

THE MYSTERIOUS WORLD OF

COSMANTINO



For all the
boys and girls
who dream the
impossible dream
—COS

For my brother,
Tom—the born
performer
—Jack Heath

For my little
water-babies,
Eva, Jesse & Heath
—James Hart

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Recommended for children aged 7 years and over.
Conforms to AS/NZS ISO 8124

THE MYSTERIOUS WORLD OF **COSENTINO**

THE LOST TREASURE



By **COSENTINO**

THE GRAND ILLUSIONIST

WITH JACK HEATH

ILLUSTRATED BY JAMES HART

A Scholastic Australia Book

THE MYSTERIOUS WORLD OF COSENTINO

COPPERTOWN/THE OCEAN

THE MYSTERIOUS WORLD OF COSENTINO

SILVER CITY

COSENTINO



MAGICIAN AT COPPERPOT THEATRE.
 ABILITIES: ESCAPE, SLEIGHT OF HAND, TELEKINESIS, ILLUSION

LOCKI



CO'S PARTNER AT COPPERPOT THEATRE.
 ABILITIES: LOCK-PICKING

NONNA



PROP/COSTUME DESIGNER
 COPPERFIELD COTTAGE
 ABILITIES: HEALING POWERS

CAPTAIN ANCHOR



CAPTAIN OF SUNKEN OIL RIG
 ABILITIES: VERY HEAVY, CRYING UNDERWATER

KATELIN




OCEAN PROTECTOR
 ABILITIES: MOST MAGICAL OCEAN CREATURE, CAN BECOME INVISIBLE

BARRY AND STUART



KILLER WHALES
 ABILITIES: CAN EAT ANYTHING, HIGHLY LITERAL

HOLLOW



KING'S HENCHMAN
 ABILITIES: CAN SMELL MAGIC

THE KING OF DIAMONDS



KING OF MAGICLAND
 ABILITIES: HYPNOTISM

FLEX



KING'S BODYGUARD
 ABILITIES: SUPER STRONG

PRINCESS PRISCILLA



PRINCESS OF MAGICLAND
 ABILITIES: LEVITATION, SWEET, KIND HEART AND EXTREMELY CLEVER.

LINK



KING'S BUILDER
 ABILITIES: UNBREAKABLE GRIP

MAGICLAND



THE RIG



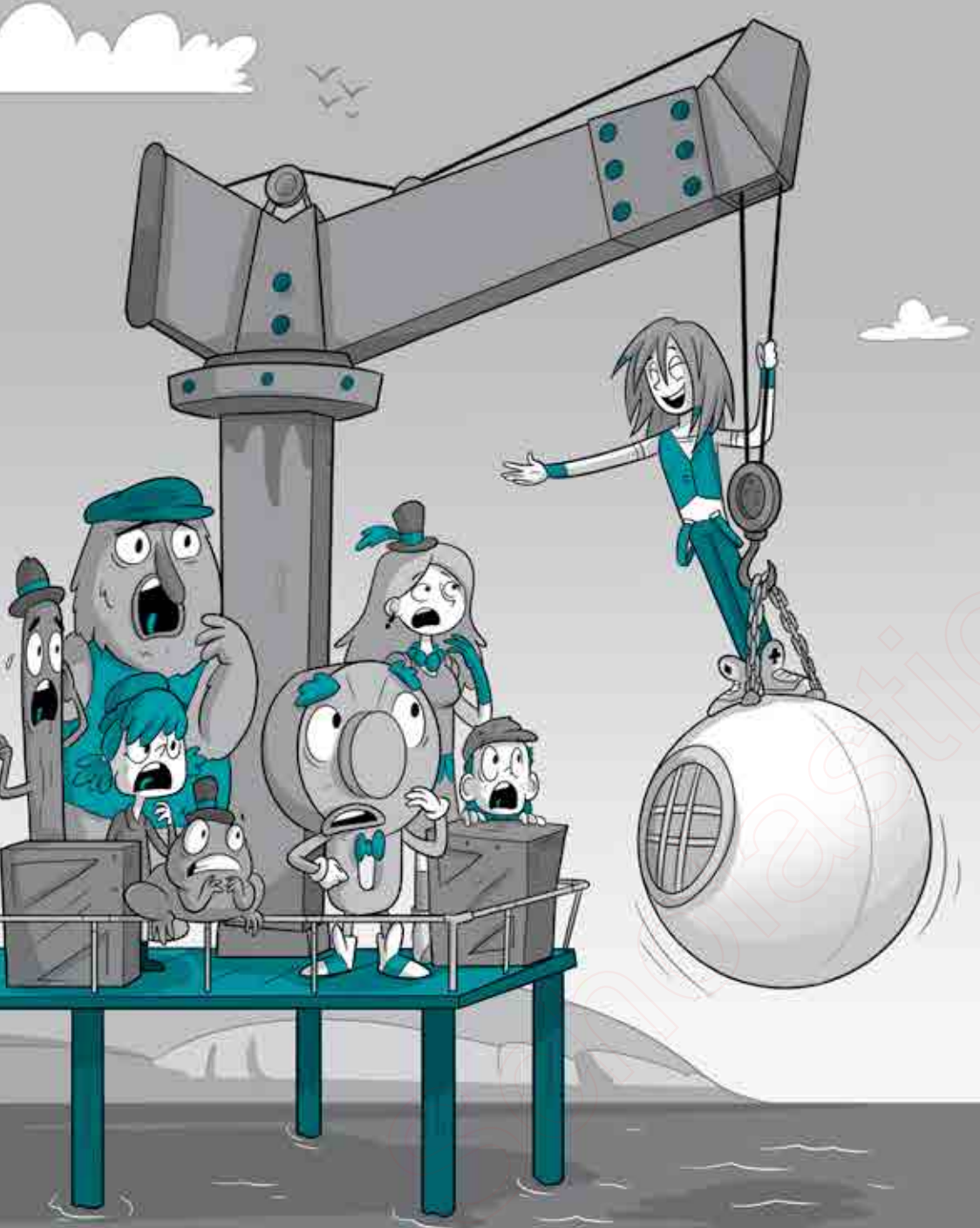
WARREN



COPPERTOWN



THE PIER



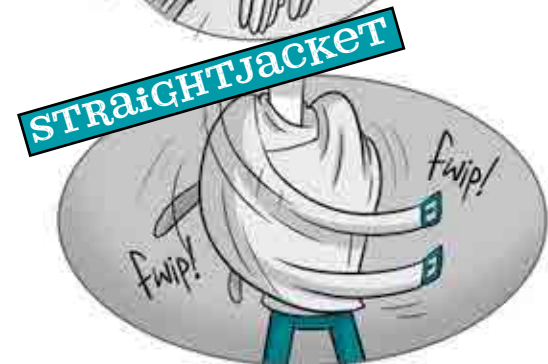
‘Ladies and gentlemen,’ Cosentino said. ‘Are you watching closely?’

Everyone was. The pier was covered with audience members, all **staring** at Cos—and at the giant glass ball dangling from the crane. The small wooden grate on one side seemed to stare back, like an **evil eye**.

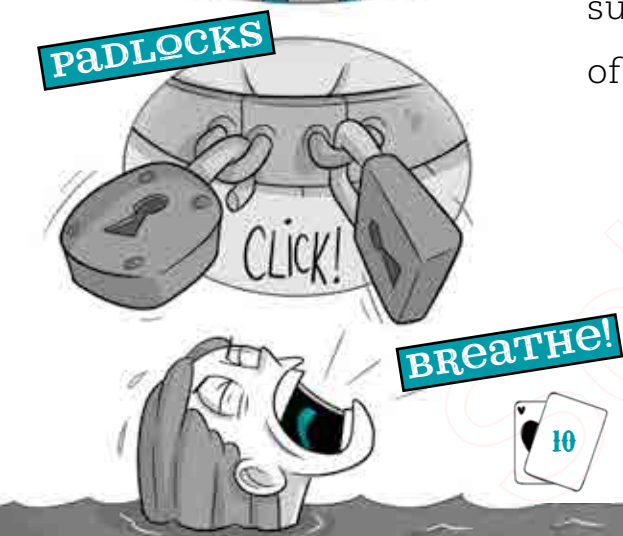
‘I will be tied up, sealed in the glass ball and lowered into the ocean,’ Cos explained. ‘The ball



will fill with water as the crane lowers it deeper and deeper into the sea. After sixty seconds, the water will be **over my head**.

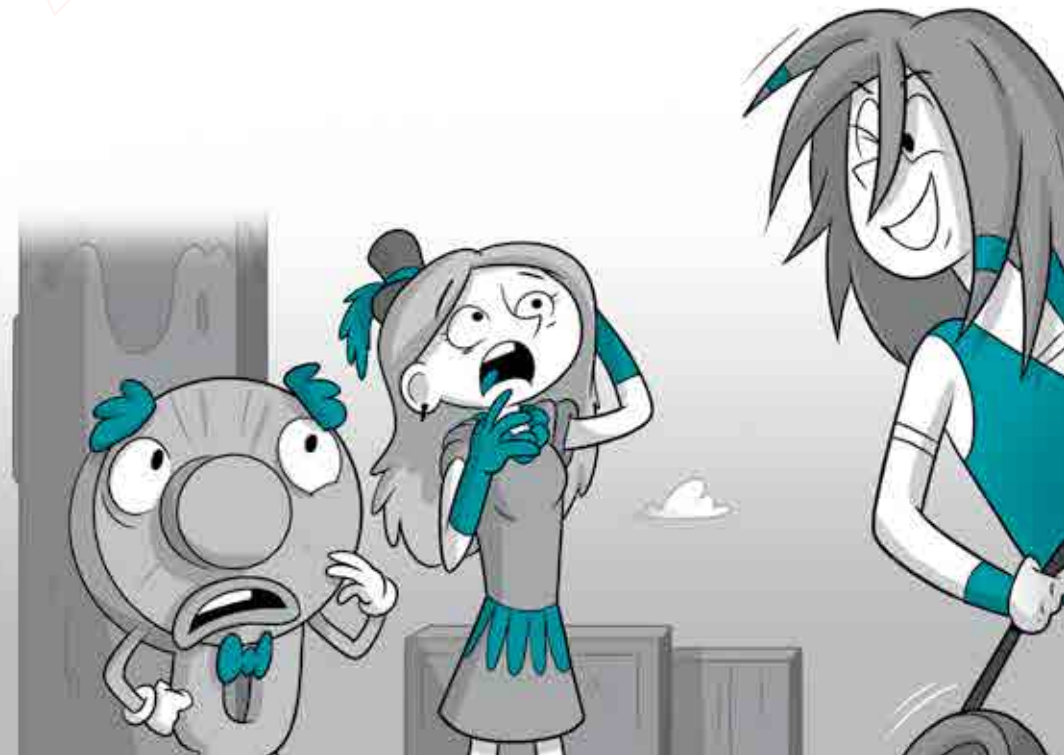


I'll have to escape from shackles and a straitjacket, pick two padlocks on the grate and swim up to the surface before I run out of air.'



Priscilla and Locki looked **worried**. Locki was probably just acting—he was Cos's best friend and had seen the Grand Illusionist escape from situations like this thousands of times. But this was the first time Priscilla would see it outside of rehearsals.

Cos winked at her. Priscilla didn't look reassured.



‘I am an illusionist,’ Cos continued, ‘but this is not an illusion. I will be **suspended** just under the surface of the water. You will be able to see absolutely everything that happens inside the clear glass ball. Wish me **luck**.’

He pulled a spray can from his pocket and painted some words on the side of the crane, just in case anyone up the back of the crowd hadn’t heard what he’d said.



When everyone had finished reading the words, Cos held up the spray can . . . Then he pushed it into his mouth and **swallowed** it.



The crowd’s eyes went wide. A few people looked **nervously** over their shoulders. Magic was illegal in Coppertown. But this wasn’t real magic—it was an **illusion**.