



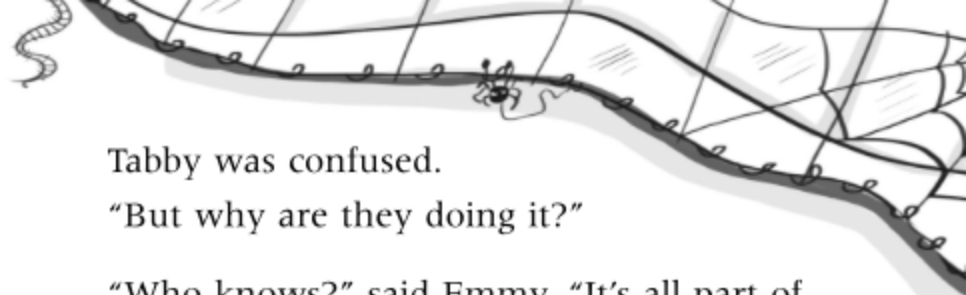
We ran through the door, bolted it behind us, and looked around in amazement.

I had never been allowed inside Emmy's lighthouse laboratory before, and I had never seen anything like it.

Imagine a toyshop, a zoo, a costume shop and a library, all mixed together and rolled into one. There was a huge telescope that reached right up to a big glass-dome ceiling. Every surface was piled high with potions and props and scribbled pieces of paper and high-tech equipment – and black marks from where things had exploded.

"I knew this day would come," said Emmy sadly. "Everyone told me I was talking nonsense, but I knew that aliens would try to invade us. Those strange lights I saw last week must have been their spaceship.

That fancy dinner was just an excuse to get every adult on Finney Island in one place and turn them into robots."



Tabby was confused.

"But why are they doing it?"

"Who knows?" said Emmy. "It's all part of the aliens' evil plan. First, they replaced the adults; now, they've got every child on the island to stay indoors - all so they can continue the plans for their invasion!"

It was all so much to take in. "Emmy, what are we going to do?"

Emmy put her hands on her hips.

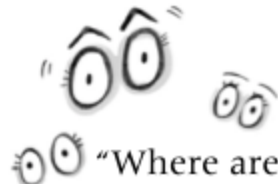
"I'll tell you exactly what we're going to do, Ash. We're going to deal with those aliens! You, me and Tabitha are the only people left on Finney Island who can free the children and bring back all the adults before it's too late."

She grabbed us by the hands. "Come on, kids. It's time to save the world!"



TO BE CONTINUED ...





"Where are all the children?" I said.

"Stuck inside, just like you!" said Aunt Emmy.

Sure enough, you could see the children hunched over brand-new GAMER-X CUBEs through every window, staring at their screens.

"Quick!" said Emmy. "Everyone into the Emborghini!"

The Emborghini is what Emmy calls her car. It's got big rusty patches on it and one of the windows is just an old bin liner. We leaped into the backseat, and Emmy sped off as fast as she could. Through the windows, I could see child after child playing computer games, and adult after adult patrolling the streets with sinister smiles. Emmy was right – they were all robots!

We finally came to a screeching halt outside Emmy's lighthouse laboratory.

"We'll be safe here," she said.

"I alien-proofed it years ago!"