

## Dorothy Shaw Young Writer's Competition 2008 – Young Adult

1<sup>st</sup> Prize Winner – Isabelle Horne – Aged 17  
Wesley College, Melbourne, Vic

Another rainy day...drops tapping against the window...frost biting the glass. It was just another winter's day. How I missed the long hot summer nights of singing cicadas, the warm smell of flowers and sweat. I remember the scorching days I would sneak down to the pond shaded by trees and dip my toe in icy water, I loved the feeling of chill tingling through my spine, and then baking under the hot sun. The memories made me grin, "hmmmm," I said dreamily. Tap. Tap. Tap. 'Miss Falli?' And then getting out of the water to eat a mango and slices of pineapple, 'Miss Falli?' Gee, summer is so full of energy, everything is just perfect, the music, the clothes, the food, 'Miss Falli this is your final warning!' I jumped from my desk, rubbing my eyes, to see my science teacher Mrs Umber standing ahead of me, her little glitter butterfly clips dangling on the side of her head with a stern look on her face. The sound of laughter by the girls in my class drowned the rain. 'Huh?'

'Miss Falli, how many times do I have to tell you not to fall asleep in class?'  
'Sorry Mrs, just tired, you know what winter does to you.' She clicked her tongue, 'that's no excuse Miss Falli, where is all your energy, what did you have for breakfast this morning?'  
*Um, What? Breakfast, what's that got to do with it.* I twirled the end of my plait, 'er...cereal?' She raised her finger, 'Ha! They have no energy!' She swung around in her usual peculiar behaviour and grabbed the chalk, 'we need energy!' She spun around, 'Assessment task number three! No partners, by yourselves, you will find a food that fuels your mind! And keeps you awake, due next term. Have a nice holiday ladies.'

I brainstormed all night, reading about spices and different fruits and vegetables, though, they were all from local crops, surely the other girls in my class will be snatching the bananas off the trees and interviewing their grandma about her magnificent date loaf. I wanted something different, something exotic. Where I lived there was absolutely no imports from other countries, so I decided I would gather my courage and voyage across the world in my school break.

*Compass...check...map...food...check...warm clothes in case you end up in Antarctica...check.* The following day I lost my sight of the shore and sailed into the wide open blue sea.

In the horizon, just as the sun was rising out of the earth, a green sheet lay on top of the blue. *Land!* My dog Hugo, who I had brought for company, barked wildly, his tail wagging fast enough to create energy for a household. The boat hit the sand and we jumped off, according to my compass and the map, I was in South America! There was no sign of civilization on the seashore, but from deep in the jungle, I heard a chant.

The bush was thick as Mum's cookie dough, and the air was humid as a rainy summer's night back home. Then suddenly, the bush stopped, I looked up in awe, and forgot to breathe. Ahead of me were many small and dark people who spoke a language I didn't understand. I gazed around the little huts and treetop houses wondering if it was all a dream. Unexpectedly, they all stopped and stared at me, it was hushed as an exam. 'Er...how do you do?' I awkwardly smiled, *do they even speak English you idiot!* One man approached me, walking slowly with pride; I was trembling with anxiety. I figured he was the chief of the village because every person he passed gave him a small nod. His hair was plaited, like mine, and he wore hardly anything but some feathers and furs. He stopped a few feet away and looked at me up and down curiously, looked at his plaits, then looked at mine, looked at his hands then looked at mine. 'I come from a different country,' I blurted, yet he did not understand, so I pulled out my map. 'you...you are from here, and I...I come

from this country all the way up here' He understood me then, and laughed loudly, opening his arms to me, which I guessed, was a greeting. Then, almost every villager came to me, studying me, smiling at me, observing my odd modern clothes and equipment. We had a feast that night...which was the night I fell in love. They introduced me to some strange food, dark brown; in a block they had moulded with rocks....they called it chocolate. I had never heard of chocolate before, or tasted anything like it. It was incredible! It just melted in my mouth and gave me so much energy I danced wildly around the flames that night. The next morning I explained to the chief I would give them all of my modern things on the boat, such as my radio and mirror, if in exchange they gave me bags of chocolate and seeds to grow the cocoa.

They agreed without any trouble and we had another big feast that night. They found it rather amusing I liked the chocolate so much; I suppose it was because there was no such thing, as chocolate at home and I had never tasted such a romantic food. The next day I said farewell to my friends and fought the rough sea's all the way home.

'Jessica Howell.....bananas, yes, like every other student...B-', Mrs Umber, with her weary eyes examined each one foods. Finally she came to me, 'what do you have...cereal?' I laughed, and stood up, 'well no, I have discovered this food from somewhere exotic (by now all the girls turned to look at me and listened carefully). I call it chocolate! I broke off a piece and handed it to my teacher, who looked at it in disgust, 'just try it Mrs Umber.' She took one little bite, 'my, my goodness me... I feel so awake!' She grabbed another piece and ate it, and all the girls in my class tried some too, eventually becoming addicted. That night, surrounded by my bags of cocoa, I looked at my assessment marks, merry enough with my A+ on foods that Fuel your mind!

2<sup>nd</sup> Prize winner – Andrews Wirekoh - Aged  
Thomas Pattison School, North Rocks, NSW

### **Socceroos**

The boy's name is Jacko, aged seventeen. When he was young, about eight years old, his parents said, "Jacko must study at school".

However, he didn't listen to his parents. Jacko was me. My father told me, if you go in the deaf soccer competition you will always loose.

"Sure", Jacko said...

Jacko tried to play soccer and it rained every week on Tuesdays and Thursdays. He also played in the Saturday soccer competition. Jacko continued training and developing his playing skills.

Two years later, when I was ten years old, Jacko became the best player in the world-Jacko, No 1. He can play different types of soccer; Indoor, Freestyle stlyer, International competition. The Deaf Football Australia Teams is for soccer players from about 18-40 years old. Australia completes against Germany. The country is full; lots of people came in an audience to Stadium Football Sydney, and also Jacko's family is in the audience looking to play soccer for Australia versus Germany. The people had fun and supported the team in the audience but Germany beat Australia 4-0 was the score. Jacko was worried about their Australian team losing a game. Jacko wanted to be in a deaf football team, but he was ten years old. Jacko wanted to be in the Australian Football team, but players must be over 17-40 years old. Jacko thinks if I play soccer, so other teams will defend and I will be hurt. His parents told him, he couldn't play more football, but he continued to play football. His parents left him alone. Jacko was excited to be staying on to play football. Jacko heard his coach say, Australian players weren't good at playing soccer. On the News on TV, a coach said..."Who can play soccer? The best players are in football." The coach went to Parramatta city club to look for the best players. The coach chose Jacko. Jacko asked the coach, "Can I play soccer?" "Yes," said the coach. However, he was ten years old. The coach said to Jacko, "I am not worried about age and you can play in the Australian deaf team". He felt excited, and he wondered how could they let a 10 year old play, because the world does not allow seventeen years or under to play soccer in the world cup. He was famous for Australian team football.

One year later, the Australian team was planning to collect money for an airplane ticket to Germany to defend Australia. Australia was training their soccer players very hard. Then Australia went to Germany. Australia defended itself against Germany. Jacko was the best player in the world. He had 10 goals and beat Germany, they lost, and the score was 0!

When Australia lost in the Stadium Football Sydney, the score was zero and Germany was the four times winner, but now, Australia had won, they beat Germany lose ten-zero score. Jacko had an award and championships for soccer and everyone said congratulations. Jacko thinks wondrous is the world soccer. He was now 11 years old. Australia was the winner congratulations!!! Australia beat the world in soccer. Again Jacko had 1,100 championships for soccer all around the world. His parents were excited about their son. Jacko asked his parents, "Why did you change your mind? You were saying I must go study but why did you change your mind because you thought I should study for a good future!" His parents were happy that their son was a wondrous player. His parents told Jacko, "We are proud of you for being in the Australian football team. He had got money in the bank about \$1,000 billion. Eight years ago, his parents always abused their son and said, "You

must go to school", but now, he has freedom. It was 11 years ago. He continued to play in the Australian team.

Seven months later, it was time to stop playing forever so he thought best move to other team clubs.

One year later, Jacko was 12 years old. He wanted to go on a trip to England to join other team clubs. Jacko had news information on TV. The world wants another team? Sir Alex Ferguson wanted to take Jacko because he was a fantastic player in the club Manchester united. It was a great day but surely a little bit nervous to him. Their Manchester team were the most fantastic players in the world. Sir Alex Ferguson told Jacko, he was welcome in the club Manchester united. It was a great day. They went to training to soccer every day. Jacko had good friends Ronaldo and Rooney. When Ronaldo started playing, he was in Portugal about 17 years ago, now Ronaldo and Rooney were joining Manchester united. Jacko is new to join the club Manchester united. Ronaldo and Jacko had 100 goals. Their team was beaten by another club from England. They had 18 years of championships 900.

Andrews Jacko. People in every country know that name. They know his face. They know his back shirt number 17 for football.

One year later, Jacko retired from playing for clubs in England.

Jacko had a dream about Australian female players; they were always losing when they played soccer, and they never had championships. He decided to support women's teams and have a sex change to become a woman. Jacko did not tell his parents about his idea.

One year later, Jacko went to a special Doctor at the Hospital He said Doctor, I want a sex change. "Why do you want a sex change?" the doctor asked.

I want to play in the women's soccer team. The Doctor laughed. Dr said, "Jacko; you want to have breast implanted, and your penis removed?" "No way, I don't want my penis removed, but I do want breasts!" Jacko said after a minute, he thought, "Maybe I'd better pretend to go away to Brazil. Really I'll go to hospital and have breast implants". It was okay his parents said.... His parents thought their son went to Brazil but really, he stayed in Australia. He was becoming a hermaphrodite.

His parents were missing their son. Mary, the coach lady wanted to take the team of women. Mary was on the news on TV, picking players for her women's team. Jacko wanted to join the woman's team, but Jacko was a boy's name. He thought, "I want to change my name to Sue-Anne, now that I am a hermaphrodite". Jacko was excited to play football in their women's team.

Two months later, they were training. When they finished training, they went back to the dress room. The player women wanted to shower. It was off dress and on shower. He looked at the girls in the shower. Sue was a boy and a girl because he was hermaphrodite. Where should he shower?

A few minutes later, the Australian women players found out they were the winners, they beat the world in football. The Australian women's team never had a championship past years and their players were excited. Sue had 50 championships. Sue told Miss Mary the coach, "I am a boy and my name is Andrews Jacko and I am number 17". The country was surprised! People in every country knew the names Andrews Jacko. His parents cried. The world said Jacko was a champion.

3<sup>rd</sup> Prize winner – Lachlan Clear – Aged 18  
Thomas Pattison School, North Rocks, NSW

***The year is 2008...***

The audience was sitting in their chairs...waiting. Suddenly a young man, in his power wheelchair skidded onto the stage. "Hey everyone! My name is Stu CP-man... Welcome to my life! I'm deaf and have Cerebral Palsy!?"

The audience shouted "Oh...come on! What about your legs? Eh!?"

Stu sighed "Oh...Stuff my legs, look at my face! I'm handsome and full of empathy...also I have a sense of humour! I am second to Steady Eddy"

The audience laughed their arses off "You-you... You're brilliant man!"

Stu's hand was holding his head still as he explained to the audience "Ummm...I did some work on a Science assignment...like Myth-buster!"

The smart board started playing the video of the science experiment. First there appeared the title "Hlan's reflex of the one"

Two minutes and 39 seconds later there was a slow motion video showing.

Stu acting in slow motion as the ball hit his head. The audience kept laughing loudly "Ha-ha-ha! You're crazy man!"

Stu cleared his throats "Also I ran away from my home, in my electric chair I crossed busy highways, but....My mother didn't allow me to go out for 17 and half years....she was worried about me!"

The audience was shocked "I can't imagine! Is that real? How did you go about escaping? Someone asked.

Stu grinned and nodded "Yeah...my mother had gone to her work...I was in my power wheelchair...I opened and closed the front door...ooh...I looked around then. I grinned bigger! Whoosh! I went e-everywhere...I felt so happy...and ohh the freedom! Whoo!"

The audience was laughing and crying "You're funniest man! Do you have a girlfriend? Huh?"

Stu nodded "Yeah...I found one in the cafe shop...the girl who works there...she saw me then I winked "Hey baby! Call me!" I said. She did panting like as with excitement...because my voice is full of charm and sexy!" I explained to the audience.

The audience were laughing hysterically. "Oh did you dance with her?"

Stu sighed "No...Not yet...well! I went to pub with my dad and his friends! It was a very funny time in my life...I didn't plan to get pissed but...I did it! Also I am under 18 years old!"

The audience were shocked "What did you do?"

Stu breathed calmly "I kicked the table accidentally and...Their beer fell on their laps! I was panicked and felt embarrassed.

The audience laughed hysterically "Ooh...you're great man! Did you fall on the road?"

Stu sighed again "Yeah...when I got my new power wheelchair...it moved too fast, going about 10km/hr... I almost wet myself in my pants...Suddenly I got skidded on the kerb!"

Stu demonstrated how to the audience fell off his power wheelchair "Arghh....I fell onto the road...Oof! I was lucky because...two hot girls help me get up...Whoa! I am now a stuntman in a power wheelchair!"

The audience laughed hysterically "What sport do you do?"

Stu cleared his throat – "Sailing...I am an Australian champion...the final race was chaos!?"

The audience were shocked "What did you do?"

Stu was breathe to clam himself "When start the race...all sails were gone crash...BOOM-BAM-BANG-POP! All skippers spoke in foreign languages...I asked them "Wait! Wait! I am Deaf! What your problem?" They shocked....because I was the only deaf person involved that race! Eh?"

The audience laughed hysterical and peed in their pants "Ooh...you're great man!"

Stu sighed "Well...I think you have had a good time....I have to go...bye everyone!"

Audience waved to him. Stu pushed hard on the knob of his chair and spun his wheels. He zoomed out of the comedy club and drank Jim Beam. He drove on the footpath to his home.