
Young Carers Through Time
By Thomas, Lorcan and Alfie



Name: Snow Stevens
Snow is Amethyst's big brother,
and he takes care of her.

Age: 11 years old
Personality:
Quick to anger and finds
it difficult to be patient with Amethyst
Likes: Plants and animals
Dislikes: Being away from home

Name: Amethyst Stevens
Amethyst is AuDHD meaning she is autistic
and has ADHD (Attention-Deficit/
Hyperactive Disorder).
She finds new environments difficult.

Age: 9 years old
Personality:
Shy. She gets annoyed at Snow
for getting annoyed with her
Likes: Rocks
Dislikes: Change and being out of routine



THE SECRET FORCES HOTEL

Hello, do you copy? I have recorded some really strange readings and disappearances on this island.

Pick me up as soon as you can because I fear I am next.

SOMETIME LATER

When is this flight going to end?

Oh calm down! We'll be seeing dad soon.

THEIR DAD HAD BEEN WORKING ALL YEAR ON THE SECRET ISLAND BUT HE'D FINALLY INVITED THEM TO VISIT

WE ARE LANDING NOW!

SNOW, AMETHYST! WELCOME TO THE ISLAND!

AFTER THEY'D SIGNED IN AT RECEPTION, THEY HEADED TO THE CAMPSITE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE ISLAND

Come on kids, this will be an ADVENTURE!

TODAY

- [x] ARRIVE AT CAMPSITE
- [x] SET UP TENTS
- [ ] GO FISHING
- [ ] MAKE SHMORES
- [ ] BEDTIME

THE NEXT DAY

Wake up Snow!

Ugh, leave me alone. I just want to sleep.

SOME TIME LATER

Wow, those tents are annoying to put away. Let's ride some waves!

Ugh, DAD!

OUT ON THE OCEAN

How do you row this thing?

Oh come on dad, me and Amethyst have figured out how to do it first try.

Ah Snow! Stop being so rude!

It's only a short walk back to the hotel.

Why couldn't we have just stayed out on the water, it was easier than walking.

We're LOST!

THE GROUND RUMBLES

Wait here!

Kids, there's a nest!

Great job Sherlock.

SNOW!

DAD, COME BACK!

TENDRILS SPRING OUT OF THE DRAGON'S BACK, GRAB THE NEST AND PLACE IT ON HER BACK

SWOOSH

FLAP FLAP FLAP

What are we going to do?

Calm down, we'll figure it out!

Follow me, We'll find that dragon!

SUDDENLY THEY START GOING BACK IN TIME

THEY JOURNEY THROUGH DIFFERENT BIOMES- DESERT, JUNGLE AND EVEN UNDER WATER!

It must've fallen out of the nest!

A DRAGON HATCHES AND STARTS WALKING TOWARDS AMETHYST

Wait a second. I've been a bad brother. Maybe I shoudn't let her be eaten by a baby dragon

Why is the dragon walking towards me? It doesn't think I am FOOD does it?

Don't worry- It's just hatched. It probably thinks you're its mother

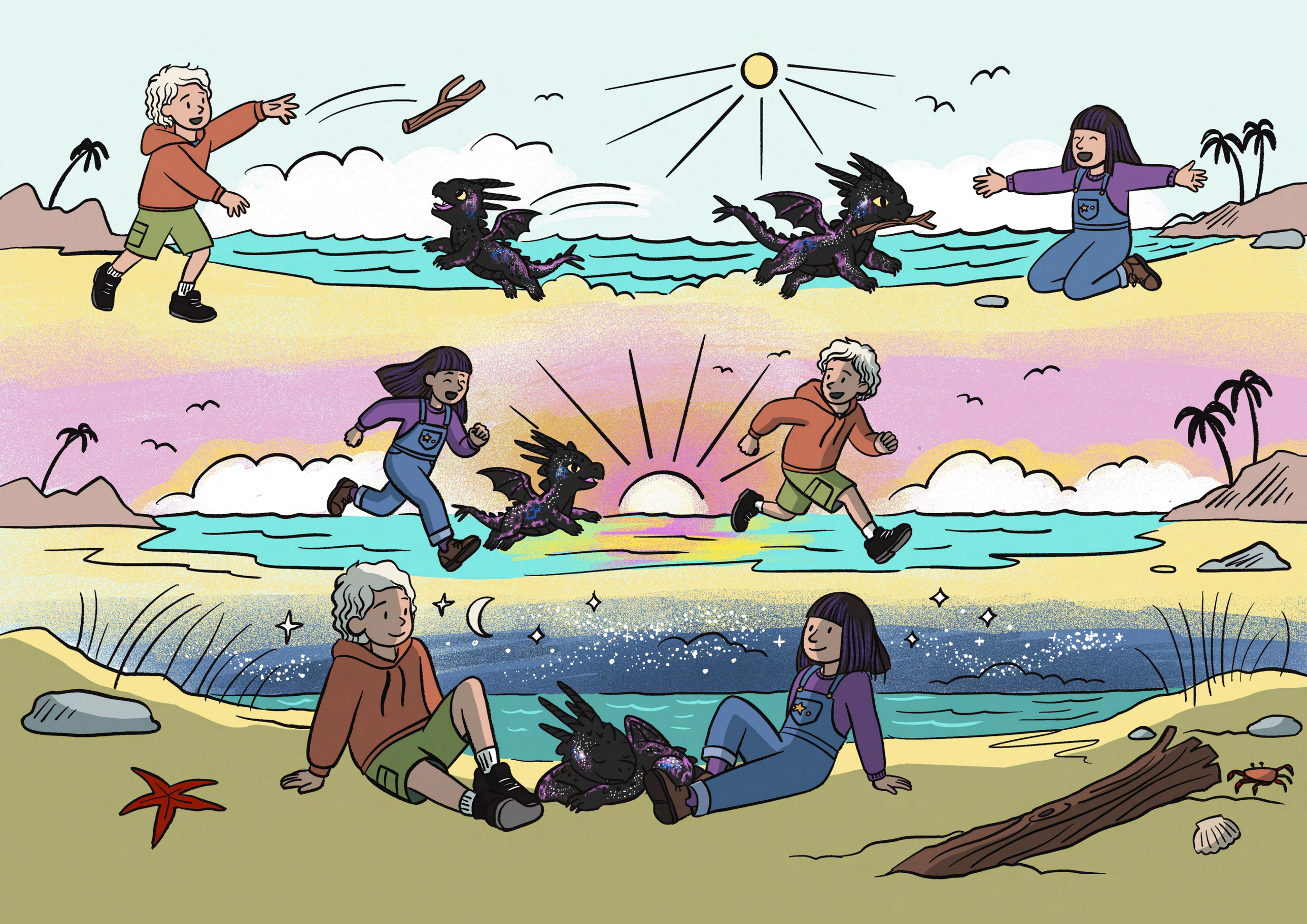
Why is it getting CLOSER?

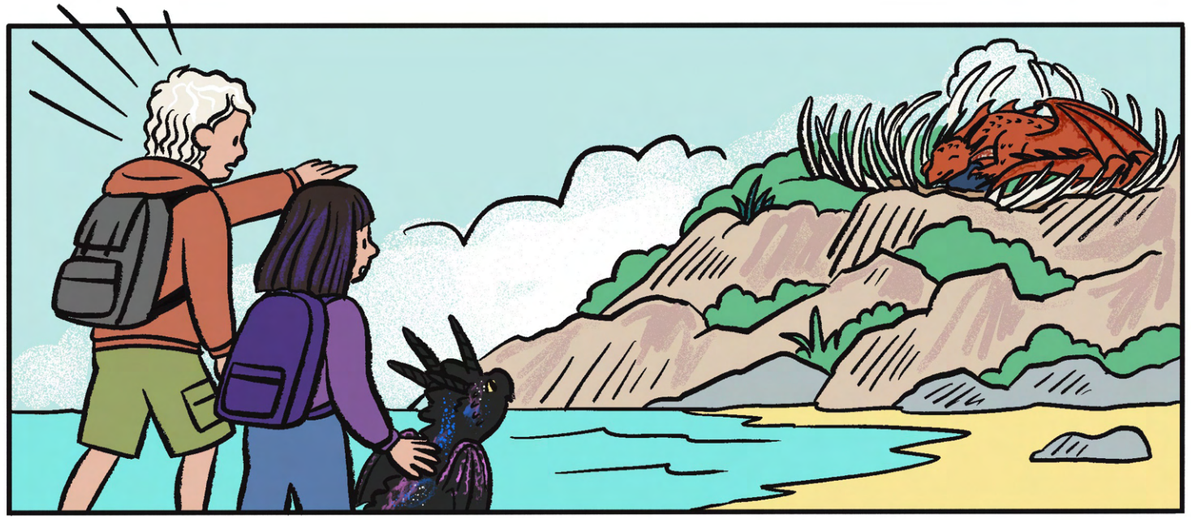
Take deep breaths. Try to calm down.

Ahhh, HE HE HE. HE'S LIKE A PUPPY!

I'm going to name him 'GALACTIC' because he looks like a galaxy.

That name is terrible. He doesn't even look like a Galactic.






Amethyst, I am going to need you to help keep Galactic quiet for this.

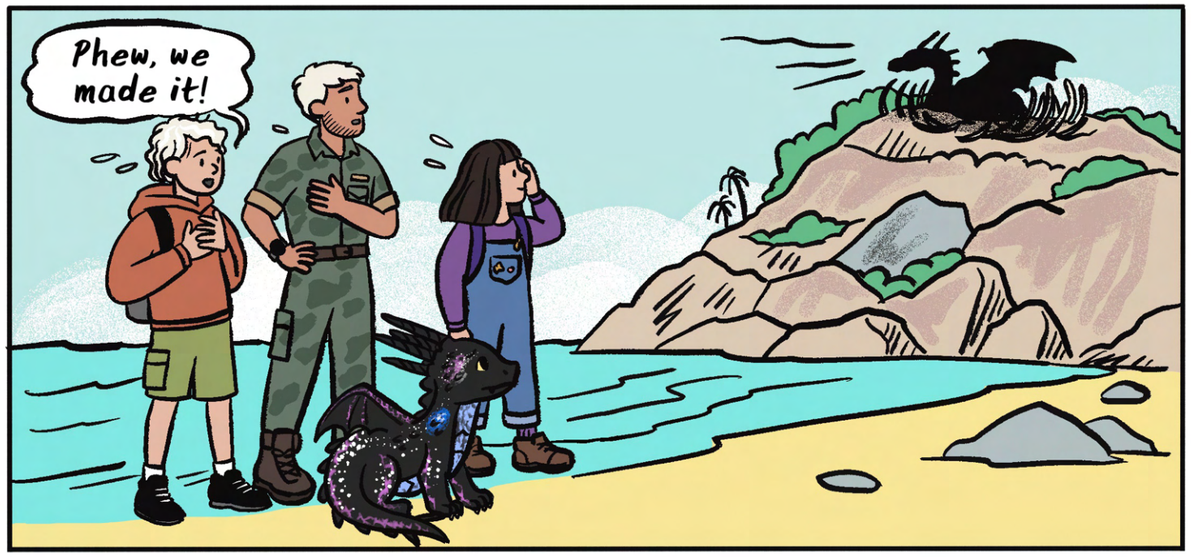


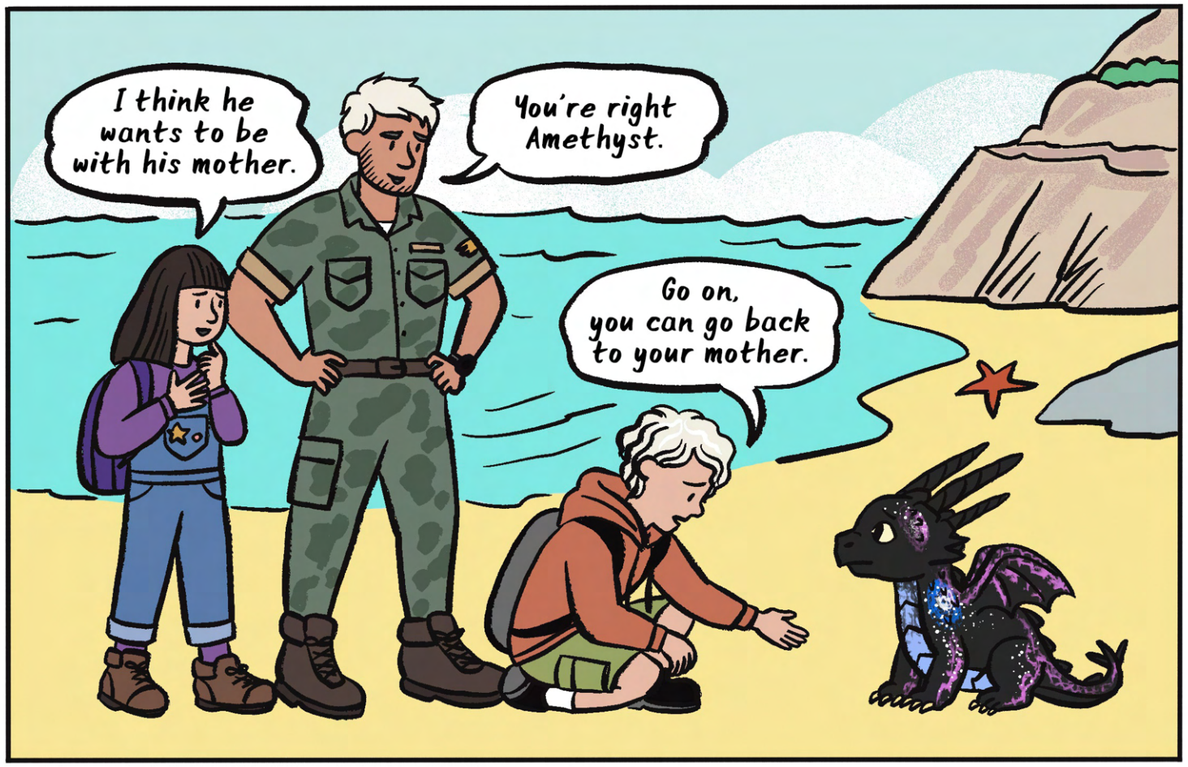


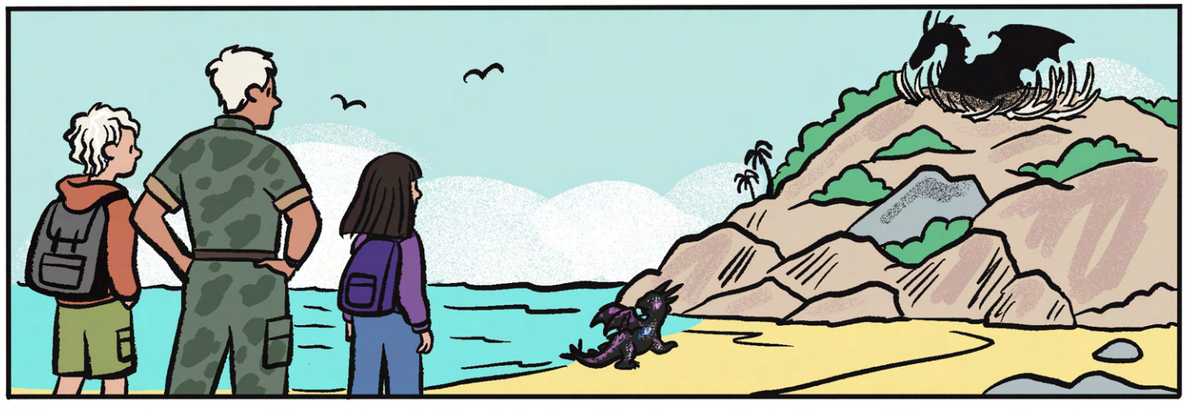

COME ON DAD, WAKE UP!


SNOW...?
COME ON DAD, HURRY!
Where am I?


RUN!
AHH!


Phew, we made it!


I think he wants to be with his mother.
You're right Amethyst.
Go on, you can go back to your mother.




What's happening?
I think she is grateful to have her baby back. She is sending us back to our time!





Snow doesn't know it but because he does a lot to take care of his sister, adults might call him a 'young carer'.
A young carer is a person who is under 18 years old who gives care and help to another person because they have a disability, a long-term illness or mental health condition, or a substance dependency.

If a person who is under 18 years old cares for someone in the armed forces, whether that person is still serving or is a veteran, they would be termed as 'young carer within an armed forces family'. This term applies even if the person they are caring for is not related to them, such as a neighbour or a family friend.

If you think you might be a young carer too, speak to someone you trust like a teacher or youth worker. They can help you find support, listen to your feelings and make sure you are taking care of yourself too.

Find out more here:
Advice and support for young carers | The Children's Society

If you are a young carer within armed forces families, check out our webpage: Space for young carers in armed forces families | The Children's Society

Need support? Kooth MOD offers free, anonymous mental health and wellbeing support for young people in Armed Forces families.
Home - Kooth in association with Ministry of defence

**Snow and Amethyst can't wait to visit their dad,
who is stationed on a secret military island.
Neither of them like being away from home or travelling,
but they like to spend as much time as possible with their dad,
who is in the armed forces.**

**What begins as an exciting trip soon turns into an unforgettable adventure! To make it through, they'll need to be brave, stay calm, and look out for each other.
Along the way, they make an extraordinary new friend:
a baby dragon from another world!**

**This story was written by Thomas, Lorcan and Alfie,
members of the Nexus Youth Voice Group.**

Nexus was a three-year programme supporting young carers within armed forces families delivered by The Children's Society, funded by the Armed Forces Covenant Fund. Young people participated in a range of creative activities to share their experiences and support their peers.
For more information about the Nexus programme please visit:
The Nexus Project | The Children's Society

Illustrations by Somang Lee: a London-based award-winning illustrator and graphic facilitator known for her nature-inspired, intricate, and engaging visual work

Story created with guidance from Rab Ferguson, children's author and writer of the award-winning series 'The Late Crew'
About the Author | The Late Crew

NEXUS | The Children's Society | THE ARMED FORCES COVENANT FUND TRUST Funded by HM Government