

## Into Stories (third draft)

Let me introduce Lucy. She loves excitement!

I like to ride my big horse in small places!

And, trust me, she loves questions.

Dad, do crows fly the speed limit?

She also loves stories.

When I was little, I played golf and the ball was squishy, squishy, squishy!

But most of all, she loves to jump into stories. Any examples, Lucy?

I jumped into page 16 of my favourite story to trampoline on the comfy bed. And I jumped into page 21 of my other favourite story to help the witch who tripped and spilt her pumpkin goo.

Since becoming a **STORYJUMPER** at 3 ½, she's now 4, Lucy wants to share with others her secrets to **STORYJUMPING**. What should you wear?

Wear pants, long sleeve shirt, a jacket - even in the summer - and that little thingy around your neck.

Now, you felt it was important to know when to jump, didn't you?

Never jump in the morning. Stories are too big and you can't read them. In the afternoon is a better time because stories are small like a snail. Ask somebody how small a snail is.

Should you check what version of a story you have before jumping in? I imagine the board book version might be a hard landing.

Yes, if it's the French version, bring my dad. Or get a "Versioner". It changes French versions to English versions, but if you leave it in too long, it'll turn into Spanish.

Now how about you run through an example of **STORYJUMPING**!

Dad, you're coming with me.

What?

We're also going to bring baby brother Duncan.

Ohh, and what's the title of this story?

**Big Sister Lucy and Little Brother Duncan Go to the Dark,  
Scary House with Hungry Monsters and we bring Dad.**

Please note that Lucy has packed one Duncan toy with many Lucy toys and Lucy stuffies. And when we jump, what should we know?

DON'T RIP! Choose a no-story page like at the front of the book, or a hole in the story. Dad, do you know what a story hole looks like?

A spinning tunnel of 'why' questions?

No, deep water where you can see the bottom.

I like yours better.

Hold my hand and I'll hold Duncan's and Ready, Set, Marks,  
GO!!!

OK, here we are at the scary stairs to the dark house with hungry monsters, any reminders?

Use the railing, and make sure Duncan does too!

Wow, it's dark in here. Lucy, what can we do?

Turn a light on. Or paint the room.

We should remember not to paint our...

Brother, I know that!

At some point we should meet a hungry monster. What should we know?

Of course they're hungry! They've been stuck in basements and closets forever.

Right! You never see fridge, cupboard or fruit bowl monsters do you?

NO!! So if we give them snacks they won't be so 'monstery' and they'll find good solutions.

Luckily, you've brought snacks, haven't you?

Yes, I've brought snacks: cheddar bunnies (if you're in the French version, hide these from my dad), cheese, wheat puffs plus some apple slices. You can share the apple slices. Duncan likes to eat (mostly) wheat puffs.

And after feeding the now not-so-hungry monsters?

Tell them your name. Then ask them their names. Since it's a dark, old house they probably have names like Charles and Margery.

What should we do with Charles and Margery?

Play games! We're not at a playground so we can't play 'grounders' but we can play games like catch me, look at my belly button or watch me dance! Also lets ask a lot of 'why' questions like why are you so hairy, Charles? Why were your parents so hairy? Why do I have to wear my seat belt, dad?

Because who knows, maybe you have things in common like...

Washing hair!

Hey, you know what we've done? We've made a story our story. Feels good doesn't it? It's now...

**Big Sister Lucy and Little Brother Duncan Go to the Light, Bright House With the Large Furry Charles and Margery, and Dad comes too.**

Before we leave, we should...

Clean up! Other **STORYJUMPERS** might like dark houses and hungry monsters. They also might like different snacks. Oh yeah, get a stamp from Charles and Margery so you can come back at any time.

How do we get out?

Paint a door, give Charles and Margery a hug, and don't forget Duncan. That's it!

A successful story jump! That was awesome! What's the next one?

**Big Sister Lucy and Little Brother Duncan Go to the Hairy,  
Scary Monster Wedding and bring Mom.**

Mom? Oh well, happy story jumping everyone! See you in the funny pages!