

KOALAS IN CAPES

THE ZOMBIE
CHICKENS

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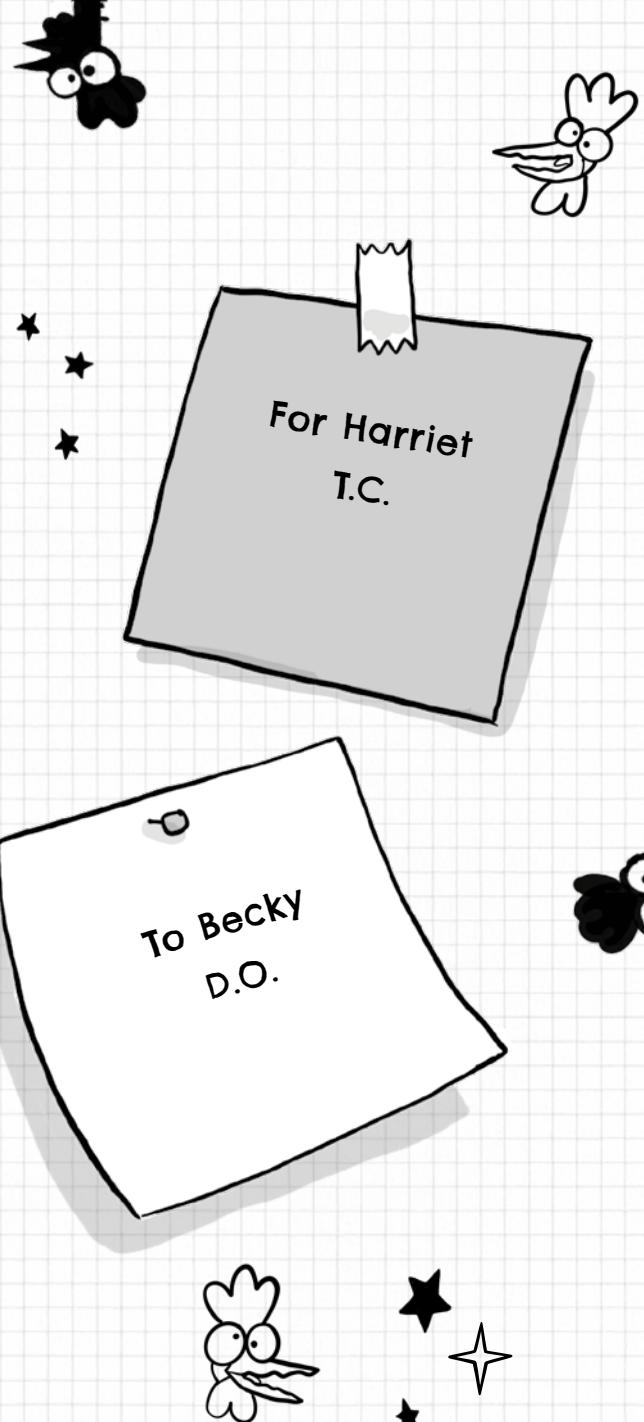
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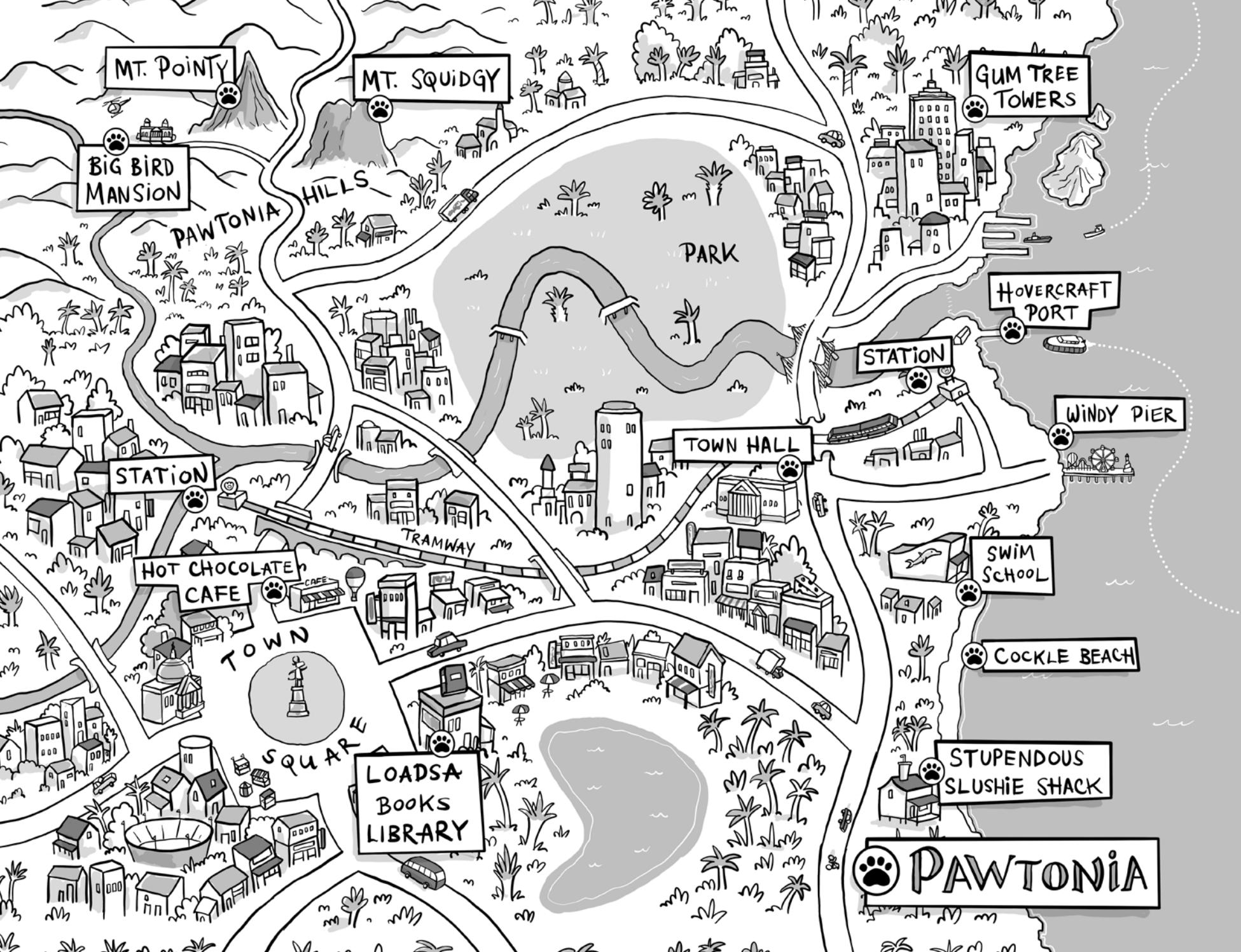
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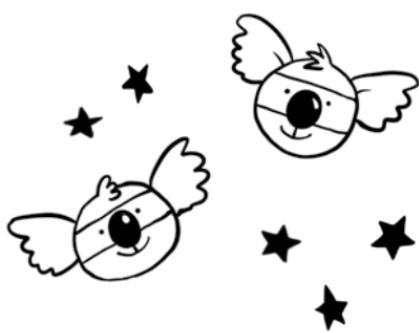


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PROLOGUE

A GIANT OSTRICH smashed open an old wooden box and pulled out a very dusty scroll. It was tied with a red ribbon and had a label that said:

SECRET LEGEND
(AUTHORISED READERS ONLY).





The ostrich quickly unrolled the scroll and read:

SECRET LEGEND #367

On the Ninth day of the Ninth month there will be a Day of Darkness when the Sun is driven from the sky and all of Pawtonia is plunged into deepest night! On this very day, two infant koalas, sleeping soundly in their cribs, shall have great powers bestowed upon them.

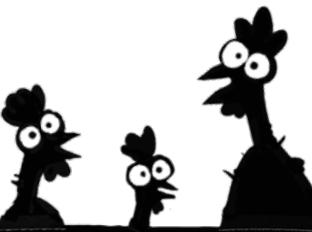
The koalas' powers will emerge on their ninth birthday and they will join forces to create the best



the world has ever seen. Aided by a long-snouted young genius, they will fight to save Pawtonia from all things evil, nasty and downright horrible.

The giant ostrich fluffed out his wings and snorted angrily. He'd always hated koalas.



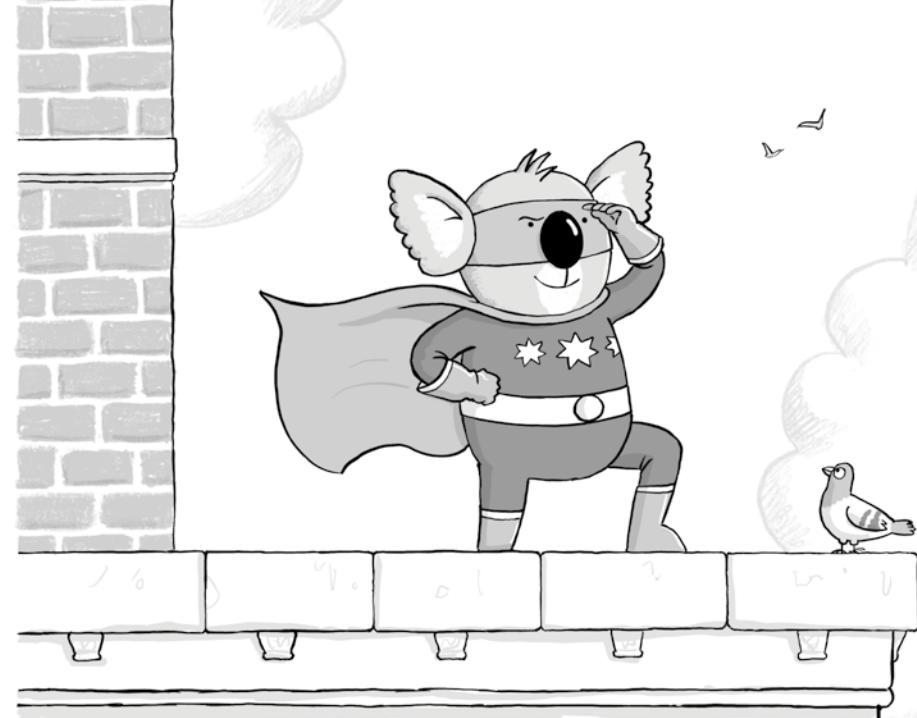


★ CHAPTER 1 ★

Somewhere on a Rooftop in Pawtonia

“KOALAS, ASSEMBLE!” said Bob the koala, as he stood on the rooftop of his apartment block, Gum Tree Towers.

But Archie, his best koala friend, was nowhere to be seen. Bob tucked his superhero leggings into his superhero boots and practised his superhero pose. He



placed his paws on his furry hips and looked into the distance as though he'd just saved a family of cats from a burning building using his super strength. Bob and Archie had only had their superhero powers for a few weeks, but Bob was already loving it.





“Archie?” called Bob.

“Coming!” shouted Archie. Bob turned round but there was no sign of his friend, just a rucksack suspended in the air, bobbing towards him.

“Archie, you’re in invisible mode,” said Bob.

“Oh, sorry, I was practising,” said Archie as he appeared in front of Bob. “Managed to stay invisible for twenty seconds! That’s the longest time so far!”

“Well done! But where were you? I did the ‘koalas, assemble’ call ages ago,” said Bob.

“Sorry about that,” replied Archie. “My cape got stuck in the door.”

“No problem,” said Bob. “You’re here now, and the



is ready for action!”

“Can we call ourselves a squad when there’s only two of us?” said Archie. “What about



“It’s a bit of a mouthful,” said Bob. “Wait,



I've got it!



"Well, I guess if we must have a name, that's the best one," said Archie. "But are we ready for a proper mission? We only learned how to fly last week, and look what happened when we tried to rescue that baby goat from up a tree."

Bob readjusted his cape. "This isn't the time for doubts. And that could have happened to anyone. We need to practise our superhero skills so we're ready to save

Pawtonia from the evil Dr Colossus!"

Everyone was talking about a giant ostrich called Dr Colossus, the



behind a surge in criminal activity across the city. Bob was determined the Koalas in Capes would be the ones to catch him. It was their duty!

Bob and Archie looked out across Pawtonia. It was a super-sunny afternoon. The Hot Chocolate Café was buzzing with customers and there was a kangaroo steel





drum band playing for a group of tourist otters in the city square.

“Everything seems totally fine!” said Archie, looking relieved. “Shall we just go and have a Triple Chocolate Humdinger at the Hot Chocolate Café?”

But then a sudden, shrill alarm rang out, and Archie’s face fell.

“It’s coming from the massive gift shop!” said Bob excitedly, peering through some binoculars that he’d grabbed from Archie’s rucksack.

“What massive gift shop? Pawtonia doesn’t have a massive gift shop,” said

Archie, looking puzzled.

“Yes, it does! You know, the place with all the great pens and novelty mugs. Oh, and some dusty old stuff too,” said Bob.

“You mean the Natural History Museum?” said Archie.

But Bob was too busy peering through the binoculars to answer. “There’s a ginormous traffic jam on Eucalyptus Road – it will take the police ages to get there! Come on. We need to get going!”

Archie was pacing around, looking concerned. “But don’t we need a plan?”

“We’ve got one,” said Bob. “We fly over



there and stop the robbery! With my



and your



we're unstoppable. Being superheroes is in our blood."

"Thing is, Bob, I'm not sure it is in my blood," said Archie. "A few weeks ago I was just a regular koala and I really liked it that way. Then suddenly there's a freaky solar

eclipse and now I can turn invisible. It's all very weird."

But Bob was already hovering in the air next to Archie. "You'll be great, I promise. And anyway, Pawtonia needs us."

"All right, all right," said Archie. "But I'm not doing any scary stuff..."

A moment later, there were two young koalas in the skies above Pawtonia. Bob soared through the air like a furry torpedo. His cape fluttered in the wind behind him and he felt supersonic! Bob glanced back to make sure Archie was keeping up.





Archie was bobbing around in the sky like a plane with a dodgy engine.

“Can we take the bus next time?” shouted Archie. “Flying makes me travel sick.”

But Bob had a faraway look on his face

and didn’t answer.

“Bob, are you listening?” said Archie, his furry face turning a bit green.

“Yes, I’m totally listening,” said Bob, who totally wasn’t listening. He was daydreaming about how they’d soon be saving the world, not just Pawtonia. They were going to be legends! They might even get a sponsorship deal from the city and buy swankier capes.

“Look, we’re almost there!” said Bob excitedly, as he spotted the museum just across the river. Koalas in Capes were on their first proper mission!

