

TEN WORD TALES EASTER SPECIALS

# **The Guava Palava**

by The Story Spinner

## CHAPTER 3



That night Nick and Norma went up to bed not long after sunset and fell asleep, feeling very happy. They did not feel happy, however, when they were both woken in the middle of the night by a loud ringing. Nick picked up his phone. It was Mick.

“I know it’s the middle of the night but we wanted you to know.”

“Know what?” asked Nick, anxiously.

“You don’t need to worry,” continued Mick.

“Worry about what?” yelled Nick.

Mick explained that there had been an attempted break-in at the greenhouse. The alarm had gone off. Mick and Melanie had run into the garden in their pyjamas and chased a stranger who ran away over the garden wall. They had called the police.

“The police thought it might be one of your enemies, spying.”

“I don’t have enemies.”

“Well, your rivals I mean.”

Nick knew that now he was winning prizes it could be a bit annoying for others but no one had ever seemed angry at the competitions.

When Nick had won the Great Guava Trophy, the gardeners who came second and third congratulated him very kindly, even young Ken from Kew Gardens, who had previously won the Guava Trophy six times in a row.

Nick shook his velvety head to get rid of the idea of someone far away hating him and thanked Mick for chasing the intruder and keeping the greenhouse safe.

“No worries,” said Mick. “Enjoy the rest of the holiday. The police will keep a sharp eye on things from now on.”

Norma had heard everything. They lay talking about whether Nick might have an enemy after all until the sun began to rise and the howls, twitters, hums and rustles of the wakening forest told them it was time to get up.

*Watch out for Chapter 4 tomorrow!*