



# *Noises from the Hollow Log*

*Story and Photography by  
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# Noises from the Hollow Log

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Beresa Children's Stories

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Special thanks to Lone Pine Koala Sanctuary, Brisbane, Australia for their permission to photograph the fauna entrusted to their care.





In the far outback past the old black stump,  
There were strange noises coming from a clump.  
A hollow log was howling with a scary sound.  
It growled and cried and shook the ground.





Brave Enidia Echidna ventured nearer,  
Trying to determine if the sound got clearer.  
“It’s not a noise that I’ve heard before.  
Maybe it’s an ancient dinosaur!”



Another volley of strange noise so horrible,  
Launched out from the log unstoppable.  
“Gum Nuts!” she cried, and scampered to escape.  
“I’m not getting any closer to that scary shape.”





A flock of Lorikeets had landed on a tree nearby,  
And shook in the branches under the wide open sky.  
“We’re going to be eaten!” they spoke in squeals.  
“The dinosaurs are coming!” and acted like imbeciles.







Along came Cotakoo, a Cockatoo of self-importance.

“Now settle down everyone,” he said with annoyance.

“Dinosaurs have long gone to antiquity, I reckon.

Therefore it must be a fire-breathin’ Dragon!”



A louder grumble from the log did bellow,  
And shook the countryside like it was jello.  
“Strewth!” he exclaimed, and flew into the air.  
“I’m keeping clear of whatever is in there.”





The flock of Lorikeets had started to settle,  
Before Cotakoo Cockatoo had lost his metal.  
“We’re going to be fried!” they chirped in anguish.  
“The dragons are coming!” then faded to gibberish.







Wobbly Wallaby was watching from the side.

“It’s not a Dragon or old Dinosaur,” he cried.

“There’s only one thing that makes that clatter.

It must be a monster,” said Wobbly in a splatter.



The noise did rumble, and rumble some more.

It made the air shake with a deafening roar.

“Crikey!” shouted Wobbly, and jumped so high.

“It’s time I left and said my goodbye.”





The Lorikeets by now were turning inside out.

The tree was shaking and swaying all about.

“We’re going to be gobbled!” they said in turmoil.

“The Monsters are coming!” and fell to the soil.





And then a voice boomed from the log down deep.

“What’s all the racket out there? I’m trying to sleep.”



Wobbit Wombat popped his head out from below.

He was sleeping and snoring down in the hollow.



“You’re not a Dinosaur, or a Dragon with Fire.  
Or even a Monster crawling out from the mire.”  
“I’m sorry my snoring scared you,” Wobbit said,  
“But could you keep it down, I’m going back to bed.”







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## Beresa Children's Stories

Reading suggestions for children and people learning English.

### Pre-readers

Read the story to them so that you both can see the words and pictures. Underline the words with your finger as you read to them. Choose a word(s) in the story that relates to the picture, and draw an imaginary line from the word to the part of the picture it relates to.

### Early readers

Read the story together, again underline the words with your finger as you read together. Ask the learner to read the story on their own, giving gentle assistance when required.

### Competent readers

Ask the learner to read the story to you, and only offer assistance when requested.

If you are asked about a word and you are not sure of its meaning, show the learner how you use a dictionary to find the correct meaning of the word. A dictionary will become an invaluable life-long assistant in their journey through language.

Read many types of interesting stories, and read often. The more you read together, the quicker they will be able to read on their own, and the quicker they will be able to satisfy their natural desire for knowledge.

- Robert C Gilbert