

“The 5ft Giant” by Danielle Aquilina [excerpt]

SHANNON: I’m going to get my chalk! I’m not afraid of him.

TWITCH: Oh but Shannon. My poor, dear, sweet, naïve Shannon. Don’t be silly. Remember that time we were at the lagoon and there were **sharks**, Shannon.

Sharks in there with us and -

SHANNON: And then we realized that they weren’t sharks. They were just sticks.

TWITCH: Well, yes. But very sharp sticks Shannon. I could have been speared right through the middle Shannon. I could have been a Twitch-kebob!

SHANNON: Yes. But you weren’t. And you kept on swimming anyway. Because you were brave.

TWITCH: Well, yes. I suppose I was....

SHANNON heads over to the BIG DOOR but is quickly pulled back by TWITCH

TWITCH: Woah woah! Shannon. But do you remember that time when we were in the shopping center Shannon. It was like a maze, a labyrinth Shannon, so many twists and turns. With no food or water for 46 minutes! Oh the horror! And the endless rows of assorted crockery! Why do they need to sell so many different sets of the same plates Shannon?

SHANNON: Yes Twitch. But then we went to the front desk remember, and you were brave and spoke to the nice lady and she helped us. And then it was all OK.

TWITCH: Well yes, she was very lovely I suppose...

SHANNON heads over to the BIG DOOR but is quickly pulled back

by TWITCH - again

TWITCH: But Shannon! What about the time we had that humungous cyclone tear through the city! And the power went out and there were scary noises howling outside, the fridge lost power... and the cheese Shannon! The cheese was reaching room temperature. But that wasn't the worst of it Shannon, there was no internet!

SHANNON: Yes, I remember. But then we worked out that it was just the wind outside the window. And then we built a blanket fort together and used our matching torches to keep the light going. And the esky kept the cheese cold. And you held my hand and we were brave!

It seems as though TWITCH is agreeing and will join SHANNON's crusade

TWITCH: You know what. You're right Shannon! I think you're onto something here! Brave. Yes. Bravery. We hold hands, take a deep breath in and march up to the door and demand to get your chalk back! Because we're brave! Buuuut - just to make sure we cover all bases, I

might just, you know - be brave from, over here... I'll
keep guard Shannon, don't you worry. I've got this! I'm
all over it! From, over here.

TWITCH goes to hide behind the LAMP POST as he keeps

"encouraging" SHANNON from afar

TWITCH: I've got your back Shannon. I'm right here. Being brave...
with you... here... You know, just in case he tries to do a runner or
something, you know... I got you Shannon!

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