

Young Writers Club 2014

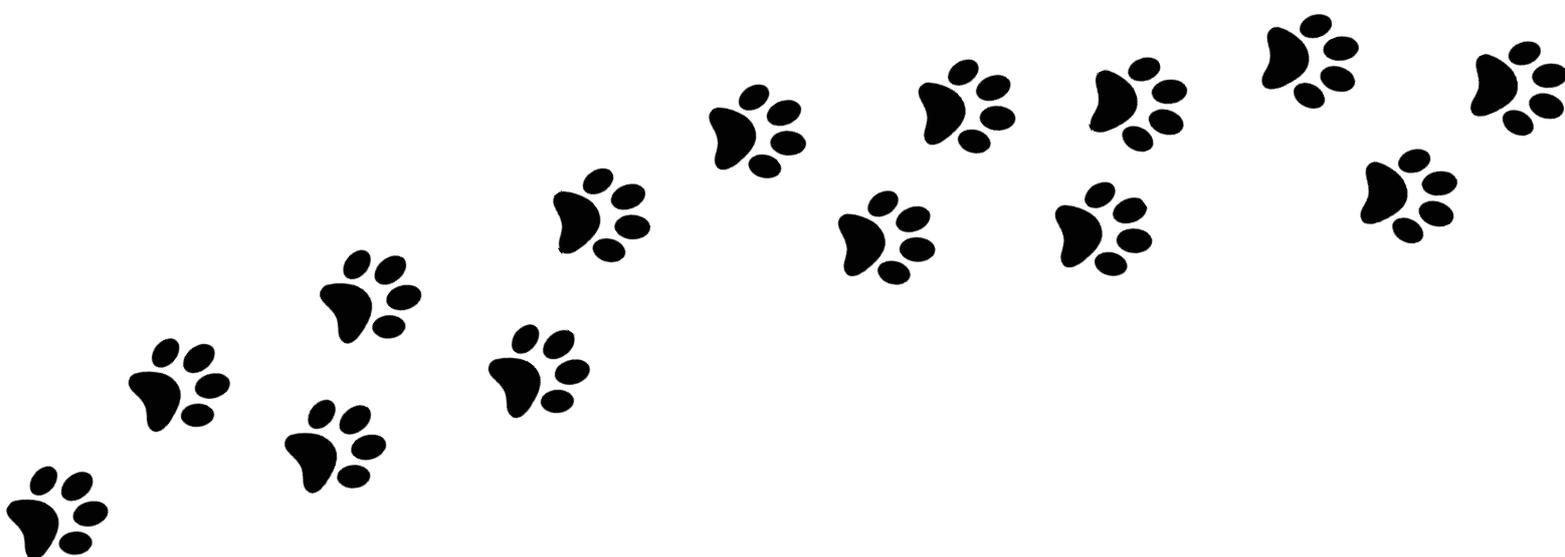
Tales from the Black Cat



Charmaine Clancy

Tales from the Black Cat

Matilda Clancy: <i>912630</i>	2
May Reilbelt: <i>Pop!</i>	4
Juliette Bourke: <i>Into the Sea and On the Other Side...</i>	5
Matilda Clancy: <i>A Flighty Dialogue</i>	7
Alicia Chou: <i>The Weeping Angel</i>	8
MayReilbelt: <i>WhichOne?</i>	10
Jade Simons: <i>Who Might it Be?</i>	11
Ailish O’Dea-Jones: <i>Breath</i>	12
Ailish O’Dea-Jones: <i>The Strange Girl and the Pea</i>	13
Aerin Mitchell: <i>The Accident</i>	14
Belle Milnes: <i>The Magic Sisters</i>	15
Issac Milnes: <i>Crazy Chaos in the Crystal Caves</i>	17
Emily Clancy: <i>Drink Me</i>	19



912630

by Matilda Clancy

365 days since the accident. We have been stuck in a crashed star-liner for exactly a year from today. Starship 912630 was traveling east from Earth when an unregistered planet sucked the ship into its atmosphere. Only myself and one other survived, Steven, the engine technician. He was able to reconstruct the computer database and salvage the main computer's conscience. I named it Clara, after my younger sister.

The ship fell head first. All crew members were in the front cabin of the ship. All passengers were in the entertainment hall for a special announcement. Steven and I were in the engine cabin over-checking if we were running correctly.

After a few months we decided to abandon ship in search for more supplies, when a glimpse of Clara's hologram tried to grasp itself onto the surface of the ship. Steven and I managed to recover the database. We never actually knew the ship had a conscience until that day, but we learned it needed her in order to run. Clara was tied with the ship and couldn't leave.

"Clara, you're still connected to the internal database, correct?"

"Yes," the hologram raised an eyebrow.

"Can you come into contact with the external one and send an S.O.S"

"I'm not sure, maybe," she sighed, "it would only work if we could recover the engine and the radio signal."

"We don't have enough supplies," Steven gave a stern look toward Clara.

"Then what are we going to do?" I shot Clara a pleading look.

"I might be able to turn all of the systems on with a back-up power generator." Clara bit her lip.

"Don't tell me, we don't have a power generator." I gave a grimace.

"No, but if the core engine is still salvageable I can fix it, but you would have ten minutes to turn on the engine and send the S.O.S."

"But in order to do that..." Steven stared sorrowfully at Clara.

"What is the matter?" I say.

"Nothing," I notice a tear fall down her cheek.

Steven had figured out Clara's plan and knew it was going to kill her, or whatever was left of her.

"Goodbye" Clara smiled, with more tears welling up.

“Bye,” Steven and I whispered.

We run toward the engine as fast as we can.

“I suggest one of you are in the engine room while the other waits in the communications sector to send the S.O.S, then meet at the selected destination in which the help is to arrive.” Clara says.

“How can we hear you?” I look around to see if Clara is still there.

“I hacked the loudspeaker so it acts like a telephone call, whatever you say, everyone else will hear it. ”

“Clever,” Steven smiled.

“You turn on the engine and give me the order for when to send the signal.”

“Okay.” We both run in separate directions to reach the location in time.

I get to the communications deck and wait for the order.

“It’s turned on!”

I quickly switch on the external database.

“Hello this is crew member 395 aboard starship 912630 do I have a reading?”

“Yes this is captain from starship 69315, what’s the issue?”

“Oh thank god, the starship has been stuck on an unknown planet for a year, we require assistance”

“How many survivors?”

“Two, including myself.”

“A rescue ship has tracked your signal and will arrive in 20 minutes at the boarding deck.”

“Thank you so much Captain!” I hang up the call.

“Did you hear that?”

“We are going home” Steven says with excitement.

I run with all the speed left in me, we were finally going home.

POP!

by May Reibelt

The goblin's head went pop!
as he walked through the swamp,
he had to hold his head on tight
but then he heard a 'stomp'.
He turned to see a giant
who asked, "what happened to your head?"
"I sneezed and my head went pop!"
"I will hammer it back on," the giant said.
So the giant banged it back on,
which left the goblin in a daze.
But he had good manners and said "thanks"
then they went their separate ways.

Into the sea and on the other side

by Juliette Bourke

It gets emotional here on the other side as I call it. The other side is basically being a ghost, but I call it the other side because I don't think it hurts as much. I think. Maybe I want it to mean something different, but I know it means I'm a ghost. My brother is here too, Derrick.

Every time I cry, he says to me, "Don't cry, it's no use." But I bet he cries when I'm not there, actually I think I heard him once but I'm not sure if that was a dream or something. Despite his words I still cry, maybe because I hope that someone will be there to say it's going to be alright when it's not. Even on the other side Derrick still trips on his shoe laces and that was going to be our down fall.

I want to be with my family but most of all with my little sister. I see you must be confused. I would be too. I'll take you back to when our family was packing for our holiday and I had just found out. Let's just say I didn't take it very well.

"Muumum," I whined, "do we have to go because I don't want to." I had crossed my arms and stamped my feet angrily. I had even thrown my iPod and cracked the screen I was that upset. I think I was going through a stage or something.

"Yes and your brother too. We've got to be like other families, lots of holidays going everywhere, not sitting around doing nothing and being bored all day," Mum exclaimed packing her purse and suitcase.

"But I like sitting around being bored all day, it's better than going on a holiday and worst of all, Derricks going! Now I'm definitely not going," I yelled. I must have been a very hard child to look after. I'm actually kind of surprised that my parents didn't get rid of me. Oops did I say that out loud.

"Please Katrina don't be like this. Either way you're still going, now can you please pack your suit case and at least make an effort try to enjoy this holiday. Thank you," mum sighed and walked off.

"Yeah sure thing, I'll try," I growled. Great, I'm going on a holiday and I really don't want to, my annoying brother is going to be there as well as my little screaming, stupid sister. What could possibly be worse? I was quite the complainer.

The next day we were on the plane to Phuket, Thailand. The flight was 10 hours from Brisbane. The whole way there I wouldn't shut my mouth for one minute. I just kept complaining "Are we there yet?" Classic. "I'm bored, I'm hungry, I'm stiff, oh guess what happened at school last week."

When we got there it was night time, so I fell asleep in the cab, but when we arrived mum had woken me up and I wasn't very happy. We had to wait forever before we got our room, well forever is what it felt like. When we got our room it was beautiful but all I did was complain. The hotel is fantastic, there was a large pool with a bar in it so you could swim up to the bar and order something. Sadly we were only going to stay there one night. The next day we went to our boat and stayed there.

We had only been on the boat a couple days. When we got off the boat we went shopping and ate some awesome food. I was starting to enjoy myself. My parents didn't say anything, they didn't want to ruin it for me. I wouldn't either. It was Wednesday when Derrick and I decided to play tiggy on the boat. I was the one chasing him, and when I cornered him he kept walking backwards and wouldn't stop. He tripped on his shoe laces and fell into the water. That figures. The bad thing was that we didn't know how to swim.

We'd never swam before, but I couldn't just stand there calling out "Mum, Dad help!" So I jumped into the water to save him. I was looking everywhere but I couldn't find him. I was nearly out of breath when I found him. My head was starting to ache but I pushed the pain aside. He was just floating like he was dead, I swam as fast as I could to him and as I touched him he woke. I was out of breath and so was he. My head felt like it was going to explode.

Derrick looked up at me and his eyes said, "I don't want to die." I didn't either. So I hugged him as he did me. Right then the pain was slipping from my head to almost nothing and my eye lids were becoming heavy. Finally we both passed out, everything went black.....

That's how my brother and I lived and died, me at 14 and Derrick at 16. It can get quite boring and lonely over here on the other side, I'm not complaining and death was all it took to set me out straight. Why couldn't it be me writing in a diary then reading over it and me thinking "bloody hell, I am such a brat," or something? Oh and why couldn't I go to heaven or..... Well not hell because I don't want to go to hell, instead of the other side?

You know what, life really does suck, especially since I'm stuck with my brother. but he's all I've got. What also sucks is that I'm 14 and probably staying 14 forever, I mean I want to have a family, grow old and die old, not die young. I guess there's no way of changing that.

By Katrina

A Flighty dialogue

by Matilda Clancy

“Just fall asleep, it will calm you down.”

“Just fall asleep, you want me to just fall asleep when this thing could crash any minute now!” I stare at my friend Claire with ferocity.

“Don’t worry we are not going to crash, planes are one of the most safest places in the world.” She looked at me smiling and nodding, as if agreeing with her own statement.

“That is definitely not true” I fold my arms and turn my face away from her like a child having a tantrum, but soon turn back when I see how far up we are from land.

“Well we have a lovely view, don’t you think?” Claire pointed toward the small window, I lift the palm of my hand toward my face and sigh.

“Wonderful, just wonderful, we’ll get a lovely view when we all die!”

“Keep your voice down we are not going to die on this plane!” she said with a harsh whisper. I turn my head around to notice all the passengers were staring at us.

“Why couldn’t we take a boat!” I complained.

“You know I get really bad seasickness.”

“Claire!” I reply in a nagging tone.

“Come on, it’s not much longer now,” she gives me a reassuring smile.

“I hate you,” I cross my arms again.

“That’s the spirit!” Claire screams a little too loudly.

The weeping Angel

by Alicia Chou

hi I'm Mason Williams, I'm in year 8. I have 2 annoying brothers, 1 embarrassing mum and well I guess a scientific genius dad, who always makes simple words complicated.

Ok let's start with my big brother Jay Williams. He's a grubby teenager, with zits and pimples on his oily face. Next up is James Williams my little brother. He looks innocent and cute, but if you are his family member... then you're in trouble. Once he even broke my completely new Play Station 3, with his big chubby fingers! This next member is so embarrassing I don't even want to tell you—it's my mum, Rose Williams. What's so embarrassing about my mum? Well, she calls me stupid things at school like my baby boy, cutie pie and others. Mum also has a habit of putting make up on in the car. What's so bad about that? Well let me see.... EVERYTHING! The car shakes and jumps so when she puts her eye liner, lip stick and fake eye lashers it goes everywhere. She looks like a clown when we get to our destination! Last member is Stanley Williams, my scientific genius dad. What's so bad about that? He always uses complicated scientific words. For example Homo sapiens are humans, Odontoceti are Bottlenose Dolphin and Mysticeti are Grey Whales.

Now a bit about myself, I like dogs, cats, turtle, video games and especially weeping angles. This is where the story begins. I was in my backyard on the trampoline... jumping, when a voice behind me said, "Looking for wimpy angels, again?"

Straight away I knew who it was. My big brother Jay. He was right; I jump on the trampoline and see if I can find any weeping angels on the small mountain near our house, but there's no way I was telling him that.

I replied, "No and they're weeping angels, not wimpy angels!"

Jay turned around and said, "Whatever wimp."

I continued my search on my trampoline. I was about to give up. I did a massive fart for my last jump. It sent me high into the sky so it felt like flying. Up there, I saw something I have been waiting to see for years— a WEEPING ANGEL!

Two things raced through my mind at once, *is it real?* and *don't blink!* Then I came smashing to the ground. Yes the ground! Not the trampoline, this must have been the doing of the weeping angel!

I screamed in pain. Mum and Dad came rushing out.

They rushed me to the nearest hospital.

I had a broken arm. I got a green cast and drew stuff all over it. Once

we returned home, I went up to my bedroom to read my weeping angel books. But when I got there my books were gone, completely gone.

I turned around and there in front of me was... no it wasn't a weeping angel, it was my mum.

“Looking for your books?”

I replied “Yes!”

My mum said “I put them in the bin and the garbage truck just came.”

My jaw dropped, my brain exploded, I fainted.

That is all I remember of that day and I never forgave mum for what she did to my precious books.

Which one?

by May Reibelt

There's a lot of poors.

There is poor, pour, pore and paw.

Paws are confusing.

who might it be?

by Jade Simons

"Hello class. We have a new student. Her name is Who", said the teacher.

Everybody laughed. Who ever heard of a girl called Who? But Who felt hurt.

At lunchtime, Who explored the school. She wanted a friend because she was struggling to fit in. When she got home that day, she created a new friend in her dad's shed. She used tin, nails and a hammer. The next day, she brought her new friend to school. Everyone was talking about her and she became very popular.

Later that week, Who was exploring her new neighbourhood when she took a wrong turn. She found an abandoned local swimming pool and walked towards it. Suddenly, Who tripped over and fell down a big hole. She got back up and hit her head. "Ow!" she said. She looked up and saw she was in an underground cave. It took her breath away. She explored deeper into the cave. She saw loads of skeleton heads and bodies. She screamed and ran out and didn't stop running until she got home.

The very next day, she went back to the abandoned swimming pool. Through some bushes, she looked toward the cave and could see some ghost activity. One ghost floated out of the cave and he was followed by lots of ghosts, all white and moaning. Who was scared but when she turned around the friend she had created was there. Who and her friend followed the ghosts. The ghosts went behind the swimming pool. Who saw lots of dead bodies in a graveyard but she wasn't scared. She walked back home with her friend and told her parents what she saw, but they didn't believe her.

Breath - chapter one

by Ailish O'Dea-Jones

I was laying on my back, 'looking' up at the watery sky. My breath was only bubbles now. I only saw what this water world would let me see. This was my home now. The place were I would lay dying. Drowning in this endless ocean. Letting my life seep away. I had always liked the water.

Suddenly, an explosion of bubbles came from above cutting across my thoughts.

It all came rushing back. I was in the pool, it was raining outside and the bubbles were trying to pull me up.

UP! Into the world above. My breath was harsh. I sucked a sharp breath in. My arm reached out for the brick edge.

I hurled myself over the edge. The bomb of bubbles was nowhere to be seen. The shape of it had made it look like a animal, but I had a distinct feeling that it wasn't. The pool gate was shut, and I didn't have any pets.

Maybe it was my imagination, maybe it was a message from a guardian. I didn't know.

There was a rustle behind me. I turned around to see a figure sitting on a rock staring at me with intent eyes of wonder...

The strange girl and the pea

by Ailish O'Dea-Jones

A strange girl came to the castle door last night. She had rabid clothes and smelt of the streets.

The prince was disgusted at the sight of her, and yet, he let her sleep in the bed that the princesses sleep in when they audition to marry the prince.

The next morning the girl came out of the room and into the dining room. The prince asked her the same question as the others, "How did you sleep?"

She answered, "Horrible, I hated it, it was the worst sleep I have ever had!"

I was bewildered after this because the prince laughed and smiled. He obviously took that in.

She asked, "Why did you laugh?" She was not happy.

The prince apologised and said, "Will you marry me?"

The girl said "Yes."

The Accident

by Aerin Mitchell

My ears were ringing with the those same words over and over again. I can't believe that I'm grounded. I mean what did I do just a little slip up on the phone nothing major.

Let me start from the beginning. I was just at school doing math doodling in my notebook as usual. "What was the answer for question 32?" Mrs Mall asked me. Naturally I had already finished my test, but before I could say anything the phone rang. "Hold that thought Aerin", my teacher explained.

The phone was for me, It was my mum and she was on speaker phone! I quickly picked up the receiver and whispered, "Hey Mummy what's happened?" so no-one could hear me.

As she answered my hands trembled, "Your father is back in town and I wondered whether you wanted to go see him." My mum had always told me before, "never let learning get in the way of life."

Because I was totally scared I couldn't meet my dad. I hadn't seen him for 3 years. So I thought I'd just tell her I have home work to do, yeah Perfect! But just before I could say anything mum yelled stressfully "HE'S PICKING YOU UP FROM SCHOOL THIS AFTERNOON" and hung up.

Later on that day I was waiting in the pickup area all alone my dad was supposed to pick me up. Just as I was about to go up to the office to call Mum, I heard a sports car zoom up towards the pickup area. It stopped in front of me.

It was my dad! After the usual hellos I clambered into the back seat and we were off. When we got home Dad plonked onto the couch and turned on the fishing channel. I grabbed the phone and rushed upstairs and just as I was about to dial my best friend Lilly's number, I tripped and dropped the phone, then I carelessly pressed the "talk" button and I heard through the receiver "What is your emergency?"

"My dad, that's my emergency," I replied

"Where do you live?", she asked

"80 Walter St Springwood, you know that silly", and before I knew it I could hear sirens outside my house and my door breaking down. I ran down stairs as fast as possible and there were ten or so police pointing their guns at my dad.

And you could probably guess what happened next. Mum found out banned my phone for a month and grounded me and now I'm here in my bedroom writing this story.

Magic sisters

by Belle Milnes

The house next to the farm is owned by Mr and Mrs Open. The Open's have two grandchildren, both of them are girls. Their names are Kate and Kieran.

Sometimes I go to the town to play with them. I am a puppy and I am nine years old. Kate is also nine. Kieran is four. Oh fine, she is six. Today something very funny happened to the Open family.

Their grandchild Kate became magic - she had a magic finger! She could zap, shoot and kill. But, of course, she didn't kill.

Of course I didn't see. Mr Open told me.

She has a guide to use her powers because they are from God. She knows they are from God because it says "From God". She doesn't use her powers at school, only when she is lazy!!! Or when she has to do chores.

The next day, Kieran got powers. They were flying, shooting and invisibility. She only used shooting at her sister when she was angry but she never got her. Her sister was too good at dodging. She used flying when she couldn't bother to walk to school and she used invisibility when she was playing hide and seek plus she used her invisibility when she got hurt and didn't want people to care for her because she's old enough to care for herself.

Then one day when Kate and Kieran were fighting with their powers, Kate lost her powers for two days because she was so angry at her sister for doing nothing that she lost her powers but she'll get them back. Only if she's good. Then Kieran starting laughing at her and laughing so she lost her powers and couldn't fly anymore so she fell to the ground. And they started doing the chores without powers, going to school by walking every day and not being angry at each other.

So after a week, they got their powers back and they didn't do bad stuff with them. They only did it when they were very tired or their Mum and Dad told them to relax. Then they got another note and it said "Dear Kieran and Kate, when you get older you will still have these powers but when you go to work, you will not be able to use them and if you do, you will lose your powers, this time forever, and you won't get them back. From God."

So when they were angry with each other, they still tried not to use their powers. They just told their Mum and Dad but if it wasn't a bit deal, if it was only a little deal, then they just forgot about it, and moved on.

And then, in life, they became really good friends and sisters, and when

they were older, in work they didn't use their powers and so got to keep them forever. When they got grandchildren, it happened again and their Mum and Dad did not tell them they had it when they were a little girl and boy. Their family was the lucky family because they had a lifecycle of magic. Other families got different powers like superman, immortality and the two of them always wanted to get immortality and flying.

crazy chaos in the crystal caves

by Issac Milnes

Crash went the waves on the side of the rocky cliff. Whoosh went the wind on the water, sounding like a banshee's wail. And while all of this was happening outside, a family was having a heated discussion inside a little white house on Crystal Grotto. Now this isn't your normal everyday family. In this family there is a woman called Belinda, a little black kitten called Ink, a little grey mouse called Blink, a little yellow dog called Mustard and a little pet dragon called Custard.

Now you're probably wondering what the discussion was about? Well if you really want to know, it was about whether or not they should play in the catacombs beneath the house. The argument was Ink, Blink and Mustard against Belinda and Custard. Now the team of three had a guaranteed victory because they had more political power than the team of two. So naturally the team of three won the argument. It was nine pm at night and it was pitch black in the catacombs, so Custard lit a torch for light and sat down and read a book while Ink, Blink and Mustard played to their hearts content until they finally fell asleep at two in the morning.

By the time Ink, Blink, Mustard and Custard had woken up, it was twelve pm and they were all extremely hungry. They all went upstairs to the kitchen. When they got there they found some ham sandwiches so they took a sandwich each and walked into the next room where the dining table was. It was when they got there they found Belinda was already eating her ham sandwich. Five minutes passed. "Mmmmm, those were some good ham sandwiches" stated Belinda. Suddenly Mustard started barking and there was a crash from downstairs. Everybody rushed downstairs to find a Pirate standing in front of the TV with a gun pointing straight at the unusual family he now faced. One minute passed with nobody moving a muscle except the Pirate who took a swig from his hip flask. And then without warning Ink, Blink, and Mustard ran away as fast as they could while Belinda went as white as a sheet and screamed "Help, Help".

Now all that was left was Custard and the Pirate. Custard charged at the Pirate but the Pirate ducked and ran forward towards the secret entrance to the hidden catacombs. The chase began. Custard and the Pirate chased each other round and round the catacombs until at last the Pirate finally found what he was looking for at the centre of the catacombs. The Map. Now you're probably wondering what was the Map a map of. Well the Map was a map of the deadly maze guarding a hidden kingdom. The Crystal Kingdom. But how could the Pirate get past the lasers that were protecting the Map? Before the Pirate could think of how to get

past the lasers, Custard came charging around the corner and in one big chomp Custard ate the Pirate.

Custard walked out of the catacombs and back into the house to be greeted with a big hug from Belinda, Ink, Blink and Mustard. The window got fixed and they all lived Happily Ever After.

Except for the Pirate.

Epilogue

Sometimes at night when Custard is sleeping his thoughts drift to The Map that he saw just before he ate the Pirate and returned to the house.

But that's another story.

Drink Me

by Emily Clancy

drink me, drink me and you will be tipsy,
Drink me, drink me and you may go missing,
Drink me, drink me, if you are willing.

Take me, take me and you will be merry,
Take me, take me and you may be hung,
Take me, take me if you seek some fun.

Consume me, consume me and you will be sickly,
Consume me, consume me and you may find hope,
Consume me, consume me if you can't cope.

The Young Writers Club

hosted by Charmaine Clancy

Our Young Writers Club members range
between 7yrs to 16yrs.

The kids would get together at Black Cat Books
in Paddington, Brisbane, once a month to learn
writing techniques and participate in story-telling
activities.

2015 marks the closing of the iconic Black Cat
Books, although the location will now change, the
writing will continue.

Our members produce some amazing and fun
stories, articles and poems.

This booklet is just a small sample of their talent
and hard work.

Charmaine Clancy hosts the writing workshops.
She is an author of children's books, including:
My Zombie Dog, Undead Kev and Dognapped!

You can find out more about the writing workshops
at: **iTeenWrite.com**

or visit Charmaine's website:

CharmaineClancy.com

