

I survived extract #1

The Shark Attacks of 1916 by Lauen Tarshis

Chet started shouting halfway down the big hill. "Get out of the water!" he screamed. "Get out! Get out now!"

He thundered down the path and onto the dock. "You have to get out! There's a shark!"

The guys were all there - but they didn't even look at Chet.

"You have to believe me!" Chet insisted. "This isn't a joke. You have to get out!"

"You hear that Monty?" Sid said. "There's a shark in the creek! We better get out."

Sid hoisted himself up onto the dock, and Monty and Dewey followed.

Was it working? Were they listening?

But then Sid backed up and took a running leap off the edge of the dock. He cannonballed into the creek with such an enormous splash that Chet got drenched. Monty and Dewey dove in after him.

"Hey, " Sid called. "If the shark attacks me, you guys can split the five-hundred-buck reward from that rich guy."

"That guy's dead!" Monty said.

"Too bad!" said Sid.

"Oh, shaaaaaa-rrrrrrrk!" Monty called through cupped hands. "Here, sharky shark! Come and get us!"

They hooted with laughter, and Chet stood there, totally helpless. The shark was probably long gone. Nobody would ever believe him. For the next hundred years, people around Elm Hills would be talking about Chet Roscow, the kid who said there was a shark in the creek. He'd be a big joke, like the Captain was.

Chet felt like running away, far away. All the way to California.

But then he noticed Sid, strangely still in the creek. His face had gone white. His mouth was open, like he was going to scream.

Chet's insides turned to jelly when he saw the glistening fin moving slowly through the water.

“What the.....” Dewey said.

“Hurry!” Chet cried “Get out!”

Monty and Dewey flew out of the water.

But Sid seemed stuck, hypnotized.

The shark was closer to the surface now, its black eyes almost glowing. Its massive body looming.

They all screamed at Sid.

“Get out!”

“Hurry”