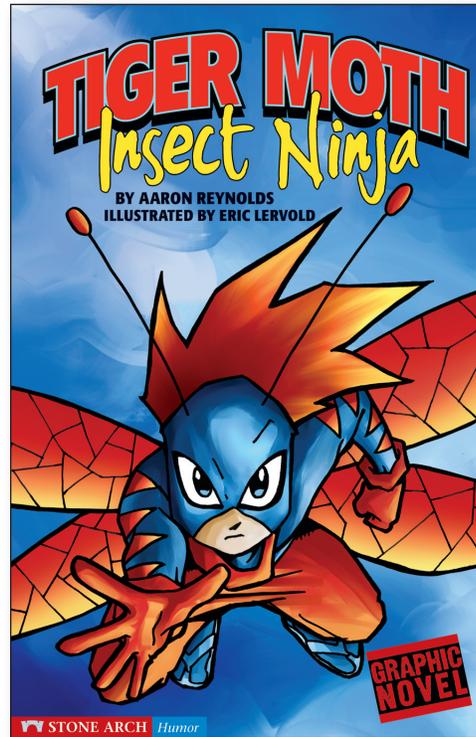




READER'S THEATER



Tiger Moth, Insect Ninja by Aaron Reynolds

Characters: Tiger Moth, insect ninja
Kung Pow, his best friend and apprentice
Mrs. Mandible, their teacher
The Fruit Fly #1
The Fruit Fly #2
Narrator

Genre: Adventure

Ages: 8-10

Tiger Moth, Insect Ninja page 1

- Narrator:** Tiger Moth, Insect Ninja-in-training, is our hero who fights evil in the streets and classrooms. He fights hard for truth and justice, while still trying to finish the fourth grade, with his close friend, Kung Pow. Today's dilemma is especially horrible, trying to figure out why teachers make their students do school plays!
- Tiger Moth:** Evil!
- Narrator:** Play practice has begun and Tiger is having trouble remembering his lines.
- Mrs. Mandible:** Tiger, you need to practice more. Everyone else has already memorized their lines.
- Tiger Moth:** Yes, Mrs. Mandible.
- Kung Pow:** Wow Tiger, you are some actor! I think you might be a candidate for a Cricket's Choice award. Hee hee.
- Narrator:** A put down from his own apprentice, Tiger is not very happy.
- Tiger Moth:** I am a Ninja, not an actor!
- Kung Pow:** Not an actor? I'll say!
- Tiger Moth:** I'd rather take care of the props like you do.
- Mrs. Mandible:** Now, Kung Pow, please be very careful putting that painting away. It is very delicate and worth quite a bit of money.
- Kung Pow:** Yes, Mrs. Mandible.
- Narrator:** Kung Pow and Tiger head to the props closet.
- Tiger Moth:** Next time, you get to be in the play, Kung Pow, and I get to be the prop bug.
- Kung Pow:** Not over my cold exoskeleton, you won't!
- Narrator:** Just as they arrive at the prop closet, the Fruit Fly Boys come bursting out.

Tiger Moth, Insect Ninja page 2

- Tiger Moth:** Hey! What are you two parasites doing in there?
- Fruit Fly #1:** (Walking away) Nothing. We were just “propping” stuff up! Get it?
- Fruit Fly#2:** Good one! Ha, ha! “Prop” stuff up!
- Tiger Moth:** Those two are up to no good.
- Kung Pow:** I agree.
- Narrator:** At lunch the next day, Tiger and Kung Pow are finishing some dung dumplings when Mrs. Mandible rushes in.
- Mrs. Mandible:** The painting is gone! Kung Pow, where is it? I told you to be very careful with that painting!
- Kung Pow:** But, I was!
- Mrs. Mandible:** It wasn’t just another prop; it was a very valuable painting. An early version of Mona Larva by Leonardo DeLacewing!
- Kung Pow:** Wow!
- Tiger Moth:** If it was so valuable, why are we using it for the play?
- Mrs. Mandible:** I thought it would help make the play a little more authentic. Oh, I don’t know what I’ll do if it doesn’t turn up.
- Narrator:** Mrs. Mandible rushes back out.
- Kung Pow:** Great, now I am going to get blamed because I am the prop bug!
- Tiger Moth:** Have you forgotten who you are eating with? Tiger Moth, Insect Ninja is on the case!
- Narrator:** Now it was time for Tiger to put his amazing ninja brain into action. Who were the suspects? Kung Pow?
- Tiger Moth:** It can’t be him. He is my apprentice and a superhero in training!

Tiger Moth, Insect Ninja page 3

Narrator:

The Fruit Fly Boys?

Tiger Moth:

They are always up to no good, and they were in the prop closet yesterday.

Narrator:

Mrs. Mandible?

Tiger Moth:

Hmmm. She could just be pretending. She has already shown that she is evil by casting me in the play!

Narrator:

Who else could it be? Will Tiger be able to clear Kung Pow's name? Who will be caught cold-handed? Read further in our adventure to see Tiger Moth, Insect Ninja, solve the mystery of the missing Mona Larva.

Tiger Moth:

I will find my way down to the bottom of this slimy puzzle.

Narrator:

Read along as Tiger Moth closely observes his suspects. What will he find out? And what terrible evil will still be lurking at the end of our story?

THE END