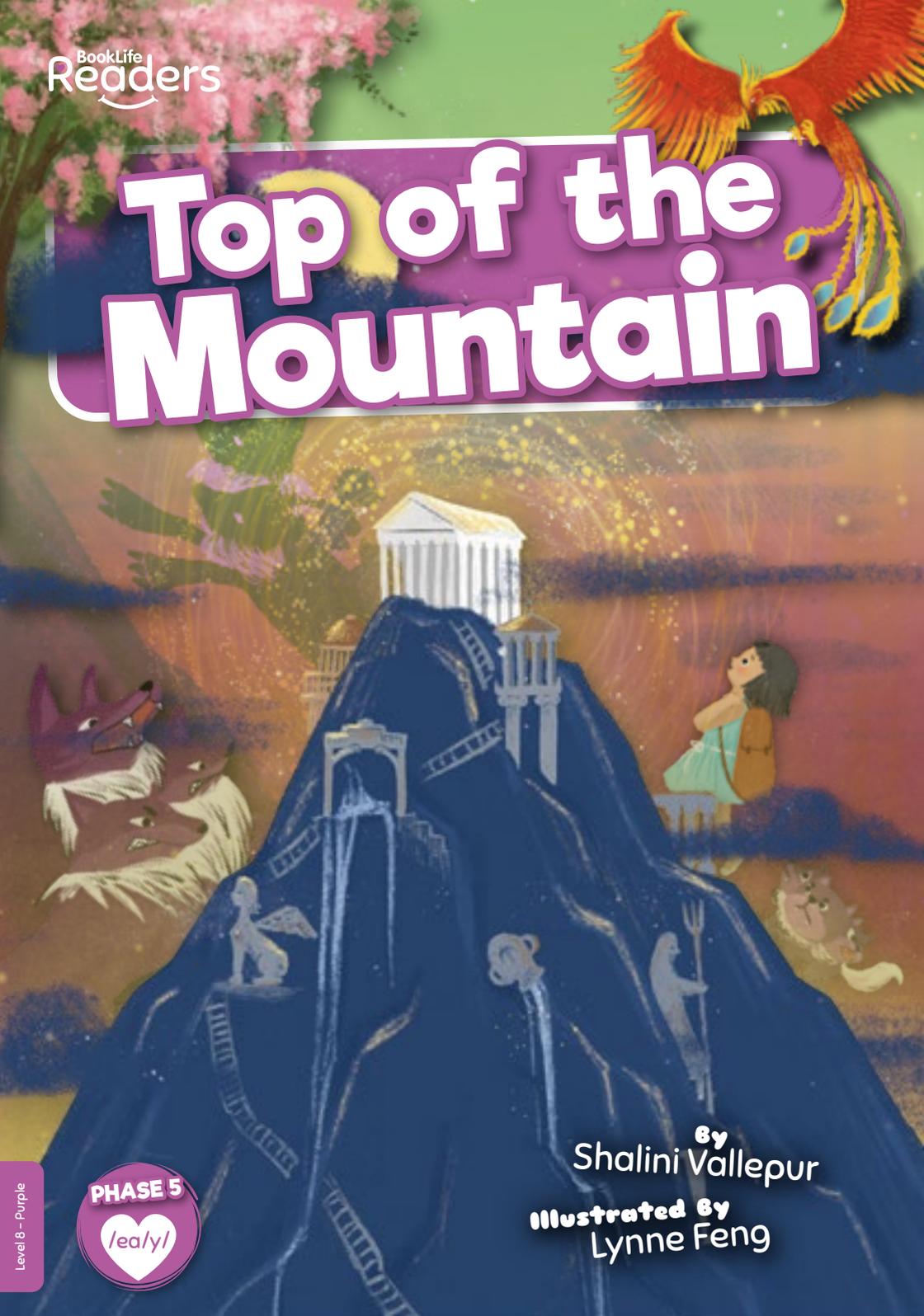


Top of the Mountain



PHASE 5

/ealy/

By
Shalini Vallepur

Illustrated By
Lynne Feng

Top of the Mountain



Level 8 - Purple

BookLife
Readers

Helpful Hints for Reading at Home

The graphemes (written letters) and phonemes (units of sound) used throughout this series are aligned with Letters and Sounds. This offers a consistent approach to learning whether reading at home or in the classroom.

HERE IS A LIST OF ALTERNATIVE PRONUNCIATIONS OF GRAPHEMES FOR THIS PHASE OF LEARNING. AN EXAMPLE OF THE PRONUNCIATION CAN BE FOUND IN BRACKETS.

Phase 5 Alternative Pronunciations of Graphemes			
a (hat, what)	e (bed, she)	i (fin, find)	o (hot, so)
u (but, unit)	c (cat, cent)	g (got, giant)	ow (cow, blow)
ie (tied, field)	ea (eat, bread)	er (farmer, herb)	ch (chin, school, chef)
y (yes, by, very, gym)	ou (out, shoulder, could, you)	o_e (home)	u_e (rule)

HERE ARE SOME WORDS WHICH YOUR CHILD MAY FIND TRICKY.

Phase 5 Tricky Words			
oh	their	people	Mr
Mrs	looked	called	asked
could			

GPC focus: /ea/y/

TOP TIPS FOR HELPING YOUR CHILD TO READ:

- Allow children time to break down unfamiliar words into units of sound and then encourage children to string these sounds together to create the word.
- Encourage your child to point out any focus phonics when they are used.
- Read through the book more than once to grow confidence.
- Ask simple questions about the text to assess understanding.
- Encourage children to use illustrations as prompts.

PHASE 5

/ea/y/

This book focuses on the phonemes /ea/ and /y/ and is a purple level 8 book band.

Top of the Mountain

Written by
Shalini Vallepur

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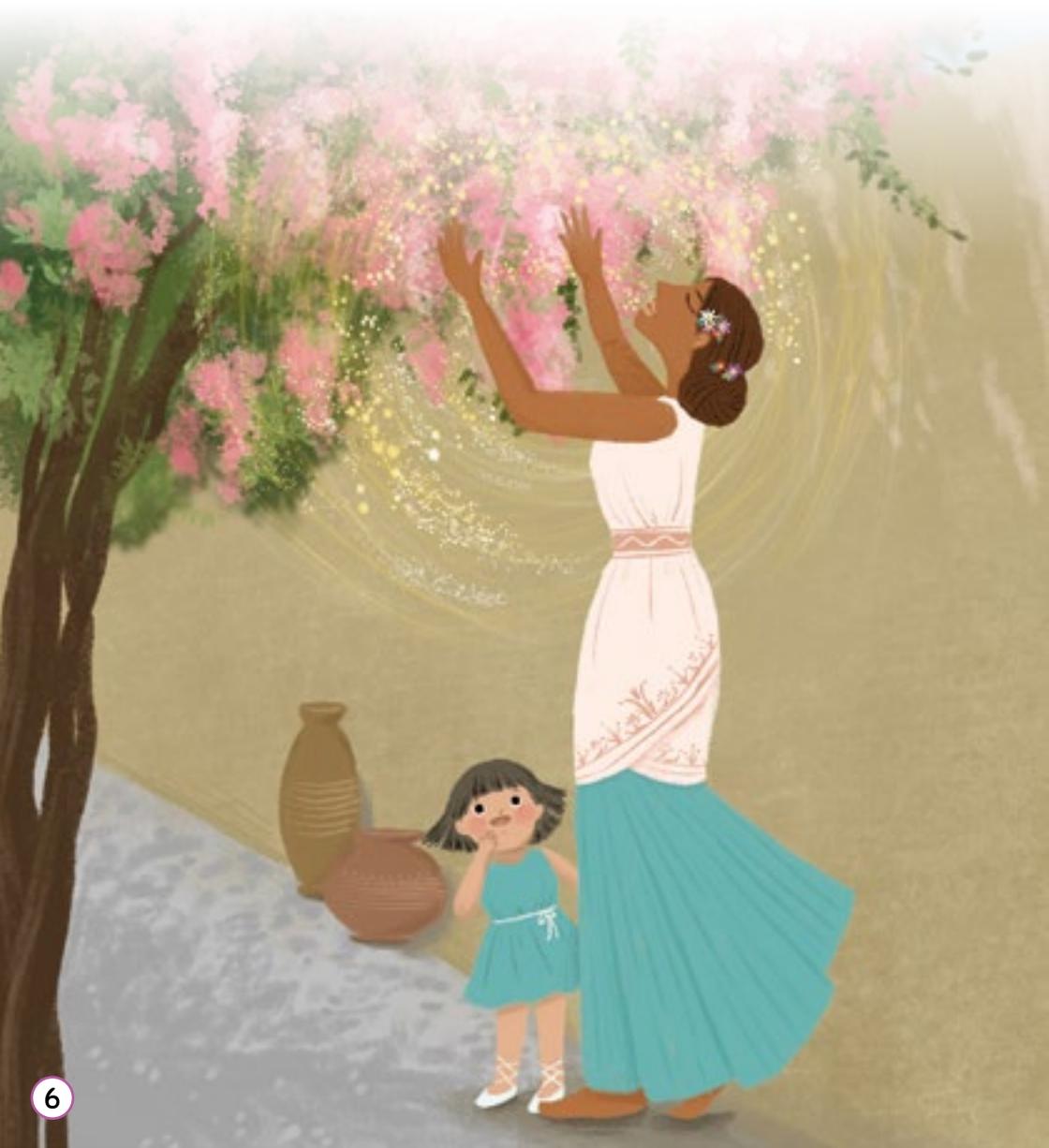
My name is Lexy, and this is my mother, Demeter. She is the best person ever! She is happy, clever and very pretty. Our home is in a meadow at the bottom of Mount Olympus.



The meadow is wonderful. There are golden bushels of wheat and bright yellow flowers. It smells like sweet syrup as bees fly from flower to flower.



My mother is amazing. She has magical powers! Whenever she brushes a plant with her hand, it grows and grows. She makes flowers bloom and peaches swell.





She grows the golden wheat in the meadows
and gives me and my friends Bilius Bertus
Barky lots of yummy, fuzzy peaches.

I wish I had magical powers like Mother.
I want to be like her and make things grow
and have sweet syrupy treats all the time.



“You are not ready for magical powers. You will get them when you are older,” Mother said one night. “You will go up Mount Olympus and be given magical powers then.”



But I did not want to wait until I was older.
I had to go up Mount Olympus that night.
I wanted to be magical, just like Mother.



Mount Olympus is very tall. The top is in the clouds, high in the sky. It was not going to be easy. I needed the help of my friends.



“Psst! Bilius Bertus Barky, are you awake?”
I whispered.

“We are awake now,” one of them groaned.

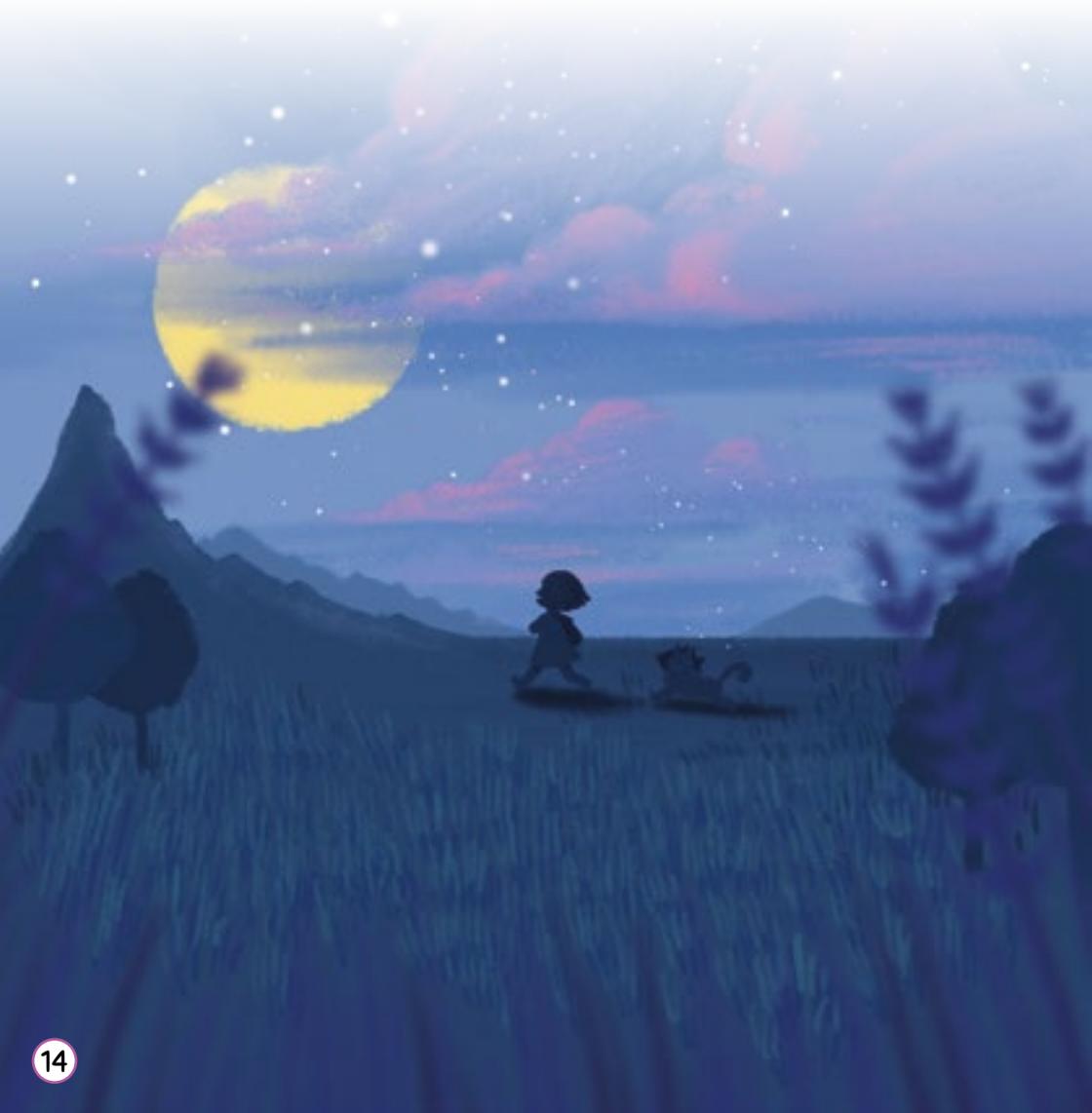


“Get your things ready, we are going up Mount Olympus tonight,” I said, hopping out of bed. “What are you thinking?” said Bilius. “If Demeter catches us, we will be dead meat!”



“We must be stealthy,” I said, sneaking with tiny steps. “There are three gates that we must pass to get up Mount Olympus. The Sphinx is at the first one.”

“She’s so scary!” said Barky.



The Sphinx was very scary. She had the head of a lady and the body of a lion. She was also standing right in front of us!



“Please let us pass!” I said with a cry.

“If you wish to pass, you must work out my song!” said the Sphinx, and she began to sing.



“Around flowers, I am buzzy,
I am tiny and very fuzzy.
Black and yellow are my stripes,
Now say it Lexy, what am I?”



“Use your head, Lexy,” said Bilius.

“I’m thinking... What has stripes and is
buzzy... I’ve got it! It’s a fuzzy, buzzy bee!”
I said.



“Correct! You may pass. Tread up the mountain...” the Sphinx said, moving out of the way.



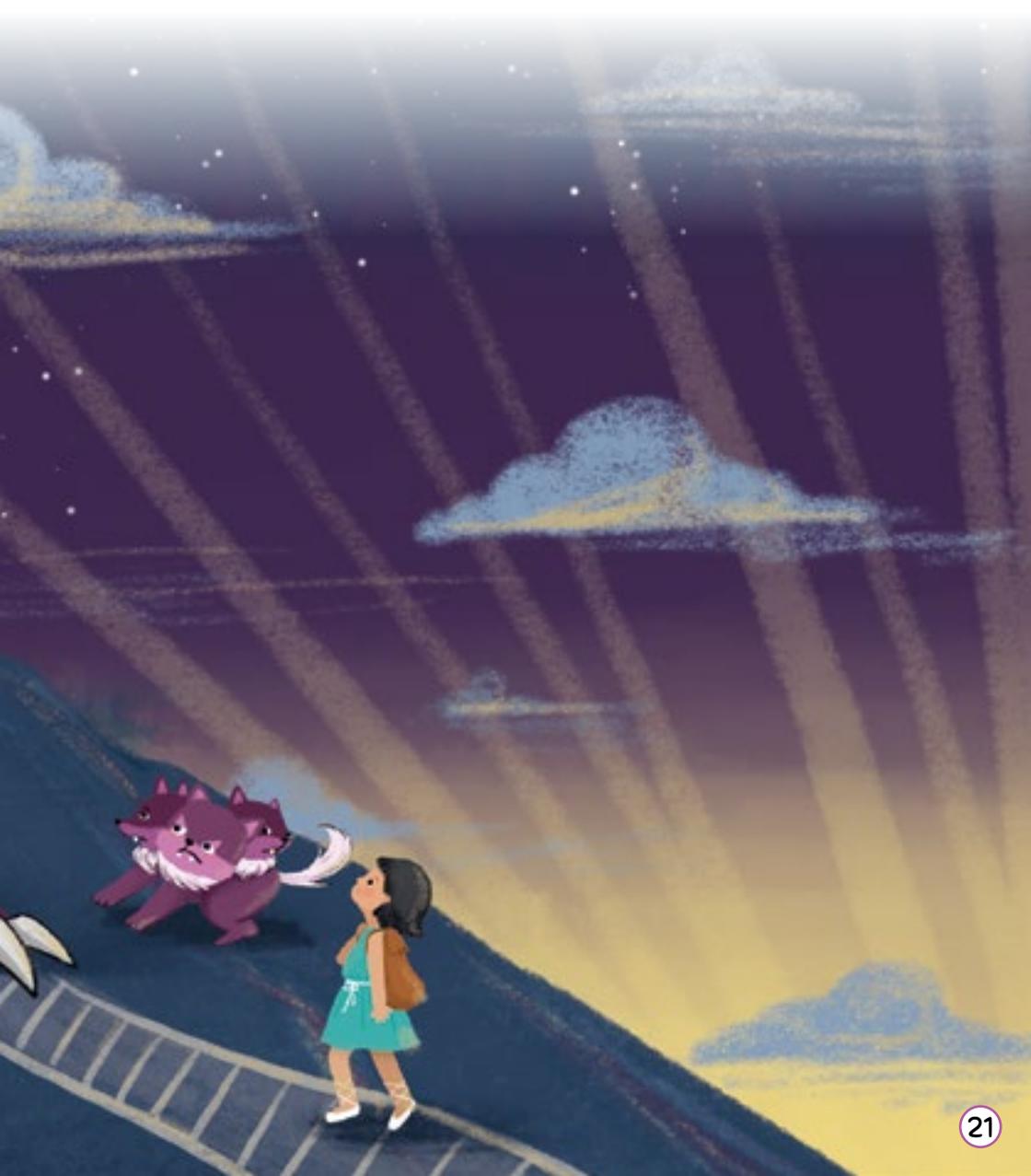
We sprinted up the mountain trail. Dust went flying from our feet.

We kept running until... SLAM! Bilius Bertus Barky crashed into a giant three-headed dog at the second gate.

“Where do you sly creatures think you are going?” said one of the heads.



“We are trying to get to the top of Mount Olympus so I can get magical powers,” I said.
“You cannot get past us!” said another head.



“What will we do now? Think, Lexy!” said Barky.

“What if we ride on your back instead of going past you?” I said. The three-headed dog was scary, but I had to try.



It worked! We were on the three-headed dog's back, zooming up Mount Olympus. We got higher and higher. The clouds whizzed past and I gazed at the meadow below.



The three-headed dog dropped us off at the last gate. We were so close to the top of Mount Olympus. But a mighty creature stood in front of us.



“I wish to go to the top of Mount Olympus!”
I yelled.

“Hello, Lexy. You are too young to get a
magical power,” said the mighty creature.



“Lexy? Lexy!” came an angry cry. It was Mother.

“Mother! I’m sorry! I wanted to get magical powers and grow things just like you!” I said.



“Oh Lexy,” said Mother. “I’m not angry. You already have a magical power – you are so clever! Look! You made it up Mount Olympus! Let’s go back to the meadow and I’ll help you grow things.”



Mother showed me how to plant things in the meadow. She gave me tiny seeds. I watered them and after a few days, they began to grow.



I do not have magical powers like Mother. But, with a bit of hard work, I can grow my own flowers, plants and fuzzy, syrupy peaches.



Top of the Mountain

1. What is the name of the mountain?
2. What are Demeter's magical powers?
3. What was the answer to the Sphinx's song?
 - (a) A three-headed dog
 - (b) A slimy toad
 - (c) A fuzzy, buzzy bee
4. How would you have passed the three-headed dog?
5. Why did Lexy want to go to the top of the mountain?
Do you think she was right to try and go?

An Introduction to BookLife Readers...

Our Readers have been specifically created in line with the London Institute of Education's approach to book banding and are phonetically decodable and ordered to support each phase of Letters and Sounds.

Each book has been created to provide the best possible reading and learning experience. Our aim is to share our love of books with children, providing both emerging readers and prolific page-turners with beautiful books that are guaranteed to provoke interest and learning, regardless of ability.

BOOK BAND GRADED using the Institute of Education's approach to levelling.

PHONETICALLY DECODABLE supporting each phase of Letters and Sounds.

EXERCISES AND QUESTIONS to offer reinforcement and to ascertain comprehension.

BEAUTIFULLY ILLUSTRATED to inspire and provoke engagement, providing a variety of styles for the reader to enjoy whilst reading through the series.

AUTHOR INSIGHT: SHALINI VALLEPUR

Passionate about books from a very young age, Shalini Vallepur received the award of Norfolk County Scholar for her outstanding grades. Later on she read English at the University of Leicester, where she stayed to complete her Modern Literature MA. Whilst at university, Shalini volunteered as a Storyteller to help children learn to read, which gave her experience and expertise in the way children pick up and retain information. She used her knowledge and her background and implemented them in the 32 books that she has written for BookLife Publishing. Shalini's writing easily takes us to different worlds, and the serenity and quality of her words are sure to captivate any child who picks up her books.

PHASE 5

/ea/ /y/

This book focuses on the phonemes /ea/ and /y/ and is a purple level 8 book band.

Top of the Mountain

Vallepur, Shalini

Quiz No: 239109

BL: 2.9

AR Points: 0.5 RENAISSANCE Accelerated Reader™

BRAND
NEW!

Top of the Mountain

Lexy wants to be just like her mother – she wants magical powers! In order to get magical powers, Lexy must reach the top of Mount Olympus. But it's a dangerous journey. Will Lexy make it to the top?

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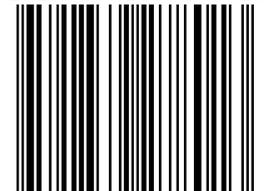
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PUBLISHING

ISBN 9781839278013



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