



## Rumblestar: Prologue

The 4 Unmapped Kingdoms are:

- Rumblestar
- Crackledawn
- Jungledrop
- Silvercrag

## Q1: What are the marvels that the Unmappers of Rumblestar collect?

The phoenix placed the Lofty Husks in charge of each Unmapped Kingdom – wizards born under the same eclipse and marked out from the other Unmappers on account of their wisdom, unusually long life expectancy and terrible jokes – and, although in each kingdom the Lofty Husks took a different form, they ruled fairly, ensuring that every day the magic of the phoenix was passed on to the Faraway.

The four kingdoms all played different roles. Unmappers in Rumblestar collected marvels – droplets of sunlight, rain and snow in their purest form – which dragons transported to the other kingdoms so the inhabitants there could mix them with magical ink to create weather scrolls for the Faraway: sun symphonies in Crackledawn, rain paintings in Jungledrop and snow stories in Silvercrag. Little by little, the Faraway lands came alive: plants, flowers and trees sprang



Q2: Casper Tock is one of the heroes of our story (although he doesn't know it yet). Name 3 things that Casper likes.

Casper Tock wouldn't have approved *before* the Extremely Unpredictable Event happened, because up until then he very much lived his life according to his to-do lists and timetables. Admittedly, the lists often only included one item – grow up quickly – but his timetables were much more detailed, from the five minutes he allowed himself before breakfast each morning to straighten the pictures on his bedroom walls to the half hour he spent before going to sleep every night refolding all of his clothes.

Casper liked to keep a tidy bedroom, an organised mind and a tight schedule. That way, fewer things went wrong and there was less chance – or so he thought – of wandering into the clutches of school bullies Candida Cashmere-Jumps and Leopold Splattercash.

But no matter how many lists you write and no matter how many timetables you create, you cannot be responsible for your parents. They forget keys, lose handbags, misplace spectacles and drop phones down the loo. In fact, once you reach the grand old age of eleven, you can start to realise that your parents are hopelessly out of control.





## Rumblestar: Chapter One

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- Silvercrag

Q3: Casper, although in school, is also in a Lockdown. Why is his different to ours? What are they protecting themselves from?

'We've all seen the newspaper headlines these past few weeks: what the nation thought was a one-off hurricane in England at the beginning of March has now escalated into a worldwide weather crisis. The hurricanes across Europe are becoming more frequent – the United Kingdom has been ravaged by gale-force winds four times in the last week alone – and –' he paused '– more deadly.'

Casper shivered. He'd seen the news that morning. The hurricane on Monday had been confirmed as the worst yet. Thousands of people had lost their homes where it struck in London and hundreds of casualties had been reported. And all that had happened *despite* the warning sirens recently wired up inside buildings across the country – because the hurricanes came fast, faster often than the time it took the Met Office to trigger the sirens when the winds looked like they were picking up.

The hurricanes had been coming every few days for the last month, and they had flattened Little Wallops' cricket pavilion, ripped slates off the school roof, shattered windows and left several sixth formers with broken limbs when the door to the sports hall had been wrenched off its hinges and launched across the gym. Corridors were lined with buckets catching leaks and windows had been barred with planks of wood. But Little Wallops was still standing – just – and so



Q4: Candida Cashmere-Jumps and Leopold Splattercash are the bullies that terrorise Casper regularly. What do their names tell us about their characters?



