



Chapter 1 A Call for Help

Ben Norton dropped his comic on the floor. It fell on top of the pile of comics by the side of his bed. He let out a huge sigh. Then he pulled his quilt up over his face.

“It’s just not fair,” he groaned.

Ben had read hundreds of comics. He had watched every superhero movie. Being a superhero always looked fun. It looked exciting. But Ben had been a superhero for months now, and hardly anything exciting had happened.

Ben Norton had been a nobody all his life. A complete zero. But after putting on an old fancy dress costume at school, Ben had turned

into a hero. Not just any hero...
Ben Norton was Banana Boy.

When he became Banana Boy, Ben had superpowers. And as soon as he put on the costume, no one knew who he was.

It was AMAZING!

But lying there, it felt like the whole world had forgotten Banana Boy and his incredible powers.

* * *

It was the first day of the school holidays. Ben wanted to save the world. But the world didn't seem to need saving. Ben thought about getting up. He thought about practising some superhero moves. Instead, he fell asleep.

Ben dreamed that he was saving the town from giant pieces of falling fruit. Huge apples crushed the cars. Strawberries left

giant splats on the floor. People got stuck in the sticky juice. It was complete chaos. Luckily, Banana Boy was there to save the day.

The yellow hero was about to leap into action. Then a banana started buzzing at him from the top of a wall.

Ben opened his eyes and shook his head. The banana on the wall had been in his dreams, but the buzzing banana was real. It was

the banana phone on his desk.

Rolling out of bed, Ben bumped his head on his chair. Then he grabbed the banana phone.

“Banana Boy here!” he said. “Robots wrecked, baddies beaten, monsters mashed. What can I do for you?”

There was silence on the other end of the line. Whoever it was seemed to be thinking of what to say.

“We need your help, Banana Boy,” the voice finally said. “Only you can save the town.”

“I’ll be right there,” replied Banana Boy. He slammed the phone down.

* * *

Ben ran to get his superhero costume. Then he realised that he hadn’t asked where he was supposed to be going. Or what the

trouble was. But these weren't his only problems.

Opening his cupboard door, Ben saw that the special coat hanger was empty. This is where he always hung his costume. He checked under his bed – the only other place he could think of. He found his dirty football kit. He found half a bowl of mouldy lasagne. But nothing else.

“Mum!” yelled Ben, racing

down the stairs. “Where’s my costume?”

“What costume?” asked Mum.

“My Banana Boy costume, of course,” replied Ben.

“Oh, that silly old thing,” said Mum, pointing. “It’s there.”

And now you decide...

Where is Ben's Banana Boy costume?

A) It's in the washing machine

B) Ben's little sister, Millie, is wearing it

C) It's in pieces on the table

Go to en.fictionexpress.com and vote

Text copyright © Damian Harvey 2020.
Copyright of this edition © Boolino Ltd. The right of Damian Harvey to be identified as the author of this work has been asserted. Please note, this PDF is licensed under the Terms of Use which can be found on the Fiction Express website www.en.fictionexpress.com