

Pepper Nose and the fireworks

By Martin S. Beckley

It was a very cold November morning; Mrs. Bun was up early making her special VERY-Hot-Dogs. The wizard was up early as well; blue, green and orange flashes came from his tree. Pepper Nose awoke and looked out of his window. It had rained during the night and everything was wet. The large pile of wood, stacked ready for the bonfire, was soaked. 'Oh no,' he thought, 'we won't get the wood dry for tonight's bonfire.' Just then, Lemon Head knocked on his front door and Pepper Nose went downstairs and let him in. 'What are we going to do about the bonfire?' asked Lemon Head. 'Let's eat breakfast and think about it,' said Pepper Nose. They both had a glass of milk each and some lemon curd on toast. 'I know,' said Lemon Head, 'we could ask wizard to magic it dry.' 'No, the wizard is too busy today, making the fireworks,' said Pepper Nose. They ate and thought some more. 'I know,' said Lemon Head, 'we could get everyone to dry the wood with their hairdryers.' 'No, that will take too long,' said Pepper Nose. So they ate and thought a bit more. 'I know,' said Lemon Head, 'we could ask the baby dragon to dry the wood with his fire breath.' 'Now that is a good idea,' said Pepper Nose. They set off to find the dragon. The baby dragon was very pleased to be able to help and gave Pepper Nose and Lemon Head a ride back to the bonfire. He breathed his fire all morning, being very careful not to set the wood alight. Finally the wood was dry. The wizard arranged his fireworks on the ground.

He placed a magic number next to each one so they would go off when he called their number. 'What are they?' asked the dragon who had never seen fireworks before. 'Oh they go fizz and whiz with lots of pretty colours,' explained Lemon Head.

That evening Mrs. Bun set up a stall and handed out her VERY-Hot-Dogs and the baby dragon set the bonfire alight. Everyone cheered. Pepper Nose took a bite of his VERY-Hot-Dog, the spices made his tongue tingle. The tingle spread to his throat and up his nose. 'ATISHOOOOOOOO!' Number two firework thought Pepper Nose had called her number and so she jumped up into the sky, WHOOSH! Lemon Head was excited and shouted 'Weeeeeee!' Number three firework thought that Lemon Head had said 'Three,' so she jumped into the sky, WHOOSH! Number two firework crackled with purple stars. Number three firework exploded with a loud orange BANG! The baby dragon was frightened, 'Aaaaahhhhhh!' A big flame shot from his mouth and lit the rest of the fireworks. They all went up together. WHOOSH, WHIZZ, FIZZZZZZ, CRACKLE, FIZZZZZZ, BANG! Everyone said it was the best firework display they had ever seen.

