

DARE SAMPLER

THE PIXIELAND DIARIES BOOK 3

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PREFACE



*Our story begins with a log written by the pirate adventurers
Calla (age nine) and Dare (age ten).*



CALLA'S & DARE'S AWESOME PIRATE LOG ABOUT HUNTING DOWN THE OGHAM SWORD



Beware!

You are about to read the chronicles of the mighty pixie, Calla, and her super elf friend, Dare. We are pirates in search of treasure. No gold coins for us (Dare has tons already.) Instead, we want a magical weapon called the Ogham Sword because it can make anything happen. Both of us pinky-swear to find the Ogham before Calla's 10th birthday and Dare's 11th.

Here's how we'll use the sword:

- Calla will redo the Elven High Council. Everyone there is a big meanie who doesn't like pranks for some reason.

- She'll also stop anyone in Faerie from stealing human changelings ever again.

- Dare will make more electric ice sharks. They're dying out now and shouldn't because they have spiky back fins. It's a big deal.

Other fae: Don't read this log if you have droopy ears or cockeyed wings. The adventures inside are so exciting, some loose stuff might fall right off you.

You are warned.



CALLA



How We Become Pirates

I live inside a Pixieland acorn along with my parents, Poppa and Muti. One day, I play around with my fairy dust magic and make a new spell...

Mini drum bunnies!

These hop and smash their heads together. It's a good beat. But having a few hundred jumping around is too much for Poppa and Muti. My parents are tree sprites and really, really, REALLY old. Imagine two little wrinkle people with big heads and cute wings. That's Poppa and Muti.

My parents tell me to help Bilge at the Pixieland

Citadel (after I get rid of the mini drum bunnies). Bilge is a hobgoblin with green skin and sideways ears. He has a piggy familiar named Oinky.

I clean up and go to the citadel. Bilge makes me sweep the basement. That's where I find a secret pirate scroll called...

The Legend of the Ogham Sword

I read the whole thing three times. The Ogham is a special sword that shows up once in a kabillion-million years. It grows *inside* a magical tree. There's also a guy in the trunk and he protects the sword. The Root Knight.

Now for the best part. Whoever finds the Ogham can use all the magic in Faerie to do whatever they want. That sounds like fun.

Dare and I vow to become pirates and find the Ogham. Dare's my best friend and a prince of all the winter elves. He lives in a palace instead of an acorn and has a butler who makes "ice cream cones." Only they aren't really ice cream because Dare's mother thinks that stuff is sugary garbage, so the butler uses fruit. And there's no cone because that's also bad for you. So it's really fruit bowls, but Dare and I pretend it's ice cream.

Back To Our Treasure Hunt

The pirate scroll also has a drawing of the Root Knight. I will copy it onto the next page.

It's our first official clue.



Root Knight & Ogham Sword

DARE

DARE



Calla is cool. She draws really good pictures.

Calla wants us to be pirates. I think that's great. We're hunting down the Ogham Sword. I go into the royal library and look for clues. I find out that the last person who get the sword is an elf named the Usurper.

I couldn't find any pictures of the Usurper. That's too bad. Calla could draw it for our pirate log.

CALLA



Today I sneak into Bilge's witchy workroom and get caught. Bilge makes me write, *it's called a potion master's study, not a witchy workroom* four hundred times.

Bilge can get so crabby over nothing.

After I write my punishment, I explain to Bilge how I need ingredients for a spell to find the Ogham Sword. I also say how I want to use the sword to free the human changelings and make the Elven High Council less snippy. I think that's a good speech, but Bilge gets all screechy and says finding the Ogham is a terrible idea. It can only be wielded by the evil Usurper, whoever that is.

I guess when the Usurper gets a new sword, he wipes out everything in Faerie. I had no idea. Dare and I will just find the sword and put it somewhere safe instead.

Also Bilge had a picture of the Usurper. Dare likes it when I draw. ~~I like it when he smiles.~~ I'll put in the picture on the next page.

Usurper



DARE

DARE



Ella showed me her Usurper drawing. That guy is a piece of work. We definitely need to find the Ogham Sword before he gets anywhere near it.

CALLA



This morning, Bilge catches me and Dare borrowing a magical compass from his “potion master’s study.” We need it to find the Ogham Sword and stop the Usurper.

Normally, we’d both get in big trouble for this. But Bilge isn’t even angry. I think it’s because Dare is with me.

Bilge tells me and Dare that both the Usurper and the Ogham Sword are myths (that’s a grown up word for *lies*.) Bilge says we should start a new log where we look for electric ice sharks. Those are real, just very rare.

They’re also Dare’s favorite.

Then Bilge promises to cast us ice cream cones if we stop searching for the Usurper and Ogham Sword. Dare

and I like that idea. There's only so long you can pretend that *fruit soup* is something it's not.

DARE

DARE



This is the official last entry in *Calla's & Dare's
Awesome Pirate Log About Hunting Down The
Ogham Sword.*

The search is over.

PS. I just ate nineteen ice cream cones. Oinky helped.

DARE



*Our story continues when Calla is sixteen and Dare is
seventeen. Last night, they shared their first kiss.*

After fighting a gargoyle king.

And having Calla become a queen.

And saving King Tristan.

*That pretty much brings you up to speed from the last two
diaries.*

DAY NINETY-FIVE



Dear Diary,
This morning, I wake up with a plan.
Brace for the drumroll...

Ba ba ba ba ba BAAAAAAA!

And here it is...

Now that I'm Queen of the Summer Fae, I shall flush some seriously crappy stuff out of my realm. And because this diary will surely become a major historical document, I will list the two poopy things in question.

My Massive, Idealistic, And Yet Totally Achievable Goals As Queen

One. Free the human changelings who are trapped in the Faerie realm.

Two. Make the Elven High Council accept *all* fae, not just those of the *snooty and pointy-eared* variety.

Together, I call this my Changeling-Council Plan. These two things have been my main obsession for years, so long as you don't count Prince Dare.

Which brings me to the present moment. I lie curled under the covers in my royal bedroom (which is totally pink and cute) and consider my next move. There are tons of folks I should consult about my Changeling-Council Plan. But there's only one person who never-not-once questioned that I'd eventually kick the council's butt and redefine changeling-hood.

Prince Dare.

Keeping a diary means being brutally honest. Here goes. There's a secret goal on my list of queenly stuff.

Three. Dare

I don't have anything more specific at this point. What can I say? I'm only sixteen.

But I do know what I need from Dare in terms of my Changeling-Council Plan. After all, the guy grew up in the winter court. Talk about knowing how to get stuff done. And the fact that Dare lives across Faerie isn't a problem, either. The prince and I have a secret way of contacting each other that's worked since we were kids: we appear to one another as ghosts.

So it should be easy to talk to Dare and launch my Changeling-Council Plan.

It isn't, though.

There are two big issues in my way. To begin with, I've got a supernatural and tickly feeling crawling up my back. And when I say *ethereal tickles*, you think *impending doom*. The last time I got this sensation, the Fartburger Trolls launched a surprise attack on Pixieland. I stopped them with a prank, but it was still a close call.

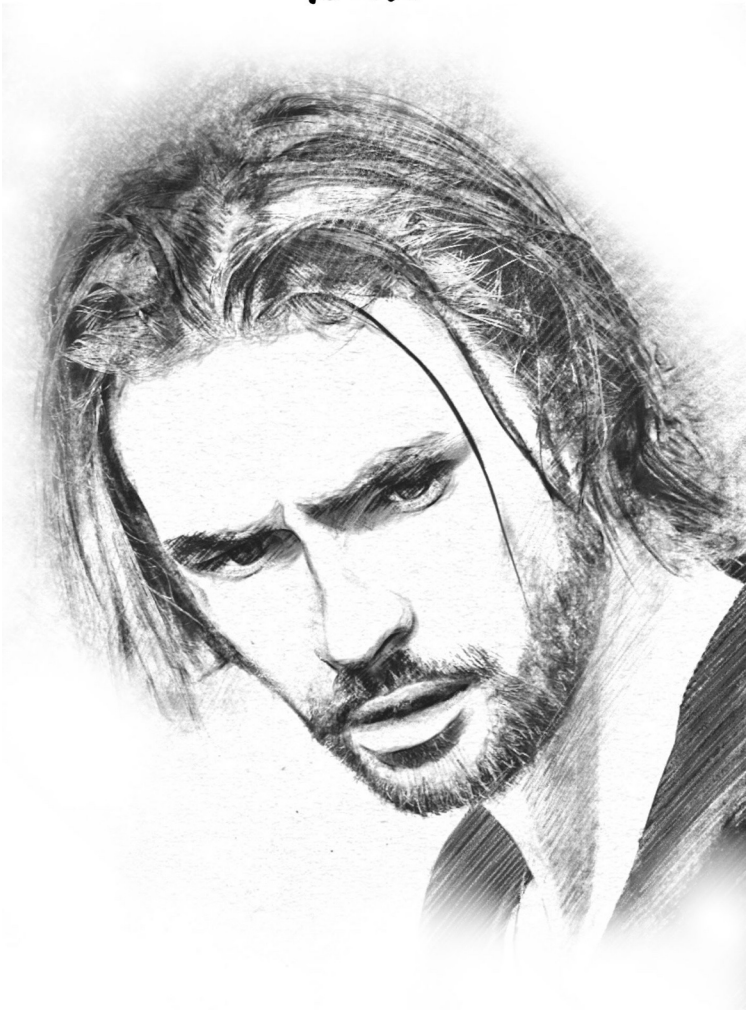
The second issue is far more serious. I cannot, not, NOT be the first one to ghost-call the prince.

Why? Last night, Dare and I went on a sleigh ride and totally smooched. Although it was my first kiss, I know the rules. Dare must begin contact with moi, not the other way around.

So instead of getting ghosty, I shall spend my morning drawing something that is completely unrelated to Dare.

Like a tree.

Dare



MORE NINETY-FIVE



I miscalculated.

For some reason, I drew how intense-n-cute Dare looked right before he kissed me for the first time.

Better try again.

—End of sample—

Order Dare today!

DARE - BOOK DESCRIPTION



What happens when a pixie outcast seizes the Faerie throne... but her beloved prince becomes a wanted criminal?

Sassy pixie Calla loves the prankster life. Sure, her trickster ways irritate other fae. In fact, some elves want to exile Calla from Faerie. But then, everything changes. Why? Calla's magic erases an evil blight on the Faerie realm, and so the pariah pixie becomes something unexpected: a Fae Queen.

Yet no sooner does Calla take the crown than a new and unstoppable plague appears. Things get even worse when Calla's longtime crush, the elf Prince 'Dare' Darius, appears to have masterminded the outbreak before fleeing to the mountains. According to the Faerie elders, there's only one way to end this disease...

Calla must hunt down Dare and destroy him.

Yeah. Like that will ever happen.

Instead of killing anyone, Calla vows to cure the plague while proving Dare's innocence. And if she must pull a few mega-pranks to make it all happen? Not a problem. Even so, the path ahead is still fraught with trouble. Secret enemies scheme to manipulate the outbreak—as well as Calla's feelings for Dare—in order to bring our favorite prankster down, once and for all.

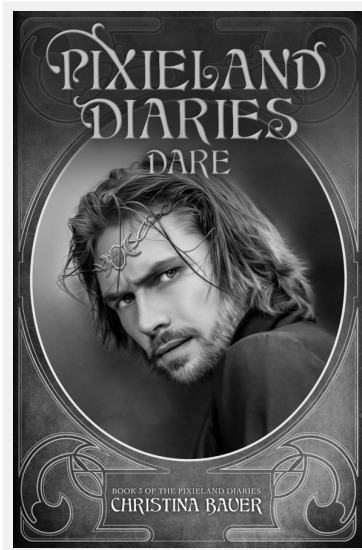
Pixieland Diaries Series

1. Pixieland Diaries
2. Calla
3. Dare
4. Lost Prince
5. Ley Queen

DARE



The adventure continues with DARE, Book 3 in the Pixieland Diaries series!



COLLECTED WORKS



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1. Pixieland Diaries
2. Calla
3. Dare
4. Winter Prince
5. Ley Queen

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5. Cradled

**This is a completed series.*