

Dumpling and the Mystery Sneezer

By Candy Gourlay and Olivia Snookes

One day Dumpling the Unicorn was trotting along, minding her own business when she heard a voice.

‘Ah,’ said the voice. ‘Ahhhhh ...’ It was the beginning of a sneeze.

‘Who could that be?’ Dumpling wondered. She looked high and she looked low. She looked leftways and she looked rightways. She looked frontways and sideways.

But there was nobody in sight. She was all alone on Volcano Island.

‘AHHHHH ... Oh help!’ the voice said. ‘AHHHHHH...’ But no. The sneeze didn’t happen.

‘Hey, I can help you sneeze!’ Dumpling said. ‘But where *are* you? I can’t see you!’

‘AHHH!’ this time, the sneezer sounded determined.

‘AHHHHHHHH...’

It was going to happen!

‘AHHHHHHHH...’

But it didn’t.

Well, thought Dumpling. I’ll just have to help without seeing you!

So Dumpling tossed her curly golden main with matching horn and began to gallop as fast as her magenta legs could go.

She galloped up and she galloped down and she galloped round and round until at last a great tickle wind began to grow.

‘Grow, tickle wind, grow!’ Dumpling cried. ‘There’s nothing like a tickle to help a sneezer!’

The tickle wind got bigger and bigger and bigger and then ...it began to tickle everything!

It tickled the clouds, it tickled the grass, and it tickled Dumpling until she was rolling around on the ground with laughter.

It tickled and tickled and tickled until – there was a rumbling noise.

'AHHHH ... oh that tickles ... AHHHHHH ... oh STOP you're tickling me!
AHHHH ...

AHHHHHCHOOOOOOO!

Suddenly the volcano began to erupt!

Huge marshmallows blew up into the sky!

Maple syrup oozed out of its crater!

Great big gummy sweets blooped down its sides!

'Awww, it's just you, Volcano!' Dumpling laughed. 'Why didn't you just say!'

'I was too sneezy!' Volcano said. 'Thanks for your help! Have a marshmallow!'

The End