

Baker/Danny Dunn and The Land Beyond Escape

Danny Dunn and the Land Beyond Escape
(The Search for The Lost Dutchman Mine)

Contents

Prologue

- i) The Void (4)
 - ii) The Foam (6)
 - iii) The Explosion (7)
 - iv) Winking Out (8)
 - v) Building Blocks of Dust (10)
 - vi) Background Music (12)
 - vii) A Question (14)
 - viii) Arizona (15)
-
- 1. It's Summer! (17)
 - 2. Bullfinch Visits Arizona (23)
 - 3. Weaver's Needle (25)
 - 4. The Geology (29)
 - 5. Jacob Waltz Maps (33)
 - 6. Folding the Map (39)
 - 7. "Professor, Look! The Circles are Holes for Numbers!" (41)
 - 8. Deciphering Code (43)
 - 9. "Every Thirty Years, My Window Shall Be Dark" (45)
 - 10. Summer Road Trip (47)
 - 11. In the Road (48)
 - 12. Lava Tube (51)
 - 13. Candy That Sparkles (54)
 - 14. Demon Train (59)
 - 15. Lost Dutchman State Park (64)
 - 16. Monsoonal Weather and An Exploding Cactus (66)
 - 17. Church Refuge (71)
 - 18. Using Coordinates (74)
 - 19. The Old House (77)
 - 20. Counterclockwise (82)
 - 21. Lost Dutchman Mine (88)
 - 22. Behind the Door (90)
 - 23. Underground (92)
 - 24. Separated (94)
 - 25. "Look At All the Gold!" (97)

Baker/Danny Dunn and The Land Beyond Escape

26. Bloodshot Eyes **(100)**
27. Escape **(102)**
28. Buried Forever **(104)**
29. "It Will NEVER Be Found Again!" **(108)**

Epilogue

- i) Last Perfect Day On Earth **(114)**
- ii) Time, Temperature and Pressure **(116)**

Synopsis

While examining the geology of Phoenix, Arizona, Professor Bullfinch finds a map in an old math textbook at a secondhand bookstore. He feels that it is one of the Peralta/Ruth maps from the 1840s showing the location of the Lost Dutchman Mine in Arizona. A quote in Spanish is deciphered at the bottom. There are "meaningless" numbers sprinkled throughout the map along with holes in the old paper. Before a spill of coffee ruins the map, the headstrong Daniel Dunn snatches up. A few accidental and unique folds made by Danny reveals the coordinates of what could possibly be the Lost Dutchman Mine.

Bullfinch, and professors Grimes and Miller (the father of Irene Miller) set out to verify the map's veracity. Not to find the gold, mind you, but as Professor Bullfinch said, "To solve a riddle; to see a problem to its conclusion. Science and scientists are always attempting to solve problems."

The three young adults, Danny, Joe and Irene are out for the summer from high school and wish to join the hunt as well. Given permission from their parents, all six set out to decipher the map and to see with their own eyes, the unique geology and weather events of Arizona. It is during monsoon

season with ample moisture traveling horizontally up from the Gulf of Mexico. The five explorers witness frequent to continuous lightning, flooding rainfalls, and underground cave ins.

Their minds also experience vivid nightmares. Ever since they landed at the airport, the five explorers experienced frightening and unusual events in and around Phoenix and Flagstaff.

They have been most unsettling: a skeleton on a rainy road smashes a window of their rental car; they see two mysterious twins from the mid 19th century in a lava tube; a painting of a house contains a mysterious light in the third story of a room which blinks on and off every thirty years; and deep in the mine they are buried along with a skeleton whose eyes glow blood red as they stand with it in a cavern. Earthquakes shake the region. The cave collapses. They are buried far below the surface under tons of quartz crystal rock.

Did they find the Lost Dutchman Mine? That is an interesting question. They did solve a riddle of the painting found in an abandoned three-story house in an orchard. "Every Thirty Years, My Window Shall Be Dark."

The painting contained clues about the existence of the Lost Dutchman Mine. And it hid the existence of a murder.

Perhaps Professor Grimes said it best, " Whatever treasures exist down there are certainly the nightmares that greed is made of. Greed breeds violence in its own way."

The narrator speaks:

The Arizona sun starts to set. It lights Weaver's Needle on fire. A small stone aquifer unleashes a large waterfall on its west side. It catches the sun's rays. Falling rivulets of water glitter as they tumble down the craggy face of "Ka-Katack-Tami." They sparkle with rainbows dancing about like firelight. The descending mists are still fresh from the invigorating thunderstorm. Evening slowly comes to "The Land Beyond Escape."