

Harmony Tree International Speech Festival (HTISF)
2024-2025 Set Pieces for Asia Division

FINAL

Prose Reading
Born in 2013-2014

The BFG

by Roald Dahl

“But if you are so nice and friendly,” Sophie said, “then why did you snatch me from my bed and run away with me?”

“Because you SAW me,” the Big Friendly Giant answered.

“If anyone is ever SEEING a giant, he or she must be taken away hipswitch.”

“Why?” Asked Sophie.

“Well, first of all,” said the Giant, “Human beans is not really believing in giants, is they? Human beans is not thinking we exist.”

“I do,” Sophie said.

“Ah, but that is only because you has SEEN me!” cried the Big Friendly Giant.

“I cannot possibly allow anyone, even little girls, to be SEEING me and staying at home. The first thing you would be doing, you would be cuddling around yodelling the news that you were actually SEEING a giant, and then a great giant-hunt, a mighty giant look-see, would be starting up all over the world, with the human beans all rummaging for the great giant you saw and getting wildly excited.

People would be coming rushing and bushing after me with goodness knows what and they would be catching me and locking me into a cage to be stared at.

They would be putting me into the zoo or the bunkumhouse with all those squiggling hippodumplings and crocadowndillies.”

Sophie knew that what the Giant said was true.