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## COW TRUMPS AND SHEEP BURPS

## DM BURDETT

When cows go missing from Hackweed Farm, the gang agree to investigate. Little do they know that it's all part of an extravagant plot to take over the World.

Will smelly botty burps and belly frogs overpower the intrepid gang?

Will Jackson find out Boris-the-boyfriend's secret? Will Danny save his missing moos?

It was the first day of the school summer break and Jackson was asleep in an armchair, legs over one arm of the chair and head rested on the other. Hesky, one of the family's two Labradors, had taken advantage of Mum's preoccupation with dinner preparation and had squeezed in next to Jackson, belly to the ceiling, tongue hanging out, black fur rubbing off on the covers.

The doorbell rang. Peanut, the family's other Labrador, was asleep in a corner wrapped in a yellow furry cocoon and managed only to open one sleepy eye, too bothersome in the heat of the July afternoon to inquire further as to who was at the door.

"Muummmm! There's someone at the door!" yelled Thomas without moving his eyes from the television screen. His on-screen, particularly unhappy, plump feathered creature has just missed its target and he is lining up the next angry bird to make a second attempt at annihilating the rather ill looking green pig. Any distraction would surely result in the Pigtrooper's rise to power!

Mum, who had the telephone trapped between her ear and shoulder and was arguing with the bank while simultaneously chopping vegetables, stirring the contents of a big pot and watching Jeremy, threw her knife down on the kitchen counter at the sound of Thomas's voice. She stomped off down the hallway with the telephone still pinned to her ear – stopping briefly to scowl at the children scattered languidly in front of the television in the lounge – to answer the door.

Angrily, she flung open the door to a crazed figure who was breathing heavily and sweating profusely, as if he'd just run a marathon. Realizing who it was, Mum gasped and dropped the telephone.

The wild-eyed, long-bearded man was leaning on a walking stick. He raised his head slowly and looked her straight in the eye with eyes that were red and watery, showing his considerable age

"It's happening, Marie," he said. "They've finally found a way to end the world!"

Marie gasped again. "What are you talking about, Reuben?"

Marie's brother, Reuben, shook his head forlornly. "Sheep burps and cow trumps, Marie. Sheep burps and cow trumps!"

## **ABOUT THE AUTHOR**

Dawn Burdett is an award-winning Software Expert and Children's Book Author on a mission to simplify the intricate world of coding and technology and make it not only fun, but accessible to the young.

Above all, Dawn is a firm believer of the future and the up-and-coming generation that will help shape it. This is what drives her to educate children through the power of storytelling.

Born in the UK, Dawn's affinity for the written word began early on. During grade school (while living in Germany), she distinctly remembers the moment when the creative spark officially entered her life. Her 4th grade teacher would read "Day of the Triffids," and have his students write alternative endings. From that point forward, putting that pen down was out of the question.

Outside of writing, Dawn serves as the Chief Technical Officer at a prominent software development company. During her free time, she is a voracious reader and avid drummer. Writing and coding aside, her biggest loves, apart from her children and husband, are her furred/feathered children, a Golden Retriever (Alphee), a Labrador (Hunter), two cats (Floki and Ragnar), and three chickens (all named Gertie).

Dawn currently calls Melbourne, Australia home.