

Mystery surrounds village...

But how long do we have?



By Kirra Gaedt,
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ABOVE, the moon, with its all-seeing eyes, gazed down upon this ghostly town.

Only it knew what had devastated this village.

Decades old, the walls of the houses were rotted.

The chimneys sagged. There was no sound or sign of movement.

Only the wind could be heard howling between the pointed stones.

The ground was dirt. We found this village while we were training.

We were checking for signs of life, in every nook and cranny. This place was the same as the others. There was no life; it had been abandoned for decades, but why?

A wave of dread encases me as behind me, a twig

snaps. I wheel around. My blood runs cold.

I find myself face to face with... a monster. I stumble backward. Its face glows with hatred.

It lurches toward me revealing gleaming green spines running along its back. Its hand jerks forward, lashing out toward my leg. I yank it away, just in time. I think I know why the village has been deserted for all these years.

I hear the deafening sound of gunshots and watch the monster flick the bullets away as though they are no more than irritating flies.

The sun is rising. I see its fiery rays glint off the creature's finger-long claws. I know there is nothing I can do.

I freeze.

I'm barely breathing.

I feel its breath hot against my face as the stench of rotting flesh invades my



CREATIVE THINKING: Wollumbin High School student Kirra Gaedt (Year 8) shares her talents in this piece of creative writing. PHOTO: CONTRIBUTED

“Only the wind could be heard howling between the pointed stones...”

nose.

I can see the hunger in its eyes and the drool dripping from its jaws. *Oh, somebody help me!*

As though summoned, an

enormous gust of wind picks up. The wind eats away at the monster!

The monster falls to its knees, sand pouring from its eyes and its gaping mouth. I

watch it turn into a pile of sand.

When the wind dies, the pile is scattered. No-one would ever believe what happened to us today.

We had solved the decade-old mystery. But how long until another comes along? How long do we have?

■ Narrative written under exam conditions (shortened version) - A grade.

SCHOOL ZONE:

■ This page is for contributions from students - junior or high school - and may include anything from a news report to poetry, creative writing, photography and beyond.

■ Work should be around 350 - 400 words.

■ Submissions via the school to letters@tweedailynews.com.au

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