

# Henry's Freedom Box

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A true story from the underground railroad.

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The Tragickall History of Henry Fowst. Life is about to take a turn for the worse for schoolboy Henry in Griselda Heppel's new children's novel... In the shadows of Walton Hall a demon lurks. His name: Mephistopheles. In 1586, young John Striven struck a bargain with him in return for help against his murderous foster brother. Nice work for a demon - or it should have been. Because somehow, his plan to trap the 12-year-old went wrong. All he needs now is another soul, in similar desperation, to call on him. Enter 13 year-old Henry Fowst. A pupil at Northwell School, Henry longs to win the Northwell History Essay Prize. Exploring the school's sixteenth century library, he stumbles across the diary of a boy his own age beginning this 20th day of Januarie, 1586... Soon Henry is absorbed in John Striven's struggles with his jealous foster-brother, Thomas Walton, who, it seems, will stop at nothing to be rid of him. Then matters take a darker turn. Battling to escape his own enemy, Henry finds his life beginning to imitate John's and when the diary shows John summoning 'an Angellick Spirit' to his aid, Henry eagerly tries the same. Unfortunately, calling up Mephistopheles lands both boys in greater danger than they'd ever bargained for. Griselda's first book, Ante's Inferno, won the Children's award in the People's Book Prize 2013 and the Silver award in the 9-12 year-old category of the Wishing Shelf Independent Book Awards 2012. It was also shortlisted in Writing Magazine's 2013 Self-Publishing Award, and featured in a number of publications, including the Oxford Times, Juno and Aquila. Griselda's story was featured in The Guardian Self-Publishing Showcase and the Writers' & Artists' Yearbook.

Ⓜ Ⓜ Ⓜ Ⓜ Ⓜ . Henry stuck out his bottom lip. 'And I probably won't win, so what's the point?' Dad banged his hand on the table. 'I'll tell you what the point is, Henry. You won't win if you don't try! If you don't succeed, fine, but at least you'll ..."