Flash Fiction Competition 2013

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A disaster at work by Alina Artikova

I lay in bed, thinking about tomorrow, my first day at work, wondering if I could mess it up in any way. Hoping I couldn’t. I always mess up. Beatrice certainly thought so too it seemed. “You always mess up Edward, you could turn a Sunday picnic into a crazy dilemma!” she had said. I groaned, remembering how embarrassed I had been. Big sisters are never encouraging. Mother had been no more help than Beatrice. “Don’t go on whimpering about your thoughts, Edward, or they might come true!” Or they might come true; mother’s voice came echoing in my head, haunting my thoughts. “I suppose not every small nugget of wisdom is completely true.” I thought aloud by accident, trying to comfort myself. After all, what could possibly go wrong?

I opened my eyes with a start. I could still remember that terrible nightmare ABOUT MESSING UP. The nightmare was well and truly horrible. BECAUSE IT WAS ABOUT MESSING UP. In that so disagreeable nightmare I had being walking around the office under a very valuable painting and suddenly whacked it for some kind of idiotic reason, and before I could digest what happened I was whisked away by a so very angry manager. Then the dream just stopped. Just like that. It just stopped. I looked around. I had somehow manage to roll off the bed. I so vividly remember when I had once read a book about scary boarding schools and if you fell off a bed you would be punished. Regardless of my dream I got up and got dressed. When I went down stairs a very snooty faced Beatrice looking at me, sniggering and saying “You’re late!” and I just waived her away saying I’ve got to go to work.

As he walked down the alley way he saw the boss’ son the way and said there’s a new artefact in the museum and you have to be there by 10 o clock. He finally got to the museum and checked in to the reception desk. The manager took him to the brand new artefact; it was a magnificent globe, the size of a person. “The first one of its kind,” said the manager proudly!

They went to look around at the other artefacts such as paintings, models and sculptures. They went to look at the globe again for there as meant to be additions to the exhibition.

Then the boss, (apparently named Rob) started blabbering on to him about the new extensions to the museum, he noticed someone at the reception that he had seen before. When walking backwards he lost his footing and suddenly fell on to the globe. Everyone in the room turned and glared at him. The room was silent...
In 1986 an incredibly clever man was looking for a job. He wanted to be an Olympian runner but in the middle of a race he calculated how fast he should run the second half. When he had finished calculating the time he should run in, everyone had run past him as fast as lightening!

He decided that this job maybe wasn’t for him and so the man started looking for another job. That evening it was cold. Too cold to go outside without a car. It was very heavy rain and starting to snow but the man didn’t give up. He was shivering and coughing as he walked the streets.

After 2 hours of wandering around the city he saw a giant sign on a building saying IF YOU THINK YOU COULD BE AN INVENTOR COME HERE ON FRIDAY.

He was so pleased he had seen the sign on a Thursday and so he skipped happily home. He was excited that this was on a Friday and he decided that this had just changed his favourite day from Sunday to Friday.

When he came home he fell asleep straight away because he felt content. When he woke up he dressed up in an amazing suit and went to see if this job could be for him.

At the interview there were 6 people ready to watch him. He was asked to go through to the invention room. The room was very tense. Everyone in the room was asked to think of an invention. No one could think of anything.

A man then announced that there had been no invention and so it was time to tidy up and put the room back to normal. He began moving tables and chairs. He moved a large globe into the middle of the invention room. Some people had started to leave, disappointed that they couldn’t think of an invention.

The incredibly clever man had an idea. He stared at the globe. He took the globe and cut a hole in it took a very strong lamp and put it in the globe. He took wires from another appliance and used them. He started pulling and twisting things. Then suddenly with a flick of a switch the continent glowed and lit up in yellow and the different countries all glowed different colours.
He had invented the first light up globe for children to use to learn. For inventing the first light up globe he got a certificate and £4000 he brought the globe to work every day and invented new things every day.
The Suits by Amy Mackintosh

In an underground bunker in the deep shadowy City of Atlantis stood two efficient men who were out to save the citizens of this mythical world.

As they stood under the corrugated metal roof gazing at the great iron ball that is the globe of their world they were conversing about their classified information.

They knew Doc. Riffle was out there ready to release the secret of Atlantis and the city would be dilapidated. As the ring of light shone down on the globe they got to work; because now they knew where this desperate, depraved male was.

The ball of countries was conceived to be motionless but suddenly it gyrated off its stand and the circle of light shone upon Atlantis.

After they had overreacted in their newly bought tuxedos they calmed down. Then a bulky silhouette emerged out of the gloomy darkness.

“Well hello there gentlemen. Nice day today don’t you think?” said Doc. Riffle in a calm, still, cold voice.

“Don’t you dare! Get out of here now!”

“Do you really think I’m going to give away the chance to be rich and famous? No way!!”

So with that statement both the agents seizing the two stands that were holding up the globe. Magically the iron ball hovered about the grey squared floor, which is virtually impossible, but hey this is Atlantis!

“What on Earth are you going to do with those things!?!?”

Patiently the undercover agents compressed the button and out came a keen edged sword. The agent with the tie struck a blow towards Doc. Rifle.

“That’s what we’re going to do!” Exclaimed the bow tied agent.
“Hey! Hey! No, calm down mate! NO! This has to stop! Look if you don’t want me to spill the beans then...”

“Yes...” interrupted the tied agent impatiently.

“I might as well blow this stupid place up!”

Not feeling reluctant at all both agents swiped their swords across Doc. Riffle’s arm in frustration. Showing no agony but fuming with exasperation, Doc. Riffle frantically slammed the two agents’ heads together. Dramatically they descended to the floor.

“Take that you wooses!” exclaimed Doc. Riffle; and that statement was the last he ever spoke. That’s because when Doc. Riffle was having his moment of glory the bow tied agent clutched his leg and threw him back. This time Doc. Riffle dramatically descended to the floor. Following suit the tied agent stabbed his sword deep inside his evil stomach. Doc Riffle was dead.

After five long hard years of battling and coping with Doc. Riffle it was finally all over. Of course being secret agents they didn’t dare breathe a word of this challenging adventure.

In the end the two stupendous but mysterious agents retired to serve for their majesty. But if they ever smelt the slightest pinch of anxiety they were always ready for action.
Two sly looking men in a confidential room stood around a metal globe conversing about their classified plans. Even though they were just two everyday men they wanted to take over Britain, not the world. They thought that was a stupendous idea. They did kind of have an army made up of 400 vicious humans. Having decided to conquer London first they set out on a train to meet up with their army who were already there.

As they knew, they couldn’t take over Britain with brute force so they had a cunning plan. The 400 men army would go and cause a lot of inconvenience outside Buckingham Palace so as to perplex all the guards, some of which were dumbfounded so it wasn’t too intricate. Sean and Matthew managed to sneak in and plant a deadly bomb in the middle of the luxury palace. Before the bomb exploded, Sean and Matthew dashed outside along with their army. Well, the ones that hadn’t been captured by the police: 300 were about how many were left now after that exhilarating yet nerve-racking day. They had taken out over 1000 guards, the Queen and some innocent people, which they felt apologetic about but they got over it.

Their neat plan was to capture the prime minister so Sam and Matthew along with 5 friends strolled casually towards 10 Downing Street before realising that it would be more complex than anything they’d ever done before. Sadly some sacrifices had to be made. The guards looked courageous and powerful so Matthew opted to sacrifice some men for the team. As time went by lots of guards got attracted to the havoc caused by 10 of Sam and Matthew’s army. They’d started a blazing fire that was spreading and the bulky guards came to see what all the bother was about. Due to the fact that the guards were alerting the fire brigade, the two friends managed to creep into 10 Downing Street effortlessly. Before very long the prime minister was dead, he lay on the ground lifeless. However they wanted to make an announcement while they were there. Sam started by saying that transformation was needed and Matthew finished by saying “Join us.” Lots of people must have been watching TV because there was a mixed reaction with posters everywhere. Some saying change is superb, contrary to some of the other ones.

The group of cunning and powerful men were elated to find out so many people knew about them. Lots of people wanted to join now, in addition to the 5000 that already had. Sam and Matthew wanted to assemble their fortress on a hill as well as having over 1000 alert guards preventing any disturbing ambushes.

In a diminutive village on the outskirts of London was where the castle was based. This was Britain’s equivalent to the White House. Sam and Matthew’s plan had been successful. They were now in charge of Britain.
**My Dad** by Dylan Duncan

I’ve never known what my dad’s job is. He works on weekdays and earns a bucket load of cash. I’m 11 and I’m itching to know his occupation. Everyday me and my sister Teresa go to school, mum goes to work and dad goes to wherever he does work. When he gets home he goes straight to his study and stays there all night.

It’s Wednesday night and tomorrow is a day I hate, a nightmarish day, worse than any other day...SPORTS DAY. Teresa and me are very dissimilar; she loves horse riding and gymnastics, when all I like is computer games and digestives. I’m lying in bed when suddenly I think up a great plan; I will follow my dad to work tomorrow instead of going to school.

RING RING it’s 7:30 – time to get busy. My dad leaves in his car and I follow on my bike. After some unfamiliar twists and turns we end up at a peculiar building.

My dad enters and I hide my bike round the back. I enter the building behind my dad. He takes the lift while I climb the stairs, when I reach the top of the stairs it feels like I’ve just climbed a mountain.

I peer into my dad’s room and wonder how I’m going to get in then I see the vent on my left. As I glance out of the confined vent I see something bizarre... my dad standing with another man staring into a great globe while haphazard objects including spoons and newspapers hovered above them.

I come out of the vent and confront my dad. As I do so my dad sees me and yells, “You shouldn’t be here”.

“I just wanted to know where you worked,” I mumble as I start to cry because I have never seen my dad so infuriated before.

My dad explains he’s a top-secret spy and is looking for a suspect. He showed me a photo of him. I recognise him but couldn’t quite figure out who he was. Then suddenly I realise it was Mr Edwards my PE teacher.

I tell dad everything but am still very confused. “So explain to me James Bond why everything was floating in the air a minute ago?” I query.
“This man standing next to me is called Isaac Jobs and he has psychokinetic powers” “What’s that?” I ask.

“It’s the ability to lift objects up and move them around the room.” Isaac explains.

I take my dad and Isaac to school and there we see sports day and Mr Edwards in the middle of it all. We walk towards him but he spots us and sprints away. “GET HIM!” we all shout as he points a pistol. Isaac steals it with his powers and we eventually catch up with him and he is locked up.

I am proud of myself but who wouldn’t be if they had just helped capture one of the most dangerous criminals in the UK?
In the year 1850 there lived a Gentleman Scientist named Isaac Jefferson who was on the verge of making a breakthrough in not just scientific history, but all history. He was on the verge of creating the world’s first flying machine, or an Airship as it is called in modern day society. Isaac is a proud Englishman. He had a monocle on his left eye which was complimented by a fabulous top hat; he wore aviator-like goggles and a long leather trench coat. He was reasonably tall and quite skinny furthermore he had a gourd shaped birthmark on the bottom left section of his back and was in his mid 30’s but he doesn’t tell many people his exact age except his trusted advisor and butler Harrison Davids.

Our story begins in a science museum where our witty protagonist was researching to invent one of the greatest thingamabobs of all time. His other works of science did not succeed at all and he hoped that this would work. All that was needed to finish Isaac’s creation were the propellers that would be powered by coal. Harrison was funny and friendly but not very intelligent; even so he was a good friend to Isaac. That night the machine would be finished and ready to go!

He had a pet tortoise named Abraham who was currently sleeping in the lower deck of the airship. Isaac worked hard on the airship all night and imagined where he would go when he had finished as he looked up at the stars and it just so happened the science awards were coming up soon and Isaac was sure to win.

The next day the long awaited launch of the airship would happen that day. The historic event would take place in the meadows of Hyde Park at 9:00am sharp. At half past eight Isaac arrived with no audience or crowds cheering before him. Even so he continued the ceremony and unveiled the marvellous creation of man. He told Harrison to man the coal powered propellers and off the flying machine went into the air.

Abraham rose from his long, deserved nap and took his normal sitting place on Isaac’s shoulder. While Isaac was probably at that exact nanosecond in time enjoying a spontaneous cup of tea I will tell you what was onboard the airship. There was a kitchen, toilet, shower, study and two bedrooms on-board.

Isaac was travelling around the world and when he returned he hoped he would win the science award of London. This was his dream he was living and off he was to discover new areas of the world unknown to the British Empire. On the horizon Isaac caught sight of a land not yet mapped by British Geographers and off Isaac went to pursue his dreams in the flying machine.
Er, Hi my name is Ellie. This is the short story of how I got home. It all started when some guy pressed keys randomly into a keypad until a digital new born baby appeared. That was me and that person was Kyle Summers. His mum and dad took me as their own and to this day I still think of them as family.

I wasn’t popular at high school; everyone had a friend except me. Digital images can find it hard to fit in.

So this is my story.

One day we had a school trip and I got paired up with Gemma Wolfe, the biggest geek in class, well the whole school for that matter.

I thought she would tease me but no, she smiled and we found we were both interested in computers.

When the bus came to a stop, we gazed up at the new theme park, the owner Mrs George stepped up to the bus and asked us to follow her inside. “For the day you will be the managers of this theme park. A few of you will be on the ticket desk and the others will help me to design new rides.” She said.

Out of the corner of my eye I saw a man slip through the gate unnoticed. I could recognise him from a mile away; he was the town drug dealer, Dodgy Dave!

He was heading for the computer room. Unknown to me at that time his plan was to advertise his stock and put the theme park in jeopardy.

At lunch time, Gemma and I went to have a sneaky peek at the huge globelike computer which was controlling all the rides.

I noticed that someone had been tampering with it. Gemma hacked into the web cam to see who had been using it and sure enough it was Dodgy Dave!

Gemma ran off to tell Mrs. George but at that moment the computer started to crash and the rides came to a shuddering stop. I could see my class stuck upside down and screaming. They must have sneaked on whilst on ticket duty.

I started to try to get through the firewall saying “help me please computer” and suddenly I was sucked in through the huge monitor.

It seemed like I was travelling through tunnels of colour, then suddenly I came to a grinding halt and through the blinding light a woman rushed up and hugged me.

She explained that she was my true mother. My digital mum contacted the police central base and alerted them to the emergency and showed the trail of Dodgy Dave’s input data, they arrested Dave there and then.

Mum got the rides working again and all my class staggered off! I decided to stay for a while and find out more about the Home Globe and my true electronic family.

Well that’s the short story, the long one is for another day and is way way more complicated! Love Ellie.
the dinosaur document by Aidan Mercer

In Aberdeen university library there was a special globe that had a keyhole. One day 2 students were studying that globe they were thinking of finding a secret document in Australia. So they took a plane to Australia but they did not find one. So they went to America but no BUT.... They did find a key so they went back to Aberdeen but the key would not fit into the keyhole of the globe. So they went back to America but they did not find another key so they went to India and found a golden key and went back to Aberdeen and the key fitted into the keyhole and the globe opened in 4 pieces and inside it was A...... secret document  dum dum dum!!!! They studied the secret document and it tells you about information about all the dinosaurs how they lived how they betrayed each other how they died and what killed them. The document said the dinosaurs lived as some kind of reptiles. How they betrayed each other the dinosaurs were friendly at the start of a war but when a good dinosaur gets surrounded by bad dinosaurs and a good dinosaur is one of them then that’s betrayal or if a dinosaur kills its own men then that’s betrayal too. How they died the death of a dinosaur happens when a dinosaur is sick or hurt what killed the dinosaurs 65 million years ago suddenly all the dinosaurs died from a big meteorite strike most people think that but think that there was a cold war going on and the allies (good dinosaurs) all of them was killed and later all the axis (bad dinosaurs) died. Then something happened the secret document sucked the students in because the document was magic. Then they found themselves back in time in the year 230 MYA the year when the 1st dinosaur appeared they were spited up from each other a big wall was in their way. Then a student no.1 found some dinosaurs in the distance. Student no.2 was in a little cave and found a light in front of him and heard some talking meanwhile outside student no.1 saw some quite friendly dinosaurs he walked towards them they did not move they were laying down on the ground they were not breathing them he knew that they were dead he heard screaming a mile away he ran to the scene. Meanwhile student no.2 got out of the cave a dinosaur was in the way it ran towards him the student ran for his life. Student no.1 reached the scene that he heard and he saw another body lying on the ground he saw student no.2 and ran towards him they tried to find way out of there and they saw a light in the distance they saw every dinosaur running towards them the ran for their lives and ran and ran and ran until.... FOSSH!! The students found themselves back in aberdeen.

The end
“Fred, Fred, Fred wake up!”
“Paul I’m up ok” says Fred “What happened Paul?” Paul starts explaining. So the whole of MI7 has disappeared, apart from us said Fred “yes that’s why we are going to the library” Paul added. “Why are we going to the library again?” asks Fred. “You will see”

When they finally got to the library, they found a book called the most boring book on earth. “Why would we need a book called the most boring book on earth?” said Fred “I got an S.M.S saying to, now pull it” “I’m too tiered” croaked Fred “It’s too boring”.
“Fine I will” said Paul; he pulls the most boring book on earth and a door opens in the bookshelf. Fred runs in first and says “this is haven”.
Paul looks inside and sees Fred on a sofa. “Gasp” gasps Paul. He comes inside and the door shuts behind him.” Well done Paul now we are trapped” says Fred, at the same time the door suddenly opens “since when can you do magic?” asks Paul “I don’t know” said Fred as they came out of the door. “Welcome to HQ agents” voice says “I’m agent Bob” Fred and Paul see bob come out of the shadows and turn on the lights. “Bob” Fred and Paul say at the same time. “Jinx you own me Some Champaign” Say Fred.

A globe appears in front of them “can you the lights” says bob; there are no lights on the world apart from here. “Help me look around”.
As they get on top of the library, Fred asks “what are we looking for?” “Agents” As they look around for mi7 agents Fred screams “I can see my house from here!” “That’s great but can you see any agents?” “No” answers Fred. Agent bob gives Paul and Fred some binoculars, they keep on searching. Half an hour later the three are still searching. Another half an hour later they are having a picnic on top of the library “I give up” says Fred eating a peanut butter jam sandwich. “Me to” agrees Bob they all start going down the stairs.

Bob pulled the most boring book on earth and they went into the lift and sat on the sofa, Paul turns on the lights and the three sat down in some chairs. Fred notices a big red button, Fred loved big red buttons so he pressed the big red button and he disappeared. So Paul and Bob did the same, they all found themselves in some kind of party room they finally found MI7.
My new friend ghost by Karolina Matusik

It was a beautiful day when one family going to Museum of history, Kristine the little girl in the family was cry because she wants go to the ulna park
Her mum Helen said to Kristine that after Museum
We go to the ulna park. When the family was in the Museum her dad John buy for little Kristine the old doll she love this doll she was really happy but her dog Max doesn’t like this doll Max was feel something bad in this doll when family looked at the history’s subjects the light was off Max was running and running to the door he wants to go home but he can’t because the door was close little Kristine was really scared she crying and cry her mum and dad don’t scary Kristine was running when her mum and dad don’t looked at her so she running and running when she follow down she was feel something cold she was scared when she saw something this was whispered and she saw her doll fly, she start cry on all museum she was really scared Max saw her crying on the floor, the dog take her in mouth and run to the mum and dad Kristine’s mum start scared little Kristine she was go to the toilet she saw something white she shouted “ aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa ” Her dad run to her, dad was start scared when he saw something white.
When dad and Kristine was in the toilet Kristine’s mum saw something white and she feel something cold and it was a ghost the ghost said ‘Please don’t scare me I’m just looking at good friend because when I’m was little boy nobody likes him he was really sad’ Helen shout on all museum because she think that he just joking Kristine and John was running to Helen, Helen said that she see the ghost and he was whispered
That he looking for the friends Kristine start talking with him she said ‘what your name how old are you and why you close the door and you get the light off’ ghost said ‘my name is Billy I’m 8 years old and I’m do this that you not will be run away from me because I’m looking for friends because when I’m was life nobody likes me when I’m was going to this museum with my family someone put banana on the floor when I’m was running to the shop I’m standing on this banana and I’m follow down on the barrier so you know how’ Kristine said ‘you can be my best friend for ever I don’t care how you looks but I know that you has really big heart’ Billy said ‘really’ Kristine said ‘yes really’ Billy was crying because he was really happy when he changing because when ghost crying it will be change on the normal people after that family was going to the ulna park.
The End