

The Games

by, Celia Frizzell

The History Of The Games

The games are a series of events that no normal person can survive. Every year they pick a bunch of challenging obstacles. The challenges are so unbelievable, you might not last more than 2 minutes. Contestants only have 3 hours to finish the games. The longest someone has stayed in is 2 hours. No one has ever won the games. In the history of the games only boys have competed. Anyone can enter, any gender and any age, yet most people avoid the games.

The Story

Bella's parents made her go get the mail. " Oh, mom, dad, the games are coming in 10 days, on my birthday, April 19th!". Bella loved the games. She wanted a girl to compete once, and she wanted to be the girl. Her dad had competed once when she was 4 years old. In 10 days she was turning 14. " Speaking of your birthday." her mom said. " What do you want for your birthday, Bella?". She told her parents what she truly wanted. " What I want for my birthday is to compete in the games. I want to make history, to be the first girl to enter, to be the first girl to win, and to be the first person to win.". Bella's mother and father were sitting in their dining room, right by the front door. They were having tea, and as soon as they heard her, they spat out their sip. " What! We can't just let you go compete in the most dangerous competition in the state! Don't you remember what happened to your father. It was hideous." " I know. But that was dad's experience NOT mine." " Still your father was 30 when he competed, and he couldn't get past the 3rd obstacle, and he was stronger than you.". " So you're saying I can't compete because my father messed up his chance? That is so unfair!" She marched upstairs. She was not happy. Her dad's hideous obstacle was shark jumping. There are these wooden planks 2 feet apart from each other, and you have to jump from plank to plank. The planks are suspended by ropes over water, and in the water there are hungry sharks. Her father quit because he didn't want to die. He was on his plank and a bull shark came to the rope that held his plank. The shark started to bite the rope. He held up his white flag. The helicopter came and took him to the beginning of the obstacles, then the plank sank.

Bella ran to her room and started to cry, but instead of hiding under her sheets, she started to dance. Bella loved to dance. She always danced when she was happy, sad, angry,

excited, basically any emotion you can think of. “ I have to tell Peg. Even though she is NOT going to be happy about it.”. Peg is Bella’s best friend. Peg is short for Peggy. They have cute nicknames for each other like Bell and Peg. “ Hey Bell.”. “ Hey Peggy.”. “ Whoa whoa whoa whoa whoa. Back it up. You just called me Peggy, not Peg.”. “ I know what I said, Peggy.”. “ Bell you only call me Peggy when something is wrong. Oh no. Did your parents say no?”. “ Yeah, apparently they think I’m not good enough, even though I’ve been training for 4 months.”. “ But you are doing your dance. Oh, that’s your sad dance.”. She nodded. “ Oh by the way, if you do enter the games I can’t go. My parent’s and I are going on a family trip to Florida. Listen I gotta go Bell. I’m really sorry you can’t compete.”. “ Thanks. Bye Peggy.”. “ Bye Bell.” Then they hung up. She kept dancing though. Nothing could stop her from dancing. Then her mom walked in and saw her dancing. She rolled her eyes. She loved that Bella was dancing, but she has seen it all the time in this house when she was sad. She lifted Bella up in the air when she was in the middle of a curtsy. “ Hey, mom put me down.”. She put her down on her bed. She was still dancing when she got on her bed. “ Stop, stop, stop!”. “ Okay okay.” she mumbled. “ Look I know that you are sad, but you’re not old enough to compete, and it’s too dangerous. Trust me honey, it’s for your own good.”. “ I know, I know all that sappy dappy love stuff.”. “ Excuse me?”. “ Oh you know what I mean.”. She tilted her head like she knew what she meant. “ I just wanted to make history. Only mostly boys make history and girls don’t make history as often!”. “ Many girls have made history before.” She nodded her head even though she still wanted to compete. Her mother left. She took out her computer. She was looking to see where the games were being held. She knew where they were, she just wanted to make sure. “ Yup. Right here in Sacramento, California.”. That’s where Bella and her family live. The games are always there. Bella is originally from Missouri. They moved here because Bella loved to swim, but there wasn’t any ocean. She didn’t like pools because of the chlorine, and lakes had fish everywhere. In the ocean you wouldn’t find fish until a couple of miles. Bella’s parents called her down.

“ Bella, Come down here please! We have some good news!”. Good News! Maybe it was about the games, or what if it’s not! What if we have to move again! What if they told me I can’t dance anymore! What if they cancel my allowance! All of these were thoughts that went through Bella’s mind. “ Ok, get over yourself and go down there.”. “ Hello honey, your mother and I have lots of news for you. In fact, we have multiple news, a variety of news, a whole spiel of news, a bundle of news, um a.”. “We have news. 4 big things to tell you that will fill you up with 25% of joy so that in all you will have 100% of joy!”. Bella smiled as though she hoped that since there were 4 one of them would be what she wanted. “ 1. Since your birthday is in only 10 days, your aunt Natalie is coming.”. “ Really! 25% filled up.”. “ 2. Your best friend from Missouri, is coming to visit us this weekend for a soccer tournament!”. “ Really! Emily’s coming! 50% filled up!”. “ 3. We’re going to go see the brand new movie you are dying to go see!”. “ Wait we’re going to go see Beauty and the Beast! 75% filled up!”. “Well that’s all the news.”. After her mother said that Bella frowned. “ But that’s only 3

pieces of news, you said there were 4 pieces of news.” “ Bethany, we have to tell her, and you know it.” “ I know but, I know. Ok, 4. You can, can um.” “ What you mother is trying to say is that you can compete in the games.” “ O.M.GGGGGGG! I can! This is so amazing! 100% filled up! No, 1,000% filled up! No way No way No way! Thank you so much for all the good news!”. She came up to hug them. She hugged her mother, but she had a hard time getting her arms around her since she was pregnant.

The weekend came along and Bella and Emily had the best time ever. They saw Beauty and the Beast, they went to the zoo, they went to the beach, and finally Bella and her family watched Emily’s team win the soccer tournament.

The night before the games Bella couldn’t sleep, so she thought about the games. She thought about her challenges. She wondered what they would be. What if she got shark jumping. She didn’t care, as long as she made her father proud. Soon enough Bella fell asleep, and morning came. When she woke up, she heard banging on her roof, and she knew it wasn’t Christmas already. She looked out her window and she saw it hailing outside, and she also saw the games, already set up, kinda like it was magic. She went downstairs in her uniform for the games. She checked the time. It was 6:08 am. She didn’t care about the time until it was time for the games to start. She went to the kitchen and she saw presents and her parents, the two p’s. She counted the presents, there were 14. “ Mom, Dad, why are there 14 presents here?”. Her parents started to chuckle. “ They are for you sweetie, for your birthday.”. She had totally forgot it was her birthday. “ When do I open them?”. “ Right now, but let me just tell you which one to open up first so that, well just let me show you which one to open up first.”. He pointed to the biggest one. As she opened it up, her face lit up with joy. She picked it up, then it licked her cheek. “ It’s a puppy! No wonder you wanted me to open it up first! He’s so cute! Wait he’s a he right?”. “ Yes, he’s a he.”. “ I’ll name him, uh, um. SNICKER DOODLE! I’ll name him Snicker Doodle!”. After she opened all of her presents, she ate her breakfast, she had to go. Go where you ask, well to the games.

When she got there, she almost fainted. “ It’s amazing here. I don’t see any other girls though, just boys.”. She grinned. She went to go sign up, but they didn’t take her so serious as she thought. “ Bella Kale signing up please.” “ You. You can’t be serious. You’re a twig, you’ll get destroyed out there.” “ I don’t care about that. Plus I’m on the list. Right there.” She pointed to her name. “ Um, ok. You’re only 14.” She puffed up her cheeks then she blew out her air. “ Ok well we are going to treat you like everyone else. Go over with the rest of the contestants.”. She pointed to at least a dozen men. Bella felt a little awkward. She strutted over proudly, but scared at the same time. All of the men laughed at her. Her parents were sitting in the stands. About 10 minutes later someone spoke in a megaphone. “ Ok, all contestants in the games, please go over there. The challenges this time are tennis ball pogo sticks, lava monkey bars, piranha line balancing, shark jumping, ice water still walking, and of course, the wall.”. Bella queivered. She didn’t feel comfortable with the shark

jumping, or anything else. “ There are cards at the front of each challenge to explain them.”the megaphone repeated. “ There’s only 3 hours to complete the games.

In ready position. On your marks, get set. “ He blew a blow horn, which was a signal for GO. Bella raced to the first challenge. It was tennis ball pogosticks. What it is is you have to pogostick on tennis balls over water. Bella grabbed her pogostick and practiced. Then, she got ready to jump. She did it really quickly. She hit ground, the platform for the next challenge. It was lava monkey bars. She had to do the monkey bars over boiling hot lava. Lucky for Bella, she did the monkey bars almost every recess. She hopped up on the first ring. About half way through her hand slipped, but she didn’t give up. She kept going and made it.

She was scared for the next challenge. It was piranha line balancing. She had to balance on a rope over piranhas. She climbed up the ladder. She started to walk sloppily on the line. She tilted every step she took. She didn’t look down the whole time. Finally she reached the other ladder. She climbed down. She almost threw up when she reached the next one.

There were only 4 men left. She knew how to do this one she just got started. This one was shark jumping. She jumped onto the platform. She saw at least 10 mako sharks, 7 bull sharks, 5 white tip sharks, 4 angel sharks, and 2 great white sharks. That’s at least 28 sharks. She jumped to the next one. Every time she jumped she felt more nervous. She reached the middle which was a little platform, but it wasn’t over. Bella had already wasted an hour and a half. While she was taking a break on the platform, this happened. “ Honey, it’s time.”her mother said to her father. “ What it can’t be time, it’s 4 weeks early!”. “ But it’s still time.”. “ Ok well I can’t take you and leave Bella here all alone. The closest relative is 10 minutes away.”. “ Who is it.”. “ Your sister, Hailey.”. “ Ok well she’s good enough. Call her on my cell phone.”. 10 minutes later, Bella’s mom left, and Bella got back up on her feet. She walked to the next plank. Then hopped to the next plank. She heard a scream. Only 3 other contestants. She had only to jump 8 more planks. She jumped to the next one. She saw an angel shark coming. She had flashbacks from when she was 4 years old. She skipped through the other planks. She landed on the platform. She was so relieved. When she got to the next challenge, she felt chills. It was the next challenge. Ice water stilt walking was the next challenge. You had to put on stilts in and walk on vertical beams, that are separate from each other, over icy cold water. She had a little bit of trouble putting on her stilts. So she grabbed the stilts and climbed up the ladder. She was on the top step. She put the stilts against the ladder and then put them on. She was automatically forced to stand up. She climbed up the ladder. It was very hard. She stepped on the first beam. She started to get the hang of it. Then, she heard another scream. She was trying to put her stilt on the next beam, but it slipped because of the scream. She was balancing on her one stilt. She managed to get her stilt back up. She kept going, and she reached the other ladder. She climbed down the ladder. She took off her stilts. She felt shorter after she took them off.

Her last challenge was the wall. You had to climb a rock wall with very few pegs. You had to climb it to the top. When you reached the top, you would have to jump down on a trampoline, then bounce, grab a flag and stick it in the ground to win. As soon as she tried to climb she found out she was the only one left. She felt anxiety. She didn't focus on being the only one left. She started to climb and her foot slipped, then the other one did. Her feet were exhausted. She tried to put them back up, but they kept falling off. Eventually she gave up and climbed with only her hands. The wall was 15 feet high and she was only half way through! She pulled herself together and she got to the top. The hard part was she was only using her hands. Her legs were still weak, but she used them to hold her up. She stood up, with her feet and pulled her arms up, and pushed herself to the top. She sat down facing the crowd listening to all their cheers. She turned her head and looked at the clock. " Oh no.". She only had 10 minutes left. She turned around . She stood up. She jumped down to bounce on the trampoline. She hit the trampoline. She sprung to the flag. She flipped over it, but she didn't grab it. She flipped to the other side of the flag, but she still couldn't grab it. But that little pinky finger that no one pays attention to, just got a hook on the flag. She landed. She stuck the flag in the ground. The crowd bursted with emotion. She did it. She made it. She won. She's alive.

" I can't believe it. I won. I have to go to mom and dad. They'll be so proud. Ow!". A piece of hail hit her eye. It was still hailing outside. She started to walk, but she fell over. Her legs couldn't move. A golf cart came and took her to the stands. " Thank you for taking me." " No problem. Hey, and you were not bad out there twig." " You're the check in lady!"

" You're right I am. Oh, and one other thing. There was this guy named Tyler watching, he said he wanted to talk to you. He looked about your age. You know him?". " Yeah I do. He's one of my best friends. My other best friend is Peggy, but she couldn't make it. I feel so lucky to have the friends and family that I have. Do you have a family?". " Yeah I got me a fine family. My husband's name is Conner, and I have 5 year old twins named Mackenzie and Reagan. Oh and by the way my name is Lisa.". " That's a pretty name. My family's names have patterns. The girls names start with B. My name is Bella and my moms name is Bethany. The boys names start with T. My dad's name is Trevor. My mother is actually pregnant. So, if it's a girl her name will be Brianna, and if it's a boy his name will be Theo.". " That's so cute. Well we're here.". " Thank you for the ride. Bye!". Bella knew she shouldn't have told her all of those things, but she trusted Lisa. When she got out of the golf cart, she ran to her dad, but he just took her hand and pulled her to the car. He shoved her into the car, and shut the door. He got in the car too. She felt like she was being abducted.

" Dad what is going on?". " Um, your mother went into early labor.". " What! But she's 4 weeks early!". "It'll be fine, when you reached the middle of the shark jumping, aunt Hailey took your mother to the hospital. The doctors are taking good care of her. Your mother and I are so proud of you! You did great today honey! I'm sorry you didn't get your big trophy celebration though, I bet you'll get it soon.". " Yeah, but mom doesn't know that I

won.”. Soon enough they arrived. They rushed to the nearest doctor. The doctor told them congrats on the babies, which concerned her father but he let it slide, and that she was in room 102. They quickly rushed down the hall. Looking for room 102. “ 96, 98, 100, dad 102 right there!”. They opened the door, then they gasped. Bella saw her mother, not with 1 child, but with 2 children, both look like the were just born. “ Mom, there are 2 babies. What happened?”. “ I had twins. Say hello to Brianna and Theo. I’m so happy right now. I have all of my family right here, I couldn’t be happier.”. “ I am so happy for you.” Then she fell asleep. The doctor came in the room. “ I am doctor Smith, but please call me Joanna.”. She had blonde hair, and her nails were painted pink. She looked like a barbie doll who had not one bit of intelligence in her head, but since she was a doctor, it was probably not true. “ Well hello Joanna. So what do you want to tell us, me and my daughter are wondering what’s so important.” “ Well first of all we should probably go get the twins before Bethany drops them in her sleep.”. Bella and her father went into room 102. Bella got Theo and her father got Brianna. They took them to the room where they put all the babies to rest. “ Ok 2nd thing, when Bethany was being rushed to her room, she was mumbling about rooms for the twins. I don’t know exactly what she meant so I was hoping you knew what she meant.”

“The rooms! Dad, the twins have no where to stay! We have to go do the rooms for mom! Thank you so much Joanna, but we have to go. Unless there is anything else you want to tell us, we’ll be on our way out. Bye!”. She pulled her dad’s hand and they ran to the car. He started the car and drove home. “Ok Bella the guest rooms are painted and all the furniture is in the room where it belongs. So all of Brianna’s stuff is in one guest room, and all of Theo’s stuff is in the other room.”. He pulled up in the driveway and parked the car.

“Ok Bella, I have to go run some errands, it’ll take me about 2 hours, so I need you to go set up the rooms without me.” “ What! I can’t do it by myself! I need you dad.” “ You’ll be fine. You can do it, I know you can. Go get it done.” She got out of the car. Before she opened the front door, she turned around and waved goodbye. Her dad drove away. She opened up the front door. She walked inside, shut the door, then headed upstairs. She wanted to start in Theo’s room. When she opened up the door, she knew she was in for a treat.

His room was painted a light baby blue color. Everything was already put in it’s place. One day later, she was done with Theo’s room. When you walked into his room, to your left you would see a small wood shelf with toys on it. To your right you would see a changing table and a rocking chair. Right in front of you was the crib. To the left of the crib was a dresser. To the right of the crib you will see a little basket of stuffed animals. Above the crib was a blue T for Theo. On the left wall there was a window, and on the right you would find a desk and a closet. On the hardwood floors there was a rug that matched the walls. On the ceiling there was a cute little light fixture. “Oooh yay! It’s so cute! Time to go do Brianna’s room! After I get some sleep.” Her father kept stopping in and out every day. Brianna’s room turned out exactly the same, except everything was opposite, pink walls, pink carpet, still hardwood floors and cute little light fixture. When you look to your left you’ll see

a changing table and a rocking chair, and to your right you'll see a little wood shelf with toys on it. Right in front of you was the crib. To the left of the crib you would see a little basket with stuffed animals. To the right of the crib you would see a dresser. Above the crib was a pink B for Brianna. On the left wall there was a desk and a closet. On the right wall there was a window.

Bella felt proud of herself. Then her dad came home. It was late, but she was still awake. "Hey Bella. Did you get the rooms done?" "Yeah I did. Wanna see them?" "No thanks. I wanna see them with your mother. Speaking of your mother she's going to be home tomorrow. Oh well hello Snicker Doodle." The next day came and Bella's mom came home late with the twins. "It's going to be a long night since the twins have nowhere to sleep. Trevor could you be a dear and sleep on the couch tonight?" "Actually, Bethany, while you were in the hospital, Bella did the twins bedrooms!" "Really... you...did...the...". Bella's mom took both twins and went upstairs to look at their rooms. Bella and her father followed behind. They opened up Brianna's door first. "Oh My. This is so amazing! This is your room Brianna. This is where you're going to grow up! I can't believe this! I'm crying." Bella's mom took the twins to Theo's room. Her reaction was exactly the same. "Oh my. This is so amazing! This is your room Theo. This is where you're going to grow up. I can't believe this. I'm still crying. Oh thank you so much Bella." She put the twins to bed. Then they all went downstairs. "Oh oh oh! Bella did you, did you, um." "Yes, Mom! I almost forgot! I won the games! It was awesome! I wish you could have been there too see it, but I'm so glad you and the twins are ok." "Well anyway I can't thank you enough for what you did for the twins." "I'm getting tired. I'm going to head up to bed." "Ok Bella I love you. And thank you for the rooms again." "I'll tuck you in kiddo." Bella and her father went upstairs. Bella hopped in bed and her father kissed her goodnight and turned off the lights.

Late that spring it was a beautiful sunny day. The twins were doing fine. And Bella's mom is very energetic, while Bella's father was sleepy and drowsy. That day, Bella had been gardening, but then the clouds started to swirl and turn a nasty green color. She knew there was a storm coming. She quickly put her gardening tools into the shed and ran to the door. Right in front of her eyes a thick tree fell over, blocking the door. The tree was blocking the whole door. She had only one option, to climb it. She quickly grabbed the first branch. It was like she was climbing the wall. She reached half way point of the tree, which was right by Bella's parent's room. She didn't want to wake her sleeping father. She hopped into the window, and her father didn't even move. "Oh come on!" He still didn't wake up. She closed the window and went downstairs. There she saw her mother sitting on the couch drinking tea. "Hello Bella, I made you a cup of tea. You can warm it up if you'd like." "Ok mom. Oh and By the way a tree fell over and I climbed to the top of it like in the games! They really taught me how to survive in hard challenges. And the funniest part was that I jumped through your window and dad slept through the whole thing." "Your father is just so tired he could sleep through an apocalypse. And the twins could too. I think they get it from your

father.” Soon after that the power went off, and Snicker Doodle was curled up in bed the whole time like a whimp. 5 hours later the storm was over and Bella’s father finally woke up. “ That was a nice nap. Did anything happen while I was sleeping?” “ No dear nothing at all, except a tree fell down, blocking our back door, and Bella climbed through our window. So no you didn’t miss much.” “ Well that’s good.”.

The End!