



Father shares a fish tale

Angels of the Ocean

By Alyssa Higashi
Cooper Elementary School

Once upon a time there lived a young girl and her father. One day when she was sitting under an oak tree reading a book when her father came and sat next to her. Her father said, "Do you want me to tell you a story?"

"Yes" said the little girl. And so he began.

One day in a little cave in the ocean, a baby angelfish was born. Her parents called her Angel. Angel found lots of new friends. Her best friend was Marine. Angel and Marine liked to hunt for rocks and shells. They also liked to explore and find new places to play in. A lot of times they would go to other caves and play there.

One day Delphine and Dolphin, the Queen of the Ocean, called a meeting at the castle. Angel and Marine took off to the castle. They got there just in time to hear the queen talk. She said that she needed someone to help her defeat the evil shark that was trying to take over the whole, entire ocean.

When Angel and Marine heard about the evil shark, they knew that they would have to help the queen somehow. They pushed their way through the crowd until they got to the front where the queen was. They told her that they would

help her defeat the shark. The queen was very happy that they had offered to help her.

Delphine told them how to defeat the shark. Dolphins are very, very smart. She said that they had to find a magical stone far, far away at the bottom of the ocean in a red chest. The queen told them to "be safe and good luck." She also gave them a map.

"Where to first?" asked Marine.

"The Cave of Monsters," said Angel.

They traveled for more than an hour before they reached the Cave of Monsters. When they entered the cave, they heard roaring sounds come from the back of the room. They swam over to the back of the room. There was a door with a monster face on it. Angel knocked on the door.

"Who is it?" asked a voice. "Angel and Marine," said Marine.

"Come in," said the voice. Angel and Marine opened the door and went in. Inside the house there was a couch, a lamp, a bed, and a kitchen. "This doesn't look like a monster house to me," said Marine.

They sat down on the couch and waited for someone to come in. They waited for a long time but still nobody came in. Angel and Marine decided to look around. They checked in every room.

When they came to the last room they found an octopus watching TV. "Who are you?" asked the octopus.

"I'm Angel and this is my friend Marine," said Angel. "Do you know where to find the magical stone?" asked Marine.

"I do," said the octopus. The octopus told them that it was buried in the sand in the Depths of the Ocean. She also said that it would take a whole week to get there. They swam to the whale-port to get a whale ride.

When they got to the whale-port, they got their ticket. When the next whale came in they got on. They stopped at Seaweed Hotel. They stayed overnight.

The next day they left Seaweed Hotel. They continued on their journey to find the magical stone. Angel and Marine had to travel to the Depths of the Ocean. Angel and Marine swam deeper and deeper until they reached the middle of the Depths of the Ocean. The current was so strong that they had to swim really hard. They decided that they would take a break and rest. So they stopped at a ledge. They were so tired that they fell asleep until morning. When they woke up, they had lots of energy to swim so they took off as fast as they could. They swam deeper they could see sharks coming toward them. Angel and

Marine made a quick turn and hid in a crack in the rocks. Angelfish are great turners. They waited for the sharks to go past. When the sharks passed by, they swam on.

When they got to the bottom they saw a glowing, red light. They swam over to the light. When they got closer they saw a red chest.

"This is the chest that the queen was talking about!" they shouted. They opened the chest. Inside they found the magical stone. Angel and Marine swam back to the palace. When they got there, they handed the stone to Delphine. They waited for the shark to come. When the shark came to the palace to try to take over the kingdom, the queen placed the stone in an altar. Then a bright light appeared and the shark disappeared and was never seen again.

Angel and Marine became the heroes of the ocean.

"Dad, could I be a hero like Angel?" asked the little girl.

"Maybe someday," said her father.

The author was a third-grader when this entry was submitted in February 2007 to the Solano County Reading Association competition.

The Buzz

Video now a part of Star lineup

By Diane Barney/Editor

To celebrate its 18th year, The Reporter's popular Campus Star student publication is adding a new competition: Video commercial.

The best and brightest will be featured on The Reporter's Web site, www.TheReporter.com after winners are announced.

Students from third-grade through high school are welcome to compete in a total of seven Campus Star categories, vying in four different age divisions for prizes.

The competition is open to students from both public and private schools in Vacaville, Dixon, Fairfield and Suisun City.

In addition to the design-an-ad video commercial contest, there is a design-an-ad print competition, a photography competition and contests for news writing, opinion writing, feature writing, and the design of puzzles, mazes and comics.

"We are all very excited about the addition of the Design-an-ad Video Commercial category," said Newspapers in Education Coordinator Shauna Manina. "It's an opportunity for the students to try something new and different, and with the current focus among young people on web-based video productions, it opens up a whole new realm of possibilities. I am really looking forward to seeing what the students come up with."

Campus Star Entry Kits are available online at <http://fromthereporter.com/PDF/PAL/index.html>. Although most student entries are generated in classrooms and submitted by teachers, students and parents are welcome to pick up an entry kit and submit articles, photos and video independently.

Deadline to submit entries this year is 5 p.m. Feb. 15. All entries must be turned in to The Reporter office, 916 Cotting Lane, Vacaville, CA 95688.

Video commercial entries must be submitted on CD, clearly labeled with full name of student, school and the name of the business featured in the video, and the date the video was taken. All videos must be submitted in either Windows Media Video format or Quicktime format.

A list of winners will be published in the March 17 Reporter, and winning entries will be published on The Word page in the print edition and online all through the year.

Grand prize winners in each of the seven categories win \$50. First-place winners in each age division in each category win \$25; second-place winners receive \$15 and third-place winners earn \$10 for their efforts.

Call Manina at 453-8177 for more information.

Dancing with death's rainbow

By Cody Addington
K.I. Jones Elementary School

Fire,
With your glimmering heat,
And brilliant colors,
You light the world around you.
Your elegant dance calms us.
Your quiet song soothes.
You are a blessing in the dark.
A curse in the light.
You are a malevolent beauty.
Fire, you are death's rainbow.

The author was a sixth-grader when this was submitted in February 2007 to the Solano County Reading Association competition.

Meet the Students of Reporter U

Blogs written by local students @ college campuses around the country

MEET OUR COLLEGE BLOGGERS:



Michael Sean Carpenter, aka Sean Flood, is a 2004 Vacaville High School graduate who is attending San Francisco State University this fall.



Jami Crabtree is a Fairfield High School graduate who is majoring in literary journalism at UC Irvine.



Aaron Crawford, a student at Hendrix College in Conway, Ark., is a graduate of Will C. Wood High School.



Chad Golden, a 2005 Vacaville High graduate, is junior at California State University, Chico double majoring in construction management and concrete industry management.



Jonathan Lord, a Buckingham Charter Magnet High graduate, is majoring in music at Azusa Pacific University in Southern California.



Noren Shoyeb is a 2007 graduate from Will C. Wood high who is majoring in psychology with an emphasis in mathematics at UC Davis.



Courtney Innes is a sophomore at Brigham Young University and a Will C. Wood graduate.



Alyssa Segura is a 2006 graduate of Vacaville High School, is a current student at Solano Community College and plans to transfer to a CSU next fall.

Find it @ <http://blogcentral.thereporter.com/reporteru>