

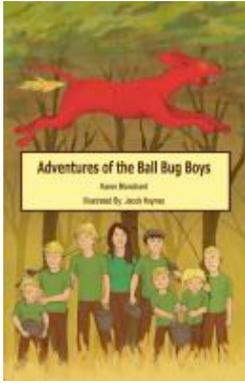


# Adventures of the Ball Bug Boys

Karen Blanchard

Illustrated By: Jacob Haynes





*Adventures of the Ball Bug Boys' setting is in the country where kids have to use their own imagination for fun. There is plenty of mystery surrounding the Red Fangled Tooth Fire Farting Dog that keeps the kids curious enough to try to find it. You have to read it to see what they found when they went to dig for Samuel T. Bonecrackin's treasure! This book has funny, scary, sad and happy moments!*

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**ADVENTURES OF  
THE BALL BUG BOYS**

**Written By:  
Karen Blanchard and  
Randy McLean  
Illustrated by Jacob Haynes**

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Edited by Elizabeth Trupiano

## Fishing Trip #9

“Let’s surprise Meme and catch enough for a fish fry tonight,” said Kady. From the camp site, they walked down to the deeper and wider end of the creek. They knew they could catch more fish there. The Ball Bug Boys started digging for worms to bait their hooks. The wind had picked up so the water current was pushing the boys’ lines to the side. They would cast in the middle but the lines bobbed to the bank.

Layton was getting really frustrated and didn’t want to fish anymore. Flip said, “We just got here; I don’t want to quit yet!” He really wanted to surprise Meme with a bunch of fish. He and Poor Paw had gone fishing before lots of times and caught a lot of fish. Flip and Poor Paw would go in the boat towards the lake to catch big catfish. Meme loved to have fish fry’s and invite the neighbors over. Layton agreed so they kept fishing.

The wind calmed some which made it easier to fish. Lane caught a perch and Layton took it off the hook for him. While he was taking it off, his pole started dipping so he knew he caught one, too. Kadyn had already caught four. Luke spent most of his time climbing trees. The boys filled up their bucket and a stringer. Perch is small so they knew they would have to catch a little more to have a good fish fry.

Kadyn said, "Let's go see if we can find the barn again. The barn isn't too far from the creek and I brought some more dog bones." The boys laughed and decided they would take a break from fishing for now and hike up over the hill.

"Where's Luke?" The boys all said at once. At the same time, Luke jumped out of the tree.

The Ball Bug Boys kept walking, but drops of rain started hitting them on the head; and then all of a sudden it started raining really hard. They knew they needed to get out of there fast because they were on the wrong side of the creek.

As far as they had gone, they were sure they were close to Samuel T. Bonetrackin's house. Ryan didn't want to turn around now because they were so close. Layton said, "Ryan, the creek will fill up and we won't be able to cross it!"

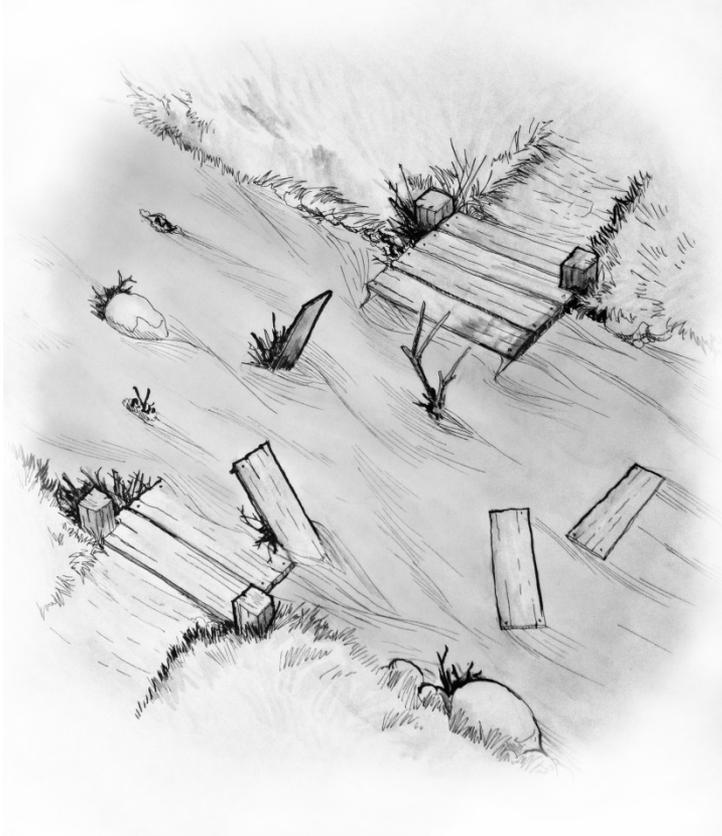
The boys turned around to head back to the creek when they heard a dog crying. It sounded like a dog was hurt or something was wrong. Kadyn and Flip wanted to find the dog, but knew Layton was right and they needed to head back.

Kadyn said, "Let's go back and get Poor Paw and his boat."

Flip anxiously told the boys, "We need to get our fish first."

It was hard to see because it was raining so hard and they were running as fast as they could. One of the boys yelled, "There's the creek, it's filling up quickly! Hurry, before we get washed under the bridge!"

Layton grabbed Ryan's and Lane's hands and Flip grabbed Felix's and Luke's



hands, and about that time the bridge came down! Flip said, “Man, we were lucky, that could have been us!”

They were slipping on the rocks and falling because the water was so strong. Lane said, “Let’s get back to Meme and Poor Paw’s fast, I’m cold.” Layton and Flip decided when they got back to the house to get the boat; they needed to leave Felix, Luke and Lane with Meme.

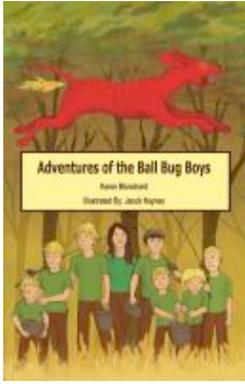
On the trail they ran fast so they could hurry and get back to help the crying dog. Kady said, “It sounded bad.”

Lane said, “Yeah, I was scared.” They finally took off their shoes, tied them together, put them across their shoulders, and tromped barefoot down that old muddy road.

Felix was dancing and singing, “Why does it rain, when the sun is still shining?” The other boys were making plans to go back and find the dog.

Felix was falling behind because he was dancing and singing. Flip told him,

“Finish with your little rain dance and let’s get home. Hurry up!



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