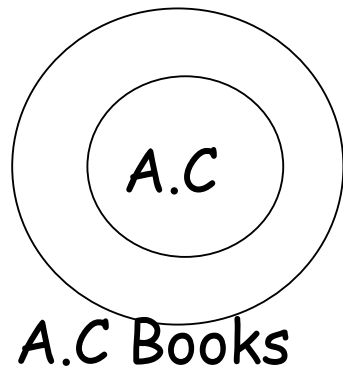
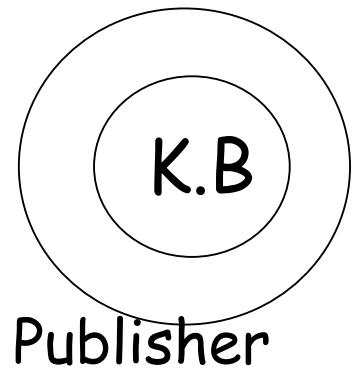


"The curse of the brass curtain has come true!"
When Rocky finds a secret room under a hollow tree
his life is completely ruined. If only his best friend
Chav (Charlie) hadn't talked him into a woodland walk.
And has anyone ever heard of the curse of the brass
curtain?



and

CO.



Chapter 1: The Woodland Walk

Rocky was bored. He and his best friend Chav were going out. Not to a fancy restaurant but on a walk in the woods. The only thing Chav seemed to be interested in was trees. "Look there's an oak and look a beech", said Chav excitedly. "Hey Rocky, what's the matter?" Rocky was looking at a hollow tree. "You could fit a bus in there", he said amazed. "Hey, lets go in!" "Alright, just to keep you happy" said Chav with a sigh. They went in. The space, just as Rocky had described it, was immense and the floor was covered in springy leaves like a trampoline. Suddenly the floor gave way and they both fell through!

Rocky and Chav found themselves in an underground room filled with strange shaped bottles and vases. In the corner there was a big curtain but when Rocky touched it he found it was made of brass! Chav was at a table with a strange pipe mechanism. "Look", said Chav and before Rocky could stop him he had pressed the start button. The machine shook and the boys hid, feeling as if all the air around them was being sucked into the tiny machine. "I hope it's not going to explode!" said Rocky in a worried tone. The noise suddenly stopped. "I am Professor Perspicacious", called a voice from the machine. "You have found my secret workshop, therefore I must warn you. Beware of the curse of the Brass Curtain!" The voice went fuzzy, died away and then the machine blew up! As the dust cleared away Chav stood up. "COOL", he shouted and made a dash for the giant brass curtain before him!

"NOOOOOO", cried Rocky frantically but it was too late. Chav had already got to the curtain and with great difficulty, pulled it open. A look of horror spread across his face and he fainted! When Rocky got to him and saw what there was to see he almost fainted himself but managed to hold on. Behind the curtain there were 2 figures. One had a membership badge saying Prof. Perspicacious. He was a human. The other had no badge at all. And it was no human at all. It was some kind of alien with snake like tentacles. They had both been frozen but they were beginning to melt soon both of them were defrosted and the man screamed. "The curse of the brass curtain has come true!!!" He was then snapped up in the monsters jaws and Rocky couldn't watch as the teeth came crunching down. Chav came too his senses and nearly fainted again but Rocky stopped him and they both rushed for the exit!

You know the feeling you get when you think you're being watched Rocky and Chav had this feeling as they walked down Smokers Road. Suddenly a thing jumped out at them. It was of course... you guessed it... the monster. Chav fell over and the monster was upon him in the blink of an eye. Chav was snatched up and swallowed whole. Rocky had no hope left until the monster froze. It started choking and out came Chav coughed up in a pool of saliva. "Hey why did it cough you up?" Rocky asked curiously. "Probably because I haven't washed this shirt for a month!" replied Chav. "Yuck", said Rocky. But right now we have bigger problems to worry about". They both looked up at the monster that let out a deafening roar and ran forward. The boys went haywire and ran into an alleyway. "This way", cried Rocky and he shoved Chav through an open door at the end. Rocky closed the door behind them and they both looked around. A look of excitement and surprise spread across their faces and they both happily shouted out: "THE RED DEVILS ARSENAL!!!!!"

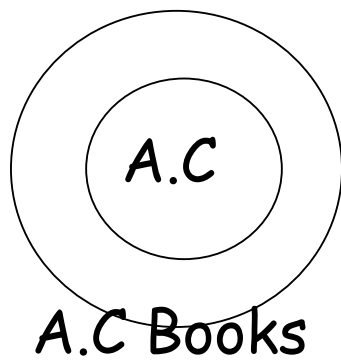
"I never thought I'd find myself doing this", said Rocky. "Me neither", replied Chav. They were kitting up. Rocky had a bazooka and Chav had demolitions in his backpack. "Lets do it", Rocky shouted. "Lock and load", Chav shouted back and they both stepped out to confront the monster. They weren't the only ones with weapons. The Red Devils were coming to the rescue. The Red Devils are a gang that get rid of terrorists. "Get going kids", the leader shouted letting out a spray of machine gun bullets. Although the monster cried out in pain it didn't do it much damage. It angrily ran at the leader and bit his head off. After the death of their leader the Red Devils ran around which made them an easy target. One by one they were picked off. The last man shouted to the boys. "The golden bullet, fire the golden bullet... The hideous jaws came crashing down. The English Red devils had been wiped out! The monsters tongue curled around Chav's stomach and slowly pulled him in. Rocky saw a glint of gold and gasped. Could it be the golden bullet? He dashed over to it and slotted it into his bazooka. He fired and the force sent him flying backwards into a brick wall. He was unconscious. The monster froze at the impact of the bullet and disappeared. Chav called an ambulance and Rocky was rushed to hospital. He had broken a few bones in his ribs but he was going to be okay. His planet was safe.

Rocky junior entered the room. It was full of all kinds of strange stuff but what caught his eye was a brass curtain in the corner. He peeked round and a look of horror spread across his face.....

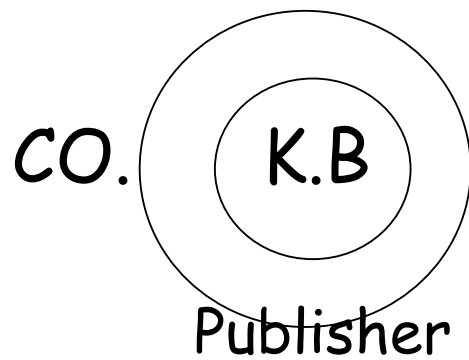
By Alex Coombs

Others from A.C books:

The Bat-Bunnies
Derek The Sheep
Meteor Shower
The Galactic Armada
Ship in the stars
Operation Titanic
The Thunderchild
Welliam Boots And Cottony Socks
The War Of The Garden Gnomes



and



THE BRASS CURTAIN