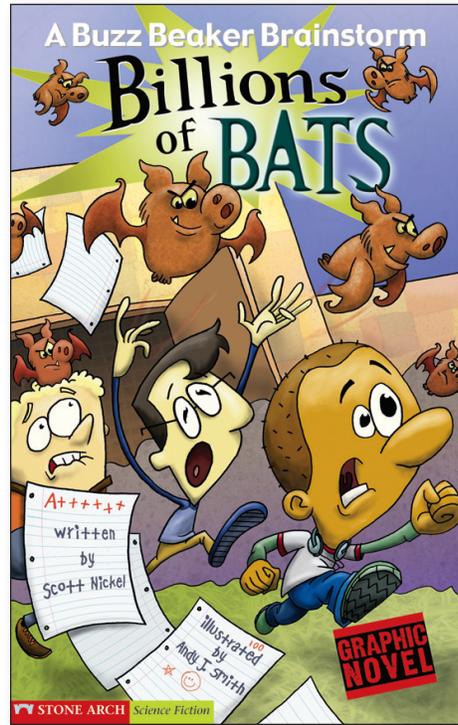




## READER'S THEATER



### **Billions of Bats by Scott Nickel**

**Characters:** **Buzz Beaker, the smartest kid in school**  
**Sarah Bellum, the other smartest kid in school**  
**Mindy, Sarah's helper**  
**Mrs. Fishmunger, their teacher**  
**Narrator**

**Genre:** **Science Fiction**

**Ages:** **8-10**

## Billions of Bats page 1

- Narrator:** Buzz Beaker was the smartest kid in his whole school.
- Buzz:** No one's smarter than me!
- Narrator:** At least he was until Sarah Bellum, a brand new student, came along.
- Sarah:** Now I'm the smartest!
- Buzz:** Grrrr.
- Narrator:** One day Sarah did a special project for science class.
- Sarah:** I call this my Cosmic Copier.
- Narrator:** Sarah had made a machine that would copy whatever was put into it.
- Mrs. Fishmunger:** Sarah, that is the best project anyone has ever done!
- Narrator:** This made Buzz mad.
- Buzz:** Grrrr.
- Narrator:** Sarah and her assistant, Mindy, showed the class how the Cosmic Copier worked.
- Sarah:** Mindy will now put my pet bat, Bobo, into the Cosmic Copier.
- Mindy:** Yes, master.
- Sarah:** And now Mindy will type in the number 001. That will make one copy of Bobo.
- Buzz:** I bet it doesn't work.
- Narrator:** Mindy was nervous. She made a mistake and had typed in 100 instead of 001.
- Mindy:** Oh, dear.
- Narrator:** Then the button stuck! Hundreds of bats came flying out of the copy machine.
- Buzz:** Wow! I guess it does work.

## Billions of Bats page 2

- Mindy:** The zero button is stuck. It's making more Bobos!
- Mrs. Fishmunger:** And it's making more boo-boos!
- Narrator:** The copier kept making more and more bats. Billions of bats. Everybody screamed and ran.
- Mrs. Fishmunger:** Look out! Eek!
- Buzz:** There are bats everywhere!
- Sarah:** Oh no!
- Narrator:** Buzz was right. Bats were everywhere. One flew into a girl's hair, one stole a boy's lunch, and one even dropped doo-doo on a kid's shoulder.
- Mindy:** Yuck! Bobo doo-doo.
- Narrator:** Then Buzz found Sarah hiding under a bench.
- Buzz:** Sarah, what are you doing?
- Sarah:** Hiding.
- Mrs. Fishmunger:** Sarah! Stop those bats or you're getting an F on your project!
- Sarah:** What? I've never gotten an F!
- Narrator:** But Buzz had an idea.
- Buzz:** I've got an idea!
- Sarah:** What is it?
- Buzz:** We have to get the bats back into your Cosmic Copier and reverse the process.
- Sarah:** That's just weird enough to work.
- Narrator:** Sarah quickly made a radio device to attract the bats.
- Buzz:** You attach the radio thing to the copier, and I will type in minus 1000!
- Sarah:** OK! Here it goes!

## Billions of Bats page 3

- Narrator:** When the bats heard the radio device, they all started flying back into the machine. Buzz pressed the enter key and everyone waited to see what happened.
- Mindy:** What happened?
- Mrs. Fishmunger:** What happened?
- Buzz:** Yeah, what happened?
- Narrator:** Sarah opened the door to the Cosmic Copier and pulled out Bobo. Just one Bobo.
- Sarah:** It worked!
- Mrs. Fishmunger:** But why did the bats fly back into your copier?
- Buzz:** The radio device sounded like a mother bat calling her kids. The bats thought she was saying, "Come and get dessert!"
- Mrs. Fishmunger:** Dessert? That sounds like a good idea to me.
- All:** Hooray!

**THE END**