

# Soutěž pro mladé autory píšící anglicky

## Téma 10. ročníku soutěže National Literary Award for Young Writers:

# IN TEN YEARS...

Tento rok se soutěže zúčastnila mladá talentka **Klára Janková z 2.B** se svou povídkou

## Green palace.

“You can do this.” I calmly whisper to myself as my avatar moves closer to the gate. I look around and luckily don't see anyone. That means that I am the first. I step one more step closer and double click on the gate. As I do that a big note appears on my computer screen.

**Congratulations Unicorns4eva. You have now reached level ten. Please, be free to enter.**

“Oh my god!” I start to yell, making my throat really hurt from not speaking for days. Then I get up from my chair to do my winning dance.

And here is the answer to your first question -Yes, I am that pathetic. But I have been dying to finish level nine for days. You may now think: “What is so special about finishing level nine? It is a low level anyway.” – Well you are half right. It would be low level, if you were playing some sort of computer game that has hundreds of levels, with hundreds of chances to start again when you die. But not in this game.

This game is called *Green palace* and you can play it only once in ten years, when the creators of the game put it online. That is probably the reason why my avatar's name is Unicorns4eva. You only got the chance to choose your name and appearance once. So do not judge me for those unicorn, I was only eight! And for my defense, I really thought I would love them forever.

I first started playing this game twenty years ago. I was eight and I was dying to try something new. When I first saw that *Green palace* commercial on TV, I knew what I had to do. Of course I didn't win the first time. To be honest, I didn't even make it to the second level. I got myself killed by a vampire that wasn't even trying to kill me - (yeah, I am that skilled). And do not even make me started about the last time - fine, you won, I will tell you. I got a heart attack. That probably got you thinking something like: “How could an eighteen year old girl get a heart attack?” The answer to that question is pretty easy. Just be on your computer 24/7, live mostly from pizza delivery and don't move a lot. Yeah, here you got it. Unfortunately, I didn't recover fast enough to finish that years *Green palace* game, and I would be okay with that if the winner wouldn't live under the same roof as me. And yes, I am talking about my brother.

My brother is the lucky one from us. He might be my twin, but we are opposites in every way possible. He is tall, handsome and talented. Like take that year when we started playing the piano. We were five and our mother was watching a documentary about a four year old playing the cello. Luckily for us she could not afford buying two cellos, and because we already had a piano in our house a big plan was made. After the first lesson we took, she was convinced that she has two Mozarts in her house. Well what to say, she had only one.

But let's not talk about him. The only thing you should know is that we don't talk anymore. From the money he won in the *Green palace* he bought house in California, where he now lives his happily ever after with a cheerleader from our class.

The win this year is twice that big than the one that was ten years ago. With that much money I would be able to finally move out from my tiny little flat, that I am paying from making videos about computer games. Thank God there are still people interested in listening to twenty-eight year making fool of herself in front of the internet.

I stretch my fingers and take another sip from my today's probably fourth energy drink. I hate that taste, but as I already said, I really need to win. Because if I do not win, I will have to listen to another one of my parents lectures about my life.

Level ten, here it is. My avatar is now standing in the middle of the woods. I look around and see a cave. I step closer to the cave and take a flash light from my inventory. It's time for some exploring.

After another twenty minutes in level ten, I have found nothing that would help me get to the green palace. Or out of the cave, at least. I used to think that was a good sign, like I must be really close when I can not get out, but I do not think that anymore. The only thing I think now is that I am screwed.

But then something amazing happens. I notice a painting on one of the cave's walls. I click on it and a big note once again appears on my screen.

**Congratulations! You have almost made it to the end. You now have five minutes to find a key to open the green palace. Your time starts now.**

When the note disappears, my avatar is now standing in the middle of...well, nowhere. On the right side of my computer screen is now a chronometer. How am I suppose to find a key to my happiness in less than five minutes?

And then, something terrible happens. The lights turn off and my screen is black. I immediately realize what just happened. The power went off.

Without further more thinking I take my second laptop and start running. I close the door and run as quickly as I can to my next door Starbucks. I try to push the door but they are not moving. I look at the door again, and notice a small card on the door. *Today we are closed.*

Great. Damn you Starbucks! What am I going to do now? Fortunately my solution is standing just few meters away, my car. I get in and ride to another coffee shop.

I get out of my car with my laptop that I turned on while I was driving. I enter the coffee shop and sit to the nearest table. I sign up to my account, enter the game and see my life ruining once again.

**Your time has come to the end. You weren't able to find the key in the time that had been given you.**

**You can try it again in ten years,**

**Sincerely**

**Green palace.**