waiting to see the launch, the launch itself, the journey to and from the Moon, exploration on the Moon's surface, the spacecraft's re-entry, and the astronaut's recovery.

Also featured is footage of NASA employees communicating with the astronauts, and all of the work done in the control room that made the launch possible.



From this movie, I learned about the different stages of launch, separation, orbit, landing, and re-entry from the detailed diagrams and animations the film included.

In 2017, a team from NASA and the National Archives and Records Administration discovered 11,000 hours of unreleased film from before, during, and after the Apollo 11 journey.

These components of the film helped me understand more about the Apollo 11 odyssey and also helped me learn more about the behind-the-scenes efforts of all of the NASA workers.

I definitely recommend this film if you are intrigued by space or if you want to get a behind-the-scenes look at the Apollo 11 mission.

For more information, go to <https://www.dmns.org/visit/imax/>



By Margaux Dempsey, 13, a CK Reporter from Arvada

Not all refugees head for the United States

While Americans are well aware of the large number of refugees trying to enter our country to escape problems in their own, we're not the only choice desperate people make.

Doctors Without Borders, or, to use its official French name, *Médecins Sans Frontières*, reports that they are treating a large number of refugees from Venezuela who have crossed the single border separating their nation from Colombia.

MSF is a non-profit organization that provides medical aid in places where there is conflict, disasters or other reasons why medical help is not available.

For the past year, they have been helping out in several Colombian cities where refugees have come, trying to escape the severe problems in Venezuela.

Some of those problems come from an economy that simply isn't working, which has resulted in shortages of food and nearly everything else.

In addition, there is a campaign to replace the

current head of government, based on suspicion that the results of the last elections were not honestly reported.

As a result of the political issues, there have been violent clashes that refugees want to get away from.

In November, the United Nations refugee agency, UNHCR, reported that three million people had fled Venezuela, which would be about one-tenth of its total population.

According to the UN, one million of those refugees crossed the border into Colombia.

MSF has set up clinics in several towns and cities near the border, but is also using vans and buses to provide mobile medical services throughout those cities and in nearby areas.

MSF reports that they have performed more than 9,800 medical treatments in the border area, often for infections and other problems that come from a lack of treatment and a lack of healthy living conditions.

In addition, they provide mental health treatment for people who are stressed and depressed by what they have been going through.



Patients, many of whom are migrants from Venezuela, wait for their medical consultations with MSF staff at a clinic in Colombia

(Photo: Doctors Without Borders)



Sudoku

	5	4	6		
6			3		
4					2
	1			4	
	3	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

On this date in 1892, John Muir founded the Sierra Club, one of the first preservationist groups in the world, so our answers this week will begin with "S."

1. Some types of this vegetable are butternut, acorn and zucchini.
2. An indoor game similar to handball, but played with racquets on an enclosed, four-walled court
3. The first Latina on the Supreme Court, and the only current Justice whose last name starts with an S.
4. California's capital city
5. Pen name of the author and illustrator of "If I Ran the Zoo," "McElligot's Pool," "On Beyond Zebra," "Thidwick the Big Hearted Moose" and about 60 other books
6. The only member of the United Kingdom that starts with "S"
7. Arapahoe County municipality between Englewood and Fort Logan, it shares its name with a city in Wyoming.
8. Shoshone woman who helped guide Lewis & Clark
9. The elder of the Pevensie sisters in "The Chronicles of Narnia"
10. Smooth-skinned animal that looks like a lizard but is actually an amphibian.

(answers on Page Four)

Conservation returns crested ibis to Korea

While the Denver Zoo and other conservationists were working to help lesser flamingos in South Africa, Koreans were celebrating the return of a different wading bird to their nation.

The crested ibis is native to Japan, Russia, China, and North and South Korea, but had been extinct on the Korean Peninsula since 1979.

However, the rare bird was the subject of a major captive breeding effort, and, on World Biodiversity Day and World Wetlands Day, 40 crested ibises were released into the wild in South Korea.

South Korean wildlife experts had prepared the wetlands in which the birds were released, to make sure they could find food and nesting grounds.

Beijing had donated some of the endangered ibises to the South Korean breeding program, which now has 363 of the birds to continue its efforts.

The crested ibis is sometimes called "the Japanese crested ibis," and its scientific name, "*Nipponia nippon*," comes from the Japanese word for that nation.

But the bird has a special place in the hearts of Koreans, because of a children's song about it that became popular in the 1920s, when Korea was under Japanese rule.

The song said the ibis's call expressed sorrow for a missing mother, but was understood to be about Korea's loss of freedom, and so was declared illegal until Japan left in 1945.

photo/Danielinblue



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To read the sources for these stories

Peace in the Garbage War

Refugees in Colombia

The Crested Ibis Returns

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

The Crown and the Colliers

Chapter Eleven -- City Gates

Our story so far: The only chance to save the poisoned Princess is to keep her body packed in ice and get her to the hospital in the capital, where her enemies live.

The sun was rising as they came within sight of the city.

By the time the wagon of ice had arrived back at the river, it was decided that the road through the forest was too narrow and difficult for the trip. They needed to get to the hospital as quickly as possible, but they also had to avoid jolting the Princess.

So instead of that route, they took a longer way, first on the road over the pass, then cutting through Ruritania to the main highway that led back to their own capital city.

It was good they went at night, when most border guards were asleep and smugglers regularly traveled from one country to another.

They managed to get into Ruritanian territory without being delayed by answering questions from the Ruritanians, and back into their own country without being arrested.

And it was good that they were coming to the city from this direction. If the Queen's forces were searching for Rupert, they would not be looking for him on this road.

But the fact remained that, in less than an hour, they would be at the city gates, and Kurt still had not thought of a way to get the Princess safely into the hospital. A band of 10 Shorts on a wagon pulled by two weary horses could hardly force their way into the city, and without Rupert as a hostage, they had nothing to bargain with.

Yet they had no choice. The Princess lay as quiet as death in the bed of ice, pale and cold. Her breath still came, slowly, painfully, rattling in her throat, but still it came.

The towers of the city were closer, and they could see the pennants fluttering in the breeze. There would be no fuss over an old wagon with a crew of Shorts and a load of ice, nothing to bring archers and musketeers to the walls.

But when the guards saw the young woman half-buried in ice, things would become very difficult indeed. And Kurt had no plan, nor did he have time to stop and think of one.

"We're being followed," one of the Shorts said, turning around to look behind them.

"Who is it?" Kurt asked, also turning.

"I can't see yet." The Short stood up on the wagon box. "Soldiers. Coming fast."

The others grabbed the bows and arrows they had brought with them, but as they looked back, their faces fell. It was not a small troop of soldiers, coming leisurely in from night patrol.

It was a gigantic mass of cavalry, thundering down the road towards the little wagon as if to crush it before it even reached the gates of the city.

"Keep going," Kurt ordered the driver. A few of the men walking behind began to push the wagon, as if this would help the weary horses stay ahead. Of course, it was pointless. Pointless to flee, pointless to fight. "How did they get behind us?" he wondered, but as he did, the Short who was standing on the wagon box shouted:

"Ruritanians! They're Ruritanians!"

And then they were close enough that the green pennants could be seen, with Prince Karl's flag foremost amongst them. Their hooves shook the ground as the horsemen swept past, splitting to go on either side of the wagon as they thundered on towards the city.

One band of horsemen drew up at the wagon, and Prince Karl himself, his helmet glistening in the morning sun, rode alongside, tall but dark and muscular, his bright teeth smiling from beneath a thick mustache. "Kurt, my friend, it is good to see you!" he said.

"Oh, Majesty, it is good to see YOU!" Kurt laughed. "This cannot be luck?"

"Your messenger got through!" the Prince said. "My guards tried to stop him, but he made so much noise that I awoke myself and came to the gate!"

"My messenger?" Kurt asked.

"I can't blame them for trying to stop him," Prince Karl said. "A Tall, dressed in the uniform of the Queen's Own Guard? He's lucky he wasn't shot on sight!"

"Oh, that messenger," Kurt said, and he looked at Gabe and started to laugh. "Yes, I am also surprised he got through. Surprised, but delighted!"

Prince Karl looked down at the Princess in the ice, and the mood once more turned somber. "She lives."

"She lives," Kurt confirmed. "But we don't know if she can be saved. You're here to get us into the hospital?"

"It's too dangerous," Prince Karl said. "Too many people, too many nooks and crannies. Once inside, we could never guarantee her safety. I'll order the hospital to come outside the walls. My men will surround the city and set up a tent. She will be treated there, and, if the doctors do their jobs well, everyone will go home peacefully."

"If not..." Kurt said.

"This is only my palace guard," the Prince said. "The rest of my army follows."

"My friend, we do not want war," Kurt said.

"Nor do I," the Prince agreed. "But we will have justice."

He looked again at the unconscious woman in the ice. "So this is the little girl who has caused you such trouble for all these years."

"Never a bit," Kurt said. "Never a bit."

"She is still alive," the Prince said. "Surely, she wouldn't live this long just to die now, in the shadow of the palace that is rightfully hers."

"I pray you are right, Majesty," Kurt said. "But we are a people who have suffered much, and often, and for far too long."

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



Sudoku Solution

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

Brainteaser Solution

(see Page Three)

10 right - Wow!

7 right - Great!

5 right - Good

3 right - See you next time!



1. squash 2. squash 3. Sonia Sotomayor 4. Sacramento 5. Dr. Suess
6. Scotland 7. Sheridan 8. Sacagawea 9. Susan 10. salamander

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