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MICHELLE LAM is a Los Angeles-based story artist who has worked with animation studios such as Netflix Animation, Glen Keane Productions, Tonko House, and more. In *Meesh the Bad Demon*, her first graphic novel, she pulls her Chinese American childhood experiences into fantasy so kids can see themselves in the adventure – and realise that you're truly powerful when you love yourself, despite your inner demons.

@MEWTRIPLED



To my grandparents, Chow Yee Cheung,
Lai Cheung, Tsang Lam, and Yeung Ng Lam,
and my parents, Caren Cheung and Kenneth Lam,
for dealing with the REAL Meesh growing up.

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Meesh the BAD DEMON

MICHELLE LAM



WITH COLOURS BY
LAUREN "PERRY" WHEELER

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MOUNT MAGMA



**MOUNT
MAGMA**
HOME OF
THE DEMONS,
LAND OF THE
LAVA



EACH NIGHT,
DEMONS WORK UNTIL
SUNRISE, PURIFYING
THEIR LAVA.





WITHOUT LAVA, THERE IS NO LIFE IN MOUNT MAGMA.

WORKING AT A LAVA PLANT ...

IS THE FATE OF ALMOST EVERY DEMON.



GOOD JOB TODAY, CHOW!

SURE THING! CATCH YOU KIDS LATER!



OH, MEESH?





MAYBE YOU'LL ENJOY HISTORY MORE WHEN YOU'RE OLDER...

OH, MIGHTY RUBY, SHINE BRIGHT!

DESTROY THIS EVIL WITH ALL YOUR LIGHT!



KABOOM!

WHOA...



AND EVERYTHING IN THE WORLD WAS RESTORED.

THE RUBY HEALS ALL!

THANK YOU, PRINCESS NOUNA!



THAT WAS—

AMAZING!!!

OH, I KNOW. YOU'RE STILL MY LITTLE DEMON NO MATTER WHAT.



I HATE TO BE A PARTY POOPER, BUT GUESS WHAT TIME IT IS?



YOU DON'T HAVE TO TELL ME!



IT'S LITTLE FAIRY!



OH! WELL, REST UP THIS MORNING, FAIRY MEEESH!



MOUNT MAGMA SECONDARY SCHOOL





SO THIS IS WHERE YOU'VE BEEN.



WAIT, XAVIER—



MOVE, PINKY.



MOVE, PINKY.



YOU'RE SKIPPING CLASS FOR A FLOWER?!

YOU KNOW THAT'S...



NO!



NOT ALLOWED.

RRRR RRRRR RRRRR
RIPPP!!!

MAYBE YOU SHOULD ACTUALLY GO TO CLASS FOR ONCE.

AND **STOP** TALKING TO PLANTS OR SOMETHING.



AND THAT, CLASS, IS HOW YOU BREATHE FIRE.



OH, HELLO, MESH. YOU'RE LATE. **AGAIN.**



ALL BECAUSE OF A FLOWER, I HEARD?



UH...







ACID-PUKING CLASS

OK, STUDENTS, YOU'LL REALLY WANT TO UTILISE YOUR GAG REFLEX WITH THIS ONE.

YOUR STOMACH ACID CAN BE USED AS A DEFENSE DURING AN EMERGENCY.

SO TRY TO THINK OF SOMETHING DISGUSTING. IT COULD BE SUNSHINE, RAINBOWS, OR UNICORNS ...

WAIT, WHAT?

HORN-SHARPENING CLASS

UGH, NOT AGAIN.

PFT.

NIGHT VISION CLASS

YOU'RE SUPPOSED TO SEE IN THE DARK, NOT GLOW IN THE DARK!

AH!

LAVA-MOULDING CLASS

IT BURNS!





THERE ARE TIMES I FEEL LIKE I DON'T BELONG, EITHER.

HUH?



B-BUT WHY?! YOU'RE, LIKE, THE COOLEST GRANDMA IN MOUNT MAGMA!

HA! THAT'S JUST HOW IT SEEMS...



WHEN I FIRST STARTED WORKING AT THE LAVA TREATMENT PLANT, I WAS THE OLDEST ONE.



YOU SURE YOU GOT THAT?

YEP.

CAREFUL THERE.



I WAS THE OLDEST FEMALE, TOO, OF COURSE.

HEY, GRANNY! ARE YOU CRAZY?!

YOU KIDS NEED TO RELAX.

THAT'S A BOILING BUCKET OF FRESH LAVA!



IT TOOK A WHILE FOR THE OTHERS TO TRULY BELIEVE IN ME.



AND EVEN THOUGH THEY ACCEPT ME NOW, I KNOW THAT...

I'M STILL NEVER GOING TO FIT IN.



AND I'M OK WITH THAT BECAUSE ...

IT MEANS I GET TO DRINK BUB-LAVA AND WATCH *PRINCESS NOUNA* WITH MY MEESH!



SORRY, GRANDMA. I NEVER KNEW YOU FELT THAT WAY.



HEY, BEING DIFFERENT REALLY ISN'T AS BAD AS YOU THINK.



IN FACT, I ACTUALLY LIKE BEING UNIQUE. MAYBE SOMEDAY YOU'LL FEEL THAT WAY, TOO.



YOU'RE NOT A BAD DEMON JUST BECAUSE YOU LIKE FLOWERS AND FAIRIES, OKAY?

YEAH ... I GUESS.



...

IT'S OK TO FEEL BAD, BUT DON'T SULK FOR TOO LONG.