



DES HUNT SUNKEN FOREST

When a good deed turns sour ...



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Age	10-13 years
Lexile	730L

Des Hunt lives at Matarangi on the Coromandel Peninsula. Some years ago he made the transition from writing textbooks for secondary students to novels for younger readers (shortlisted for NZ Post Book Awards three times), while still maintaining his aims of fostering young peoples' natural interest in the science of their surroundings. Des has authored 14 books in this genre. A widely respected figure in New Zealand educational circles, and one who enjoys speaking in schools, Des Hunt's other books for Scholastic NZ are: *The Last Tuatara*, *Project Huia* and *Cool Nukes*.

Sent to live with his grandmother in Hastings after his father is jailed, Matt becomes the victim of bad friends and false accusations. Packed off on a military-style school camp to the wilds of Lake Waikaremoana, Matt again gets in trouble for something he didn't do, and is unjustly punished.

Not allowed to join his school friends on their activities, he spends time alone down by the lake where he discovers a massive eel. Unfortunately, the class 'bad boy', Cam, is determined to kill it. But it's a strange twist of fate when Matt finds himself in a position to save Cam's life ...

- Popular author Des Hunt manages to successfully combine action adventure with environmental message
- Gripping storyline with a dramatic climax
- Fans of *Cool Nukes* and *Project Huia* will love this

Praise for Project Huia

"Des Hunt's novels never fail to amaze and inspire. *Project Huia* is an excellent tale full of adventure, mystery and action, written in a beautiful fashion that will enchant readers both young and old. This is a superb book, which will make you think differently about the way you see endangered species and remind you of the importance of family and loyalty." — *Booksellers NZ*

"As in all his books, Des Hunt combines his passion for science with his wonderful story telling skills. I feel this would read aloud well but it may be more a book for an individual reader to gobble up at a sitting and not have to wait for the next reading 'session'!" — *Around the Bookshops*

"I read this book in one sitting and can attest to the story's interest and full-on pace." — *Otago Daily Times*