

CLASS NOVEL

by *Fiona Jones*

WHY WE LIKE IT: *According to the author this story was turned down numerous times. We can't understand why. We're picky as f*** and we loved it! In fact, this lickety-split tumble rumble is just the kind of literary chicanery that yuckles our chucks. Word play playfully played with to play with us till we're all played out. The originality of the format and the many convincing voices are just two more reasons FOTD said YES when others said no. The grammar slips and misspells are intentional. So are the gender rivalry, body shaming and cartoon style violence, so leave it on the table, okay?*

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by Fiona M Jones

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Once upon a time—or should that be ones a pond a time?—there were 25 primary-school children whose teacher thought it would be ever so nice to put together a class story. “Collaborative Creativity” was a big educational buzzword that year and selling dreadful things to parents for the benefit of school funds was a Parent Council priority every year. And so it came to pass (or fail).

The rules stood as follows:

1. Each child to write one chapter, with no assistance other than a computer spell-checker.
2. Names to be drawn in random order: no prior agreements between authors.
3. Each writer to compose his/her chapter consistently with previous story events, but “plot twists” allowed.
4. Everyone to pester their hapless relatives to buy the finished product at £14.99.

One by one, names were drawn and pencils were chewed. Chapters appeared, at irregular intervals, and quarrels ensued as to interpretations of Rule 3. Several members of the class accused others of bad spelling but were silenced by assurances that “Spell Check gone through it and says it was OK”. The item, to which we shall euphemistically refer as a book, was printed and distributed, and the school fund even began to call a profit.

Most of the parents were proudly delighted to call their children Real Little Authors with a Great Future, but several made the mistake of reading the book and began to complain. Either their child hadn't been given sufficient help to outdo other children's work, or other children's work was substandard and in bad taste. The general consensus was that Jade's and Greg's work should have been omitted and at least one of them punished. Ali's and Leia's parents stopped speaking to one another over the continuity issue between their children's compositions. Shelby's father swelled with pride over his daughter's strenuous use of a thesaurus but could never find anyone to agree with him. Maddelynn-Leigh's mother and grandmother were disgusted that no special award had been given out for Best Chapter, since it was obvious to anyone that their child would have won; to omit such an award, they insisted, was just one more example of the teacher's evident dislike of their child and unwillingness to nurture her talents.

The Parent Council quickly spent the money on fake grass for the front of the school before refunds could be called for. The teacher, who was only in her second year, had a nervous breakdown, left the profession and went to teach yoga instead. And the only child who ended up writing as a career was Greg, who grew up to produce Sunday school textbooks. There's a moral in here somewhere.

The Four Teen Agers Adventure

A Class Novel by ROOM 9

Names

Alex	Ali	Ayesha
Ben	Brad	Carrie
Casey	Charlotte	Dillan
Genie	Greg	Harry
Jade	Jessica	Jian
Jonny	Kadin	Leia
Maddelynne-Leigh	Paul	Regan
Sammie	Shelby	Tilly
Ty		

14-99£ ITS A BARGING!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

Chapter 1 ByTilly

Ones a pond a time there were four teen agers.

There were tow boys and tow girls.

The girls were cold Lilly and Milly, the boys were cold Garry and Larry.

Lilly and milly and garry and Larry were good friends, they had adventures.

Lilly had brunet hair and milly had bond hair, they were slim and nice looking, they all ways had things done like nails and tans and had cool clothes.

Both of the boys had brown hair.

Chapter 2 Harry.

1 week end day the 4 pals gone for a boat ride on a lake. It was a normal boat lake. There was a stream what went in the lake one end and gone out the other. Some thing gone wrong at the out end.

The swoosh gates were broke and there boat went SWOOSH! Throe the open bit and under a road bridge and in to a big river and over a water fall and a round a lot of bends and things and out to sea. And they ware screaming like terror dactyls the hole time. So they were out at sea. They might of drowned.

Chapter 3 by Shelby.

“This is an adventure” They remarked. “we are frightened” They admitted. The small rowing boat rocked a bout in the large waves and it felt as if it might tip right over.

“What shall we do? They queried. It was slowly beginning to get dark. “It is getting dark” They exclaimed.

They tried hardly to row but it become dark and they were lost. “We are lost at sea” They regretted. “We could drown” They added. “This is terrible” They grieved.

The four friends shouted loudly and yelled force fully but there was no one in ear shop.

“We are cold and tired” They complained. “We must huddle to gether and try to keep warm” They decided. So they did.

Chapter 4. By REGAN.

This chapter is a story poem.
We wonder if they will ever get home.
They were out in a boat.
That might not float.
Lilly and Milly.
Were being silly.
Fussing and crying.
And they said they was dying.
The boys tried very hard to row.
But the boat would not go.
And all of that night.
Was a really horrible fright.
With nothing in sight.
For the whole night.
It might be a very sad end.
For the group of 4 friends.

Chapter 5 by Jessica

Lilly and Milly were sensible girls. They were mature and thought full. They would of helped with the rowing, if the boys would of let them have the ores. Boys aren't all ways stronger than girls. Lilly was taller than the boys even not in heals, and Milly was the same height as the boys.

Milly did cry, but Lilly put her arm round her and she was brave. In the morning it got light and Lilly saw something. It was a dessert island. The boat made it to the dessert island and they all got out on the beach.

The boys found a coca nut and thought it was a ball and they were just going to play foot ball all day if the girls didn't stop them. So they stopped them and they all made a shelter. No body had a phone (any way a dry phone) so they might be stranded for a long time because they could not signal. Lilly made a fire by rubbing sticks together and the boys finely said thank you. Milly was all ready nice to Lilly.

Then they got sticks and they found some worms and Lilly pulled some threads out her jumper and they made fishing rods with strings on and tied worms on to the strings and got fish for breakfast. Lilly didn't like killing fish but it was survival, and fish don't have the same nevers system with pane. On the island there were coca nuts and edible berry too. All four of the teen agers were good at gathering food and they all worked together and did their bit nicely.

Chapter 6 By brad.

There was scorpions on the island and the scorpions lived on a recked ship, if you went near the reck you'd get stang. The scorpions wanted to sting the people. They wanted the island to there self. If a scorpion stung you you'd die of poison. Larry and garry wanted to explore the reck and one of them nearly got stint. They do it with there tales.

Chapter 7 by sammie

milly is a good girl but I thing she cries in the nigh wen she mist her mum and her TV and her stuff. In the day time it is nice on the beech but I dot lick it at night. The others lathed at milly if they no she cried and they mit call her fat. But she isn't to fat people shod be nice. If they are nice to milly she bought home lots of buries and coca nuts. If they art nice milly wont.

Chapter 8 Ben.

The boys and girls lived on the island a long time with no groan ups and they got used to it. They never did they're teeth tho. But they did not have any sugar. So they're teeth wert bad.

Their was a totally magic way to get on the reck and explore. If you whistle a hi note with bits of grass in your thumbs all the scorpions all run a way and hide. So garry larry lilly and milly all explored the reck and it was total magic. It was a pirate reck and there ware swords and cut lesses and gold and totally amazing old days stuff.

They looked for things to signal with. So that they wood get rescue. "You can signal with a canon said Garry. "Magic said larry. And they found gun powder and made it explode in the canon and they they weight for rescue.

Chapter 9 By Ayesha.

This is not the end of the story, lots of us have not had a go. When Lily saw what the boys were doing she came and Milly to help. They used up all the gun-powder, so it made a big explosion but do you realize how desert the island is. No big ships come anywhere near. Maybe there was a thunder-storm happening nearby at the same sort of time or an earth-quake so nobody would now. Anyway nobody new. But they caught plenty and plenty of fish every day so they didn't starve, they just lost a bit of weight, which made Milly healthier and she did not cry so much. And they washed themselves in the sea and you can split up the end of a twig into a thing you use like a tooth-brush. They dug a deep hole for a toilet and they used leaves for toilet-paper which is not rude if it's for survival. And they found blankets and stuff in the pirate ship so they had quiet nice beds. So it was not a bad life. I'd live there and not have school.

Chapter 10 BY TY

It actually was an Earthquake happened in the last chapter, you know what happens after an Earthquake. When you're near the sea. One day the sea just goes away. If you're stupid you go down the beach like Oh WOW look at this corral! Then the sea comes back faster than a train and boys are you dead. That's a Tsunami. If you got a Brian you don't do no such thing you run up hill as fast as you can. Garry and Larry and Lilly knew what it was and they all shouted a bad word that's not there fault if it's a real emergency. Mums and dads swear all the time. Guess how it went down going Oh WOW look at the corral... Milly. There was a ROARRRRR and Milly was gone. Garry and Larry and Lilly were up hill holding on to trees and that and they saw it happen, they said the F word.

Chapter 11 Charlotte's Chapter.

Scene: An Island, a Tsunami is Coming.

Lilly: Isn't there anything we can do?

Garry: She can't swim the waves are going too fast.

Larry: The waves might roll over the whole island!

Lilly: AAAAA! It's rolling up the hill.

Garry: That's Millie's body floating in it.

Larry: BOO HOO! She is DEAD!

Lilly: Holed on tight to these trees.

Garry: Is the water going to reach us?

Larry: Is it going to sweep us away to our death?

Lilly: Oh wait a minute it stopped.

Garry: The waters are going down again.

Larry: We're SAVED!!!

Lilly: That's normal sea level again.

Garry: Look over there is that Millie's dead body?

Larry: OH NO I can't look.

Lilly: OH poor Milly I was so fond of her.

Garry: Let's do CPR.

The 3 children do CPR and Milly is OK.

Chapter 12 by jade

It was just CPR it was kiss of life to and Gary dun it to her and wen there 20 there'll get marred and there'll have kids if you don't no how than its they things what get a embryo started on the living and growing DVD and there'll get a part meant wen you get kids you get money off the well fair.

Chapter 13 Kadin.

The 4 teen-agers went down the hill. Their shelter was washed away. But the pirate ship was all flung up on the land and it was up side down and it cold be a shelter. Only they hat to get rid of the scorpions once for all or they wold die in there sleep. So they made smoke they burnt sea weed in till the place got so full of smoke the scorpions could not breath and they all ran away. Maybe there were mere cats on that island and when the scorpions were running out the mere cats eat them. We do not want things to dye out but I had rather scorpions dyed out than giant pandas. There were not pandas on that island because of no bamboos. But there was some times dolphins in the sea. Garry made friends with a dolphin and tried to teach it to take a message. I think they will get back home some day.

Chapter 14 JIAN the MAN

Gary called his dolphin Spider Pig because it had that kind of look. But it was gray Gary used to go for a ride and after the ride the dolphin gave him fish. Dolphins are clever animals and they some times think a human is there pet, they don't no we are clever because when they see us in the water were not so good. So we do as pets. I gues he called gary Spider pig in dolphin language. The dolphin tort gary tricks and he learn how to be a purl diver so if he ever gets out of here hell be rich. Gary kept a lode of purls in a wood chest and he got thousands. He promise to share them with the others because there his friends and that is the right thing to do as long as there not greedy.

Chapter15 By Jon AKA Jonny.

Problem with getting treasure is it makes you funny in the head like wining the lottery. Garry got problems he started thinking the 3 others mit steel his stuff. And they said of corse not but he did not be leave them. So garry oat to have been a goody but now he is a baddy. He berried his stash of purls and got all funny about how to mark the spot but not so any won cold fined it. The others followed him cause they war warred about him and he thinks they followed him cause they was after his stash. He done tricks on them like traps where you walk along and treed on something and fall in a whole. Won of them fell in the hole you decide.

Chapter 16 by Casey.

It wool have to be larry enuf bad stuff has happen to milly all ready and you want it fare only lilly cant get hurt she is the clever 1 and we need her kind of in charge other wise its disaster so

any way larry was laying in the trap hole going OOOH my leg my leg and milly can be clever to and she herd him she cant poll him out but lilly fix up a leaver thing and got him up drag him too there boat hut place and tock care of his wands he well get better in a weak so mean wile what do we do bout garry

Chapter 17 By Alex.

Millies in fact a better nurser then Lily because she has had so much accidence of her self she nows how you feel, per haps shell be a doctor or nurse when she gets groan up, its called bed side manor, the patience fell great full about you and get better better, an she cud do fizzy O too, so larry did quit well and his leg was gone to be fine.

Chapter 18 By Maddelynne-Leigh.

Millie is such a grate nurse Larry falls in love with her and now its a love triangle what with her been all ready engaged to Garry. Millie likes them both equal and her hart brakes for there tuff luck and she just cant decide because they really look nearly the same but you cant have 2 husband's or wife's and so 1 of them will have to go.

Both of them thing she is beautiful with her blond hair and lips like a flour and sweet natured she used coca nut oil for her tan skin and berry juice for lip stick and oil slick stuff out the sea for eye lashes and no body can assist her charms.

Lilly probable does not ware enough make up but Lilly is not jealous because there BFFs any way Milly all ways tells Lilly complements to build her self steam but I think Garry will going to kid nap Milly like a prate now he is turned bad.

Chapter 19 by Greg

Well of course the kidnap thing all ended in a fight. A real excellent fight, much more interesting than anything else that ever happened to them in their sad boring life. At the end of the fight the floor was covered in blood, there was blood coming out their wounds, blood & branes leaking out their ears because their skulls were caved in, blood even coming out their nose (Mixed with snot) because they had all so punched each other on the nose. Their guts had came out too. The stuff from inside of their guts were very slimy and smelled of sick. Since they were all motley wounded they were all just about to die anyway but this is how every one died:

1. Lilly slipped over on someone's guts and smashed her head. She went unconscious. While she was down there her face was in a puddle of blood and she in hailed it which is drowning.
2. Garrys insides were so battered a chunk of sick floated in to his blood stream. It flowed to his heart and it stopped. When someones heart stops (Very suddenly) their hair stands on end and their eyes open wide in a death stair.
3. Larry died of fright when he suddenly realized he was going to die. And he saw all blood everywhere. So it was his death that killed him. If he hadn't of been going to die then he wouldn't of died. When people die of fright their eye balls fall out and hang down (On the Optic Nerve) because eyes join on to branes.
4. Milly flopped around the floor moaning and fussing. When she couldn't get people to listen to her

(Because they were dead) she had to listen to herself and it gave her such a head ache she died of the head ache just before she was going to die of wounds.

Chapter 20 By Carrie.

In the mourning the four children woke up. They discovered it had all been a dream, it was a horrible dream, they decided to forget all about it completely, nobody thought it was funny at all, and nobody wanted to remember it.

It was time for breakfast, the boys clime up to pick coconuts and the girls made a fire and tidy up, they were all friends once moor and Garry was sorry he had started it, the others for gave him.

After breakfast they found three more dolphins and made friends, everyone had a dolphin friend and got pearls and no more quarrelling.

They had fish for their lunch and then they done things like send a message in a bottle, their okay but you miss your family's, or you might get ill and need a doctor, luckily the four children kept healthy and safe and looked after their selves.

Chapter 21 by genie

They cort bird flew and need medicine.

[drawing of a bird]

They was a plant you cud squeeze out and get jus.

[drawing of a plant]

The medicine worked.

[drawing of a cup and spoon]

They got better.

[drawing of a smiley face icon]

Chapter 22 Leia

No body ever ever got there message in a bottle, a shark at it. Sharks eat every thing even not food.

No body ever sore there camp fire in the night time or there smoke from the fire in the day time or came near there ever. It was a long long way away from any other land, even Austria and antarctic.

It was years and years and years and they war getting old. There hair gone grey and they had working sticks and winkles.

They felt sad.

Chapter 23 By ALI

It only just felt like years and years when it was only less than a year and when they washed there here it was just sand and dust made it look gray and the sticks were to push nettles out of there way. Were getting near the end of the story. One day they found a phone in the sand. It was lilies phone that was wet and not worked. It was dry now and surprise surprise it swished on. Lily showed it to the other teen agers and they all shouted “YAY WERE SAVED” “lets phone home”.

Chapter 24 by Paul

But they were out of signal. They had batter but they did not have signal. And wile they were poking it and try again the battery went too. Its not like you can plug in to a tree or what ever, get real. But I don't want them dead of coarse. Theres a ship and it runs a ground, at the island edge, thats bad news for the ship but the ship has radioes so when another ship coms to rescue the ship then they rescue the 4 teen agers as well and take them on to the ship. Wile they were on the ship they phoned all there houses and every one said OH my darling you have come back from the DEAD!!!

Chapter 25 DILLAN

They got home

THE END

AUTHOR’S NOTE: *I have been a teacher for too long. I have read thousands of children’s stories and encountered millions of anomalies in spelling, grammar, vocabulary, syntax, continuity and punctuation. Now it’s my turn. None of these chapters owes any ideas or content to the work of real children but anyone who has tried to teach children to write will recognize the things that happen—the error patterns, the gender rivalry, the cartoon style violence.*

BIO: *Fiona Jones is a part-time teacher, a parent and a spare-time writer living in Scotland. She is a regular contributor to Folded Word in creative nonfiction and her fiction has appeared in a number of publications including Silver Pen and Buckshot Magazine. You can access her public work through @FiiJ20 on Facebook, Twitter and Thinkerbeat.*