

A tree falls on Ella's gymnastics centre, and all the classes are CANCELLED! So when Ella hears that the local ballet school is getting ready for a BIG DANCE CONCERT, she and Zoe decide to use their extra time to help out. The only problem? Peach Parker, Ella's archrival, is suddenly also interested in ballet!



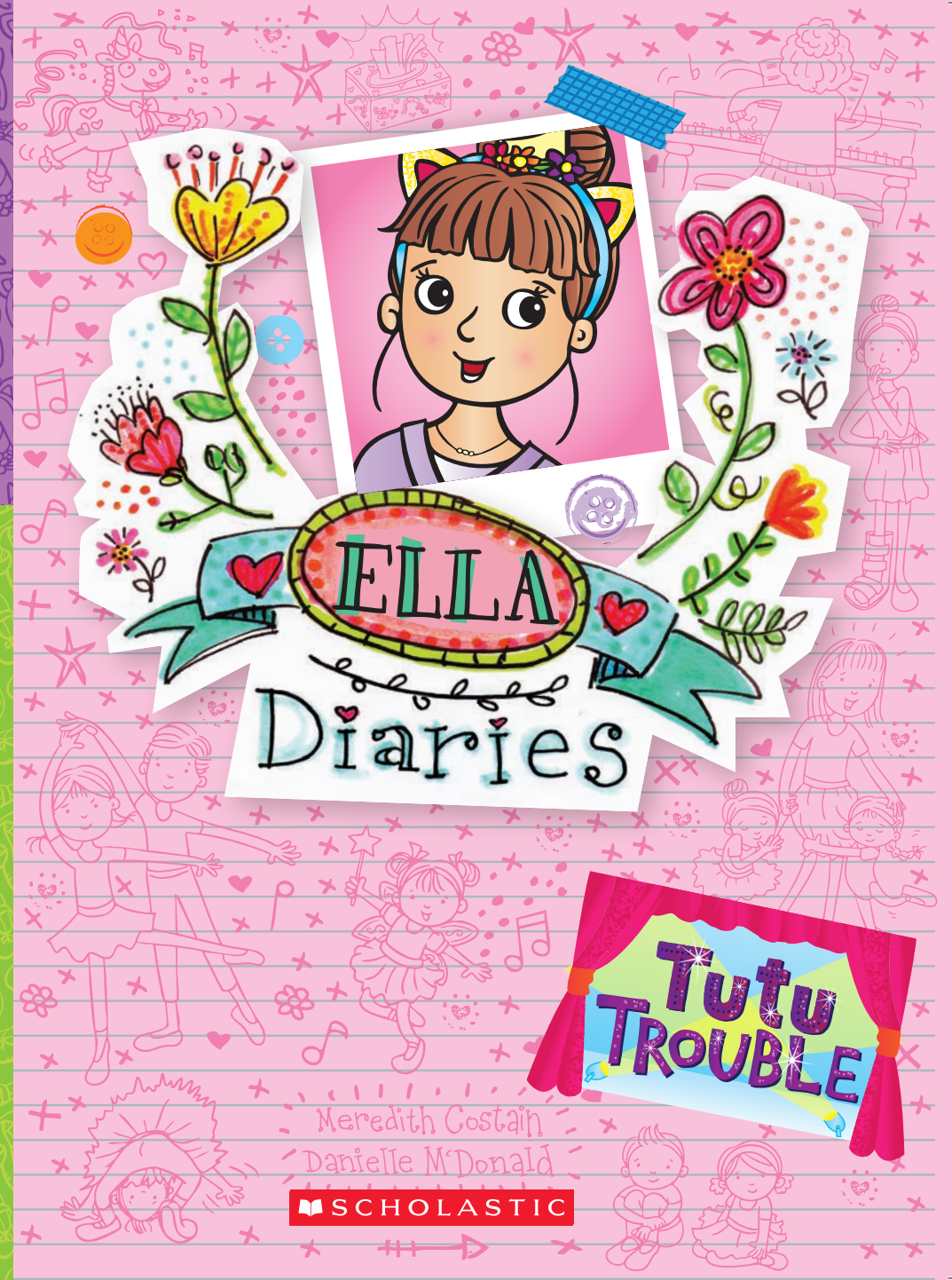
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ELLA Diaries

Tutu TROUBLE



Meredith Costain
Danielle McDonald
 SCHOLASTIC



TOP SECRET!



Meredith Costain

with thanks to Tia and Ainsley for all their expert ballet knowledge!—M.C



Danielle McDonald

For Elvie and Hannah—D.M

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Monday, after school

Dear Diary,

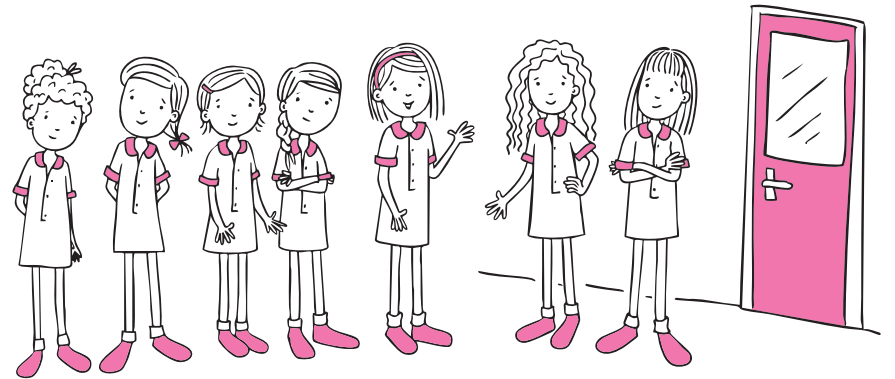
Guess what?

Our fantabulous teacher, Ms Weiss, was late for school today. So we all lined up outside our classroom waiting for another teacher to let us in.

While we were waiting, Ammy and Zoe and I had a **big chat** about what we did on the weekend.

Here's what we all said.

✱ 4 ✱



Zoe (enquiringly): How did your soccer game go, Ammy?

Ammy (proudly): Really well. We ACED it.

Ella (happily): Yay! Go the Westside Stars!

Ammy (also enquiringly): So what did you two get up to?

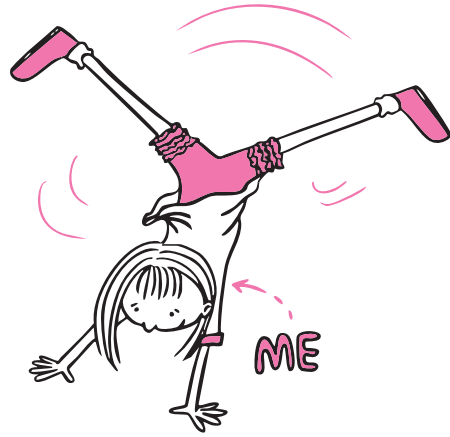
Ella (explainingly): Zoe came over to my place, and we practised some moves for our big gymnastics show at Twisters next month.

Zoe (excitedly): It's going to be aMAZING!

Ella (even more excitedly): I can't wait!

✱ 5 ✱

I was just showing Ammy one of the moves when something **horrifically horrendous** happened.



So **horrifically horrendous** I'm not sure I can write about it here without sobbing.



But I'll do my best.

WARNING: TISSUE ALERT.



* 0 *

Diesel—a boy in our class who also goes to Twisters—was also late. And he had some **terrible** news for us.



And guess what his news was?

There was a **GIGANTEROUS** gust of wind early this morning, while everyone was still asleep. (Mostly.)*

* 1 *

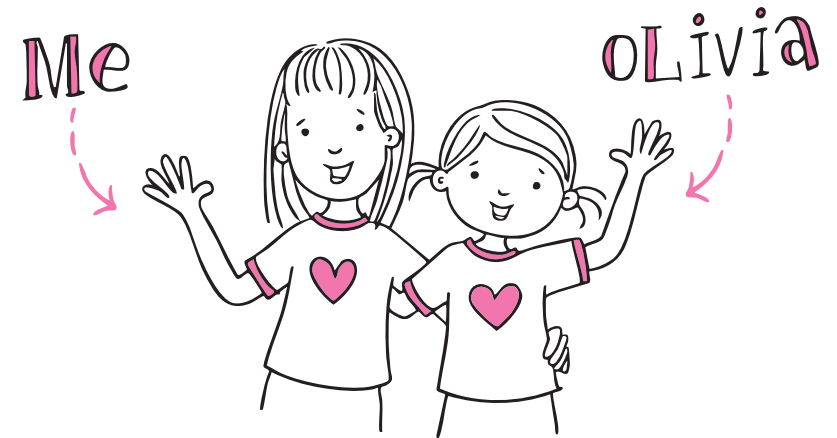
* Except for people like Diesel's dad, who works for a place that looks after **BIG EMERGENCIES** like this one.

A **huge** (and also extremely ~~and~~ ancient) tree fell onto the roof of a building and smashed it to **smithereens!**



And guess which building it was?

HINT: The answer rhymes with this.



If your answer was Twisters, you are 100 per cent correct!

Zoe and I were **SHOCKED!**



And so were all the other kids in our class who go to Twisters gymnastics.



Then everyone started yelling at the same time.



And then Ms Weiss came running down the corridor and let us into our room. And straightaway **IMMEDIATELY** told us this:



So we did. Even though **everyone** just wanted to talk about the **HORRENDOUSLY HORRIFYING** news Diesel just told us. ☹️



But inside our brain parts Zoe and I were both thinking ~~exACKly~~ exACTly the same thing.

How (and also where) were we going to do our big gymnastics display now???



Have to stop writing now, Diary. Zoe is coming over to my place in fifteen minutes so we can have an Emergency Meeting. And I need to get the snacks and the KEEP OUT! OLIVIA, THIS MEANS YOU! poster ready for it.

Yours,
Ella xoxo

Monday night, before dinner

Dearest Diary,

We had our Emergency Meeting!

The Bad News

I couldn't find my KEEP OUT, OLIVIA poster for my door anywhere. Which meant I was going to have to make a whole brand new one. And I was running out of time. ☹



The Good News

Max told me Olivia wasn't even in our house! She'd already gone to a special extra ballet school class with her **BFF** Matilda, so they could learn their dance for their big show next month.

So she couldn't do any snooping, like she usually does.



The first thing we did was eat all the snacks.



Then we gave each other a **GigAnterous** comforting hug.

Twisters is **my LIFE!**

Mine too. (SOB.)



What ever will we **DO** in **OUR** spare time now?

I **KNOW!** Let's make a **LIST** of **OTHER** stuff we could do instead!

YES!!! AND choose the **Best ONE!**

So we did.

LIST OF OTHER THINGS WE COULD DO IN OUR SPARE TIME

Type of activity	Who suggested it	Reasons for or against it
Start our own Gymnastics Club in Ella's backyard.	Zoe 	There wouldn't be enough room for the pazzillions of other Twisters people wanting to come.
Build a model of the Eiffel Tower out of icy pole sticks.	Me 	We would have to eat a BAZILLION icy poles VERY QUICKLY to get all the sticks.

Join Ammy's soccer club.



Zoe

They already have HEAPS of players so we'd probably never get a game. 😞

Go cloud spotting and draw pictures of clouds that look like mythical creatures. Like this one.



Me

Even though it was extREMELY windy this morning, it is now VERY sunny. with NO clouds. Not even one. What if they never come back? 😞

~~unforch~~ Unfortunately, all of our ideas for new things to try were **hopelessly hopeless**.

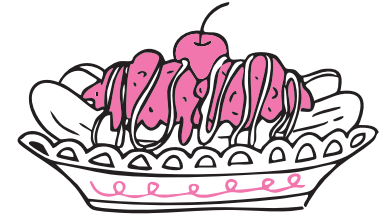
So now we are both in **DESPERATING**
DESPAIR. ☹☹☹



Have to go now. Zoe got picked up to go home for her dinner, and Dad **just** called me down for ours. Though I am not 100 per cent sure I will **ever** be able to eat anything **ever** again.

Ella
XOXO

PS Unless it's a banana split, with caramel ice-cream.
YUM!



Monday night, in bed

Dear Diary,

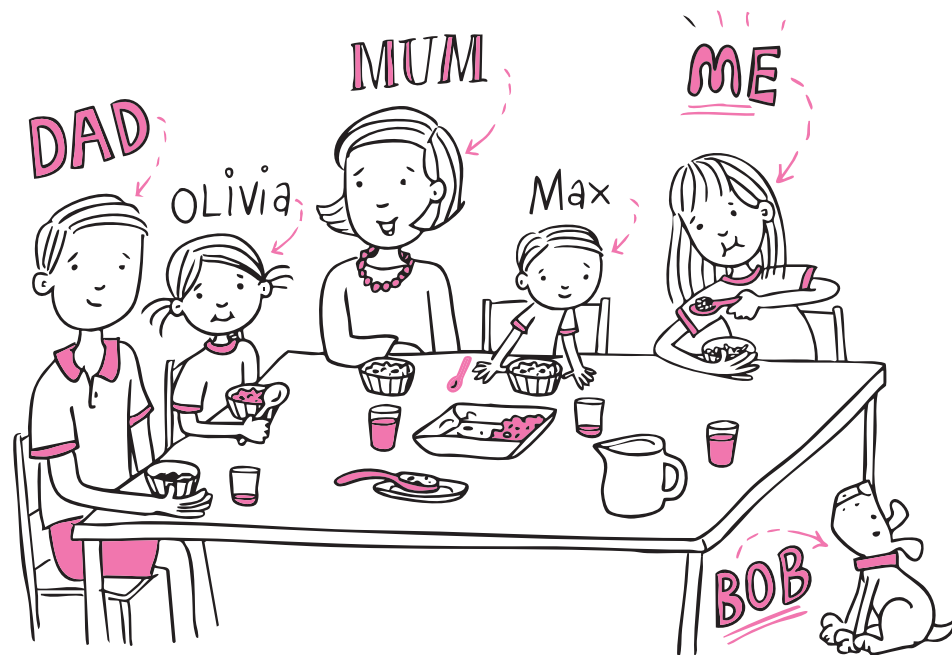
The Bad News

Sadly, there weren't any banana splits with caramel ice-cream (or even a different type of ice-cream, like raspberry ripple or chocolate chip) for ~~desert~~ dessert tonight. ☹

The Marvellously Good News

While we were eating our plain rice pudding (**BLEUCHHH!**) I found out some super **IMPORTANT** news that is going to change **everything!** (Hopefully.)

Here's what happened.



Mum (enquiringly): So how was your extra ballet class, Olivia?

Olivia (shiny-eyed): It was aMAZing. Madame Fry told Matilda and me we were the best dancers in our WHOLE CLASS.

Me: ☺

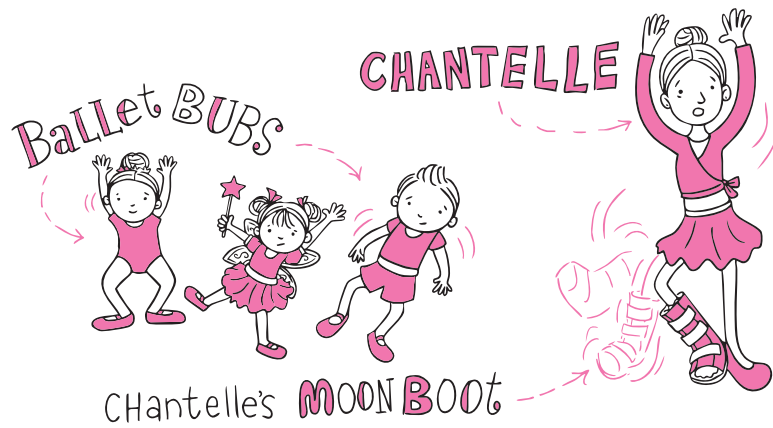
Dad (proudly): That's WONDERFUL news, sweetheart.

Olivia (grinningly): I know. That's why she gave us the lead roles in the dance we're doing for the concert.

And then Olivia told us that Chantelle, who is Madame Fry's assistant teacher, had a **tragic accident** last week.

And now she has to wear a **GIGANTEROUS** moon boot on her right foot part.

which means it is going to be hard for her to teach the Ballet Bubs the steps for their dance in Madame Fry's new ballet concert.



Madame Fry won't be able to help her teach them, because she is already **super** busy with her own classes. 😞

Two of my old classmates—Fifi and Jazmin—have been trying to help Chantelle. But they were having **major** problems. And all the Ballet Bubs were tearing wildly around the room like wild things.

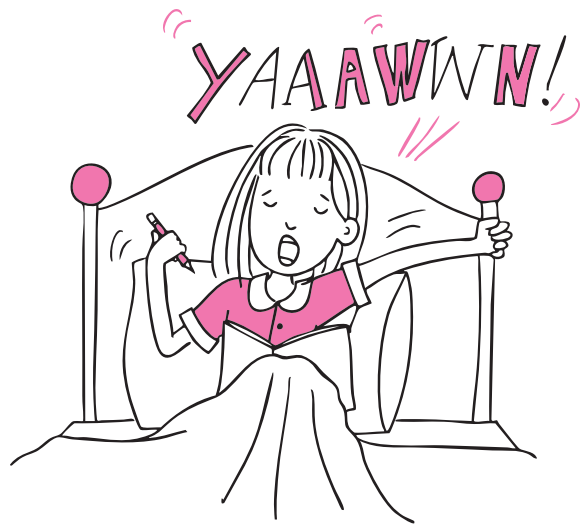


And while Olivia was telling us all about what had been happening, I had one of my **brilliant** ideas.



I could offer

Sorry, Diary. I'll have to tell you the rest of my idea in the morning. I've been thinking about it **all night** and I am now **extremely** tired.



Good night!

E x

Tuesday, after dinner

Dear Diary-doo,

I know you have been waiting around all day, **dying** to hear what my **BRILLIANT IDEA** is!

I'm going to go back to Madame Fry's **École de Ballet*** and offer to help Chantelle teach the Ballet Bubs their steps!

* **École de Ballet** is how you say ballet school in French.