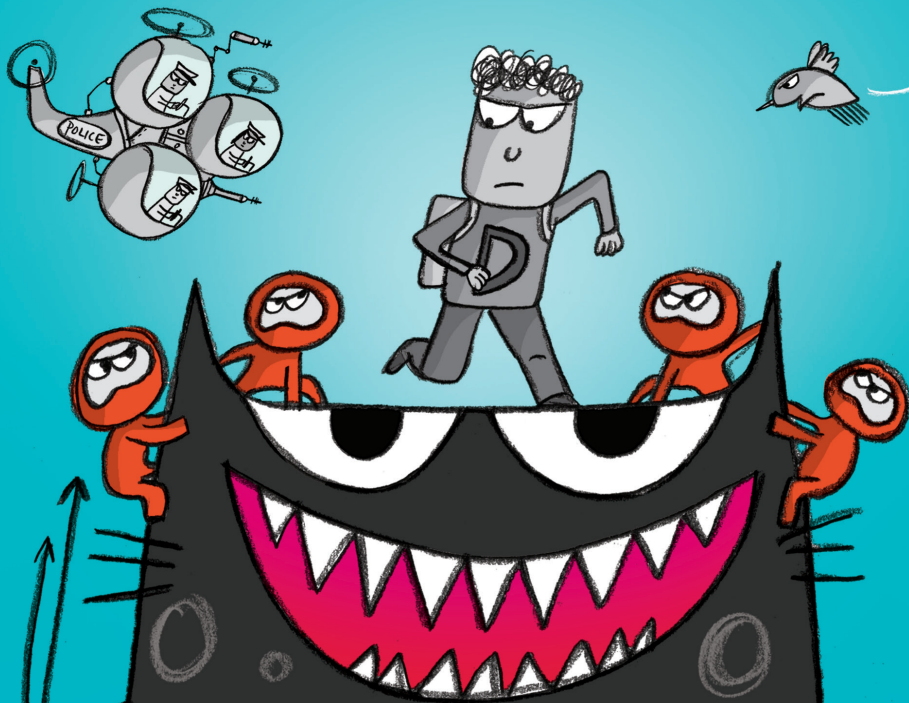


TOTAL MAYHEM 1



DAY ONE  
INTO THE CAVE  
OF THIEVES

RALPH LAZAR

CHAPTER SAMPLER • NOT FOR SALE

# TOTAL MAYHEM BOOK 1 DAY ONE – INTO THE CAVE OF THIEVES

Stalactites

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*Created by Ralph Lazar.  
Lovingly pummeled into  
shape by Lisa Swerling.*

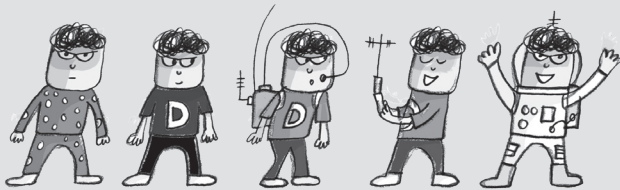
*Absolutely  
no idea what  
this is*

Stalagmites



SCHOLASTIC INC.

*Things you need to know  
before you start  
reading this book:*



## ABOUT DASH

**Full Name:** Dash Candoo

**Age:** 11 years old

**School:** Swedhump Elementary

**Best Friend:** Rob Newman

**Favorite Meal:** Breakfast

**Favorite Drink:** Wombat juice

**Weapon of Choice:** Stink-ball

**Vehicle of Choice:** Hole-digger

**Favorite Class:** Paper Airplanes

**Favorite Teacher:** Mr. Hogsbottom

**Favorite Sport:** Wobble-ball

**NATO Code Name:** Delta Alpha Sierra Hotel

**Morse Code Name:** -.../.-/ ... /.....



## ABOUT THE ALMANAC

There are SO MANY new and interesting and weird things in Dash's world that there's a whole section about them at the back of this book, called the Almanac.

The **Book 1** Almanac documents everything that appears in this story: Vehicles, Communications, Weapons, Scallywags, Activities, Food, Animals, Trees, Plants, Schools, and more!

So if you see an underlined word, like grobsnot, flip to the back for more info.

The **complete** Almanac is the place to find out EVERYTHING about Dash and his world.

It's online here: [total-mayhem.com/almanac](http://total-mayhem.com/almanac)

# CHARACTERS

DAY ONE -

*Into the Cave of Thieves*

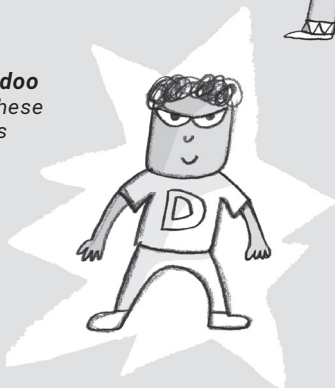


**Wrestle-Scallywags**  
*Enemy fighters*



**Mrs. Hogmanny-  
Hog-Mahomm**  
*Vegetables teacher*

**Dash Candoo**  
*Hero of these  
stories*



**Rob Newman**  
*Dash's best  
friend*

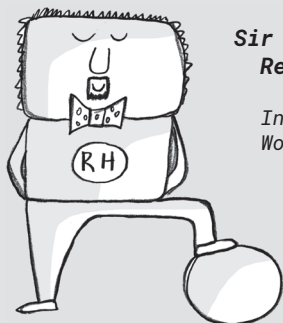
**Mrs. Belch-Hick**  
*English teacher*



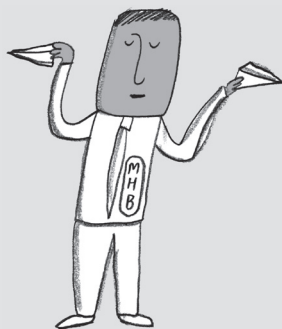
**Mr. Darling**  
*Math teacher*



**Gronville Honkersmith**  
*Classmate*



**Sir Stephenson  
Remington-  
Hobbes**  
Inventor of  
Wobble-Ball



**Mr. Hogsbottom**  
Paper Airplane teacher



**Devil-Cat**  
Enemy fighter



**Name unknown**  
Substitute  
teacher



**Mr. Grodzinsky**  
PE/Wobble-Ball  
teacher



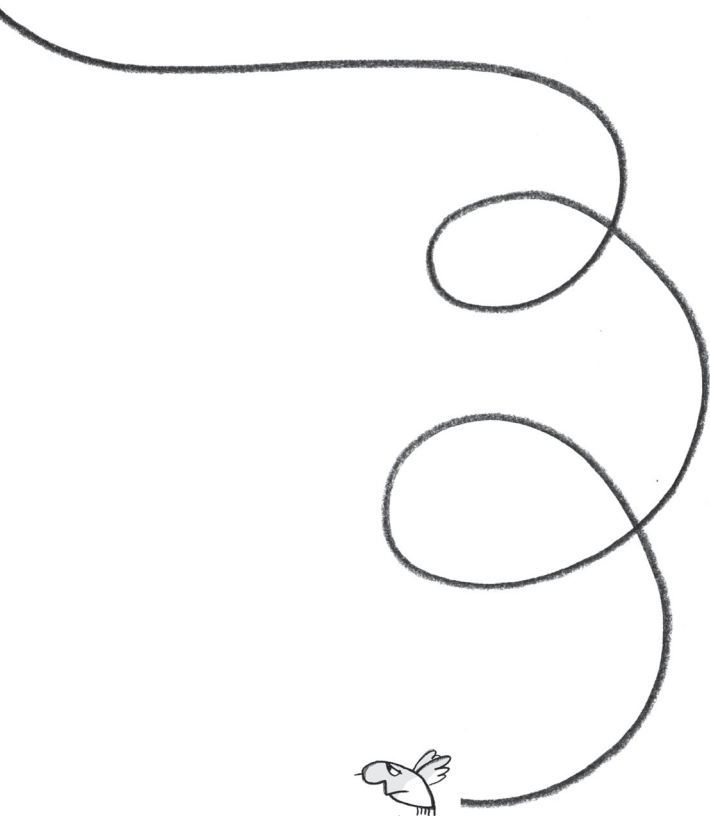
**Mrs. Tadros**  
Science teacher



**Jonjon-Jonjon-  
Jonjon Johnson**  
Classmate,  
twin of Jeanjean

**Jeanjean-Jeanjean-  
Jeanjean Johnson**  
Classmate, twin of Jonjon





This is an actual  
grobsnot, in case you  
were wondering.

# Chapter 1

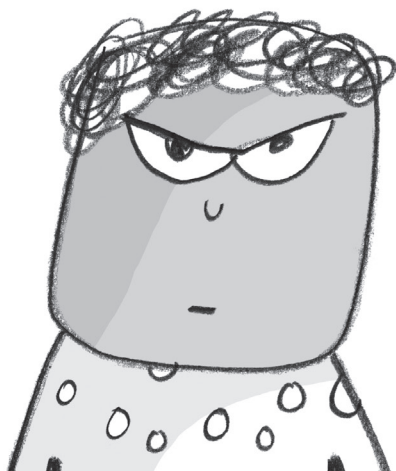
# Before Breakfast



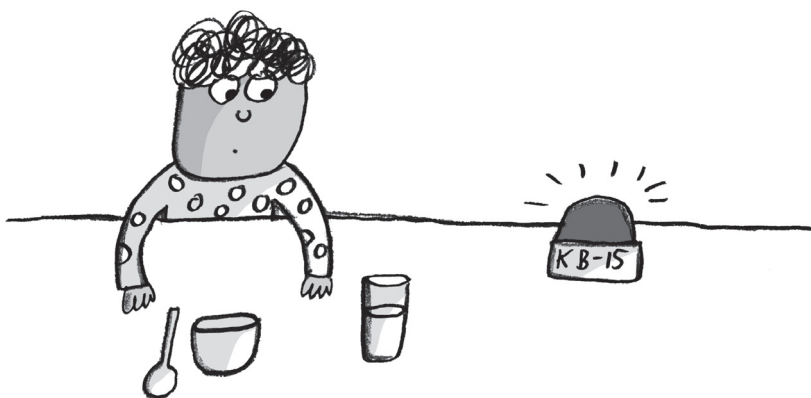


It REALLY annoys me when  
one gets into a  
**Total Mayhem Situation**  
before breakfast.

Which is exactly what  
happened to me this  
morning.



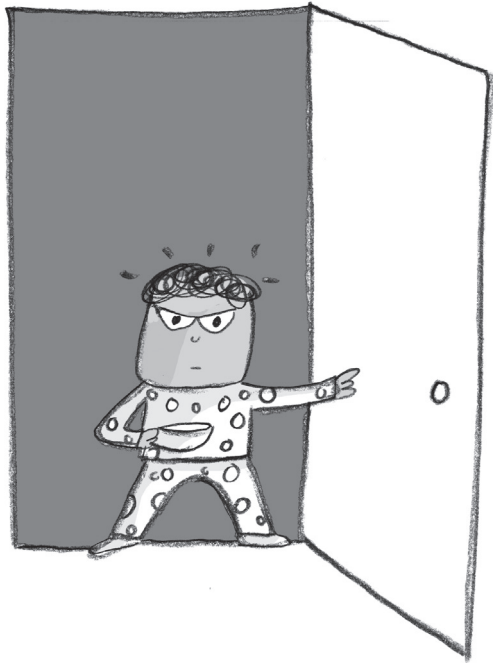
I had just poured myself a glass of fresh wombat juice and was sitting down to a bowl of cereal when my KB-15 started flashing **red**.



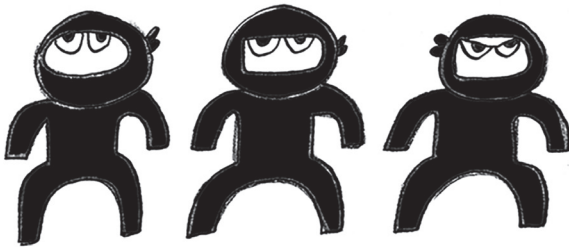
As you probably know, a red flashing KB-15 means **DANGER IS VERY CLOSE!!**

I didn't even have  
time to prepare.

I went straight to the  
front door, opened it,  
and there I saw them.



**Three combat-ready  
scallywags.**

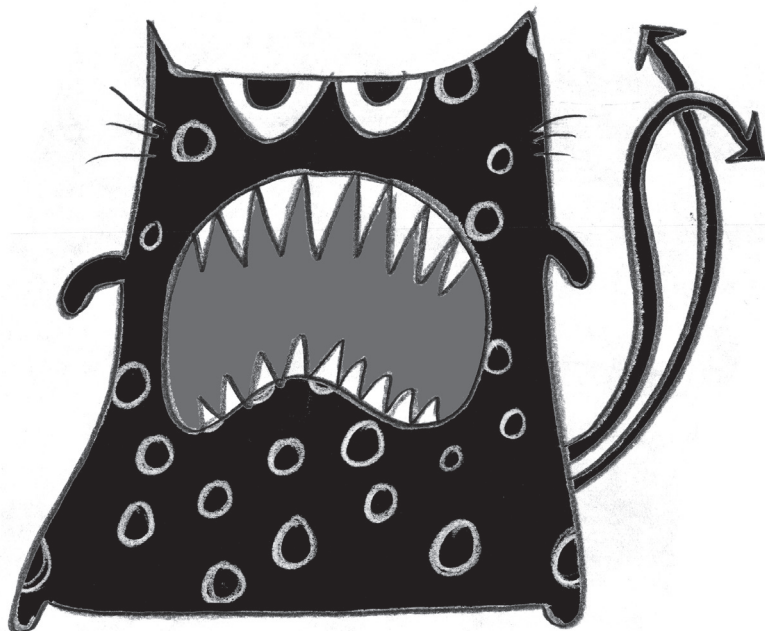


And not just any old  
scallywags.

**Wrestle-Scallywags!**

The most agile  
scallywags around.

And beside them was the  
**two-tailed**  
**Devil-Cat!**



I knew immediately that  
this was  
**NOT**  
a good situation  
because:



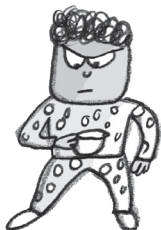
[a] I was still  
in my pajamas,



[b] I was outnumbered,



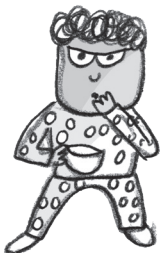
[c] I was still holding  
my bowl of cereal,



and [d]

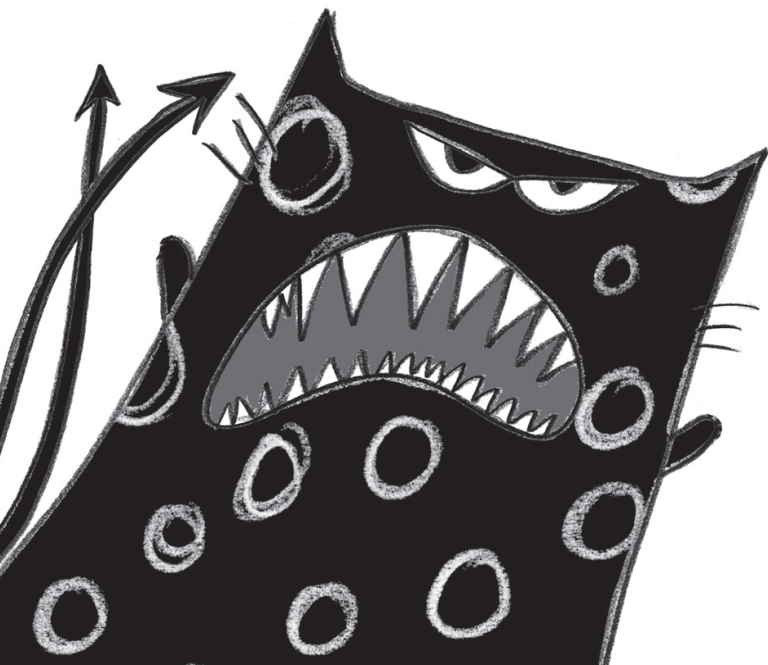


actually I  
can't remember  
what [d] was.



I've been in a lot of  
situations with the  
two-tailed Devil-Cat  
before.

He is very, **very**,  
very, very, very,  
very, very, very,  
very, very, very, very,  
very, **very**, very,  
very, very dangerous



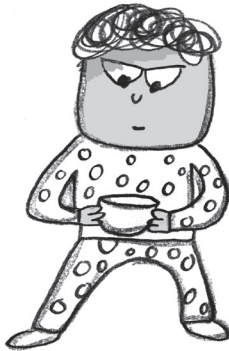


and you need to move  
calmly yet  
super quickly,  
which is what I did.

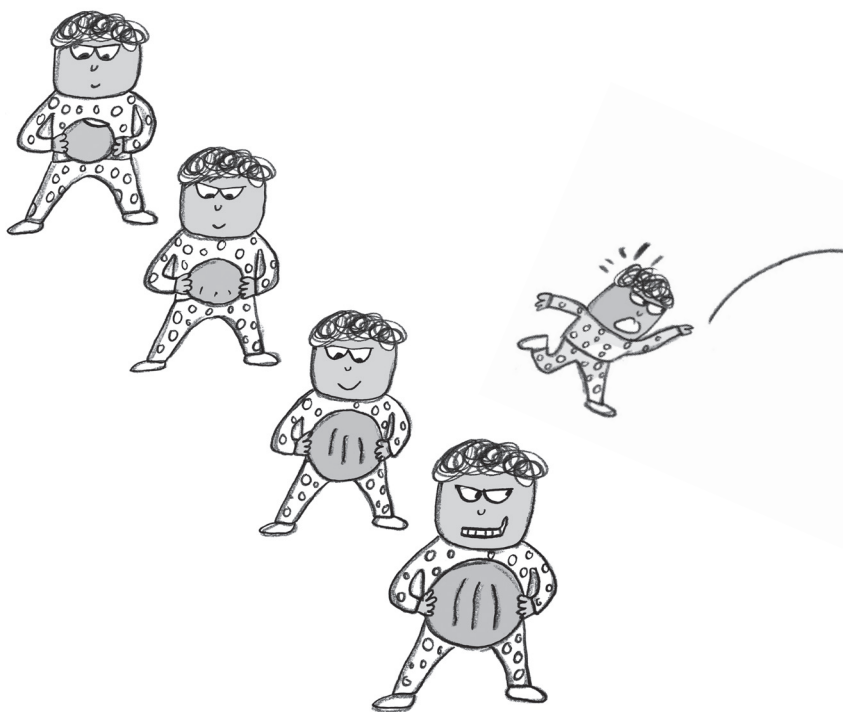
I activated my  
transformer  
(which I always  
have on me).



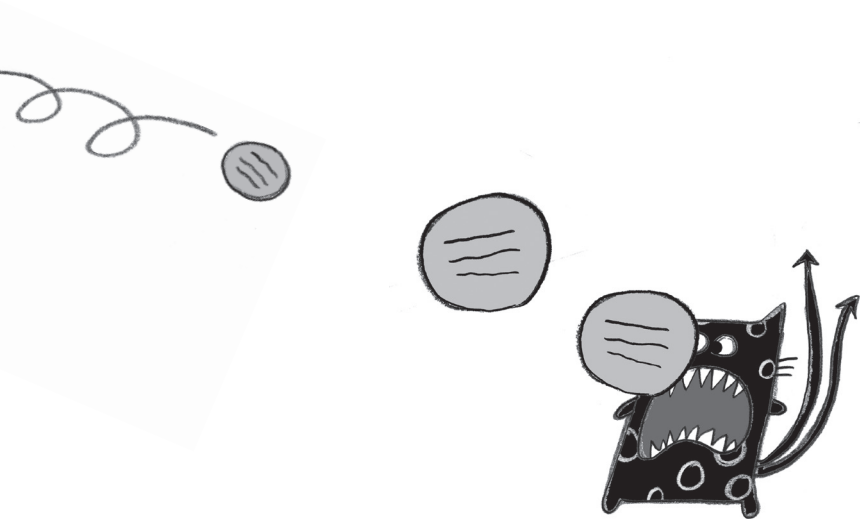
This transformed  
my cereal bowl



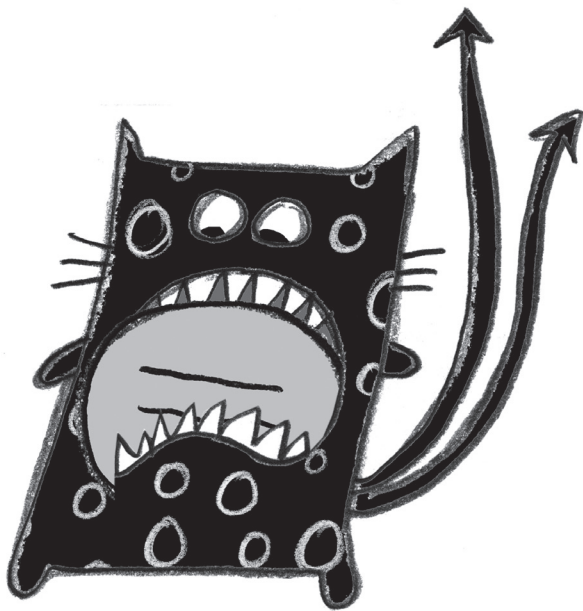
into a  
watermelon,



which I  
**hurled**  
straight at  
Devil-Cat.



Perfectly on target,  
the watermelon got  
stuck in his mouth and  
he was out of the game,  
for now.



If you have a  
watermelon in your  
mouth, there's not much  
you can do about it.

Next, the scallywags.

I have had over  
**345 encounters**  
with Wrestle-Scallywags,  
and I know you need to  
act fast.

These ones were  
ready to fight.

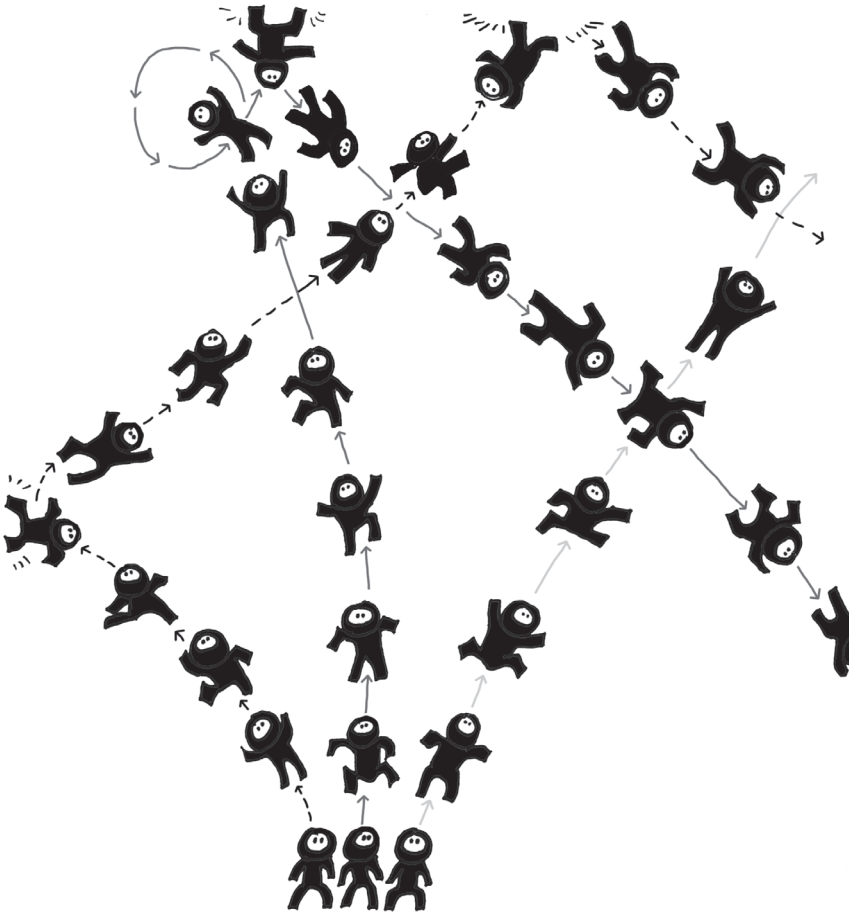


And as you may know from  
the Almanac,  
Wrestle-Scallywags  
master over 27,004  
different moves each.

So theoretically  
I had faced  
**81,012**  
different moves.

And while I know  
the Almanac  
well, I don't  
know every  
single move.

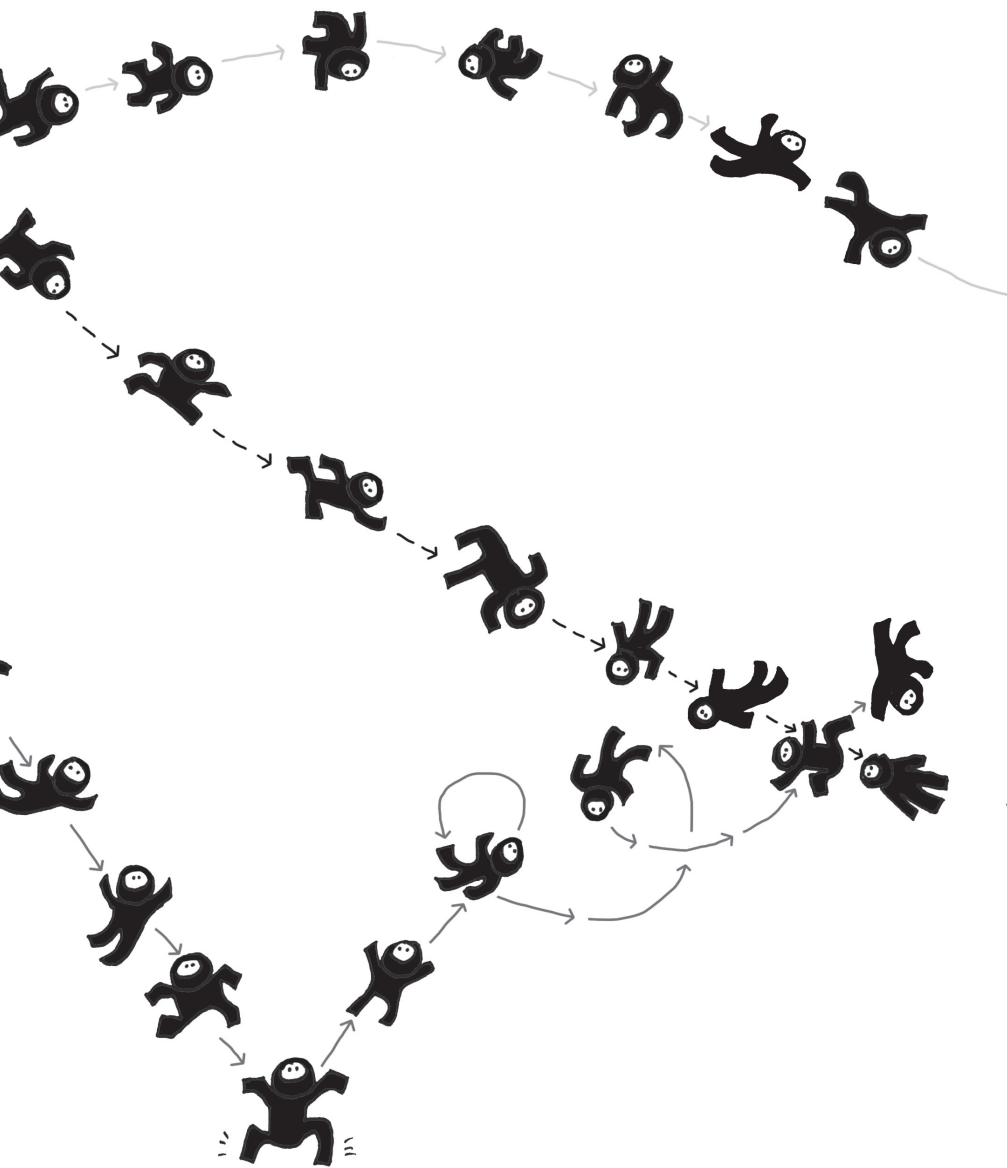




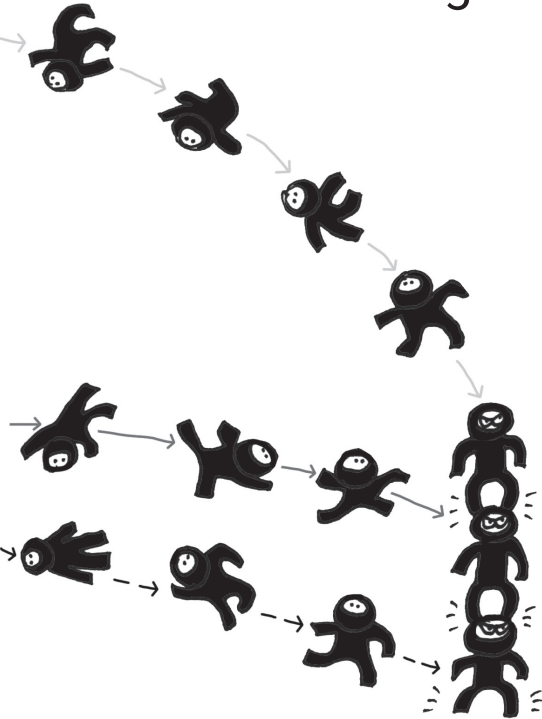
They immediately  
went into

**Move #6694**  
**(Tower)**





which is a  
**very**  
dangerous



*three-against-one*  
configuration.

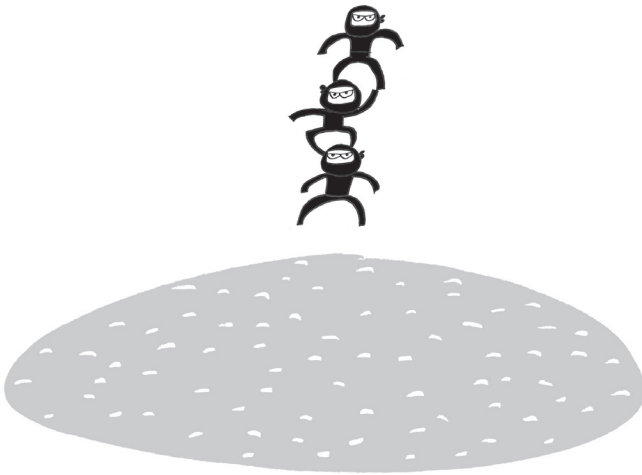
So I reactivated  
my transformer



to change the ground  
between us into  
quicksand.

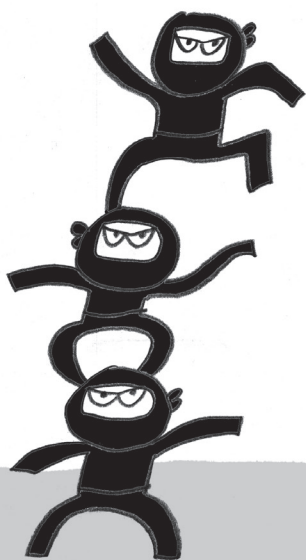
**“WHY QUICKSAND?!”**  
I hear you ask.

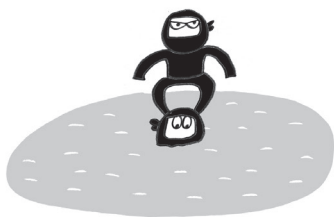
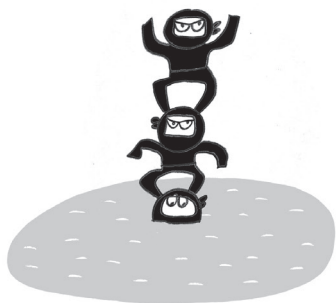
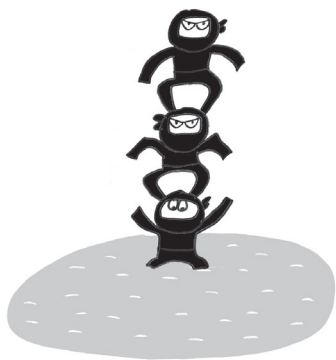
Unfortunately I don't have  
time to explain my **every**  
**move** when I'm in a  
Total Mayhem Situation.  
Sorry.



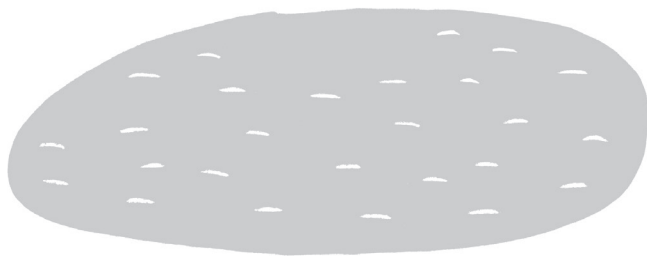
The Wrestle-Scallywags  
began to advance.

But they didn't see  
the quicksand and...

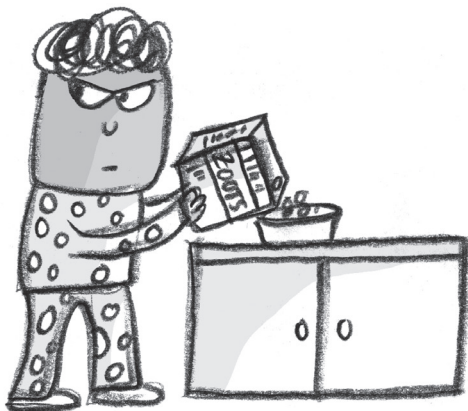




...game over.



I went back inside and  
poured myself another  
bowl of cereal.





And that's how  
my day started.

It was kind of annoying.

With no wombat juice, plus  
I had to eat my cereal  
really fast. But that's  
what you have to deal with  
when you are me.

