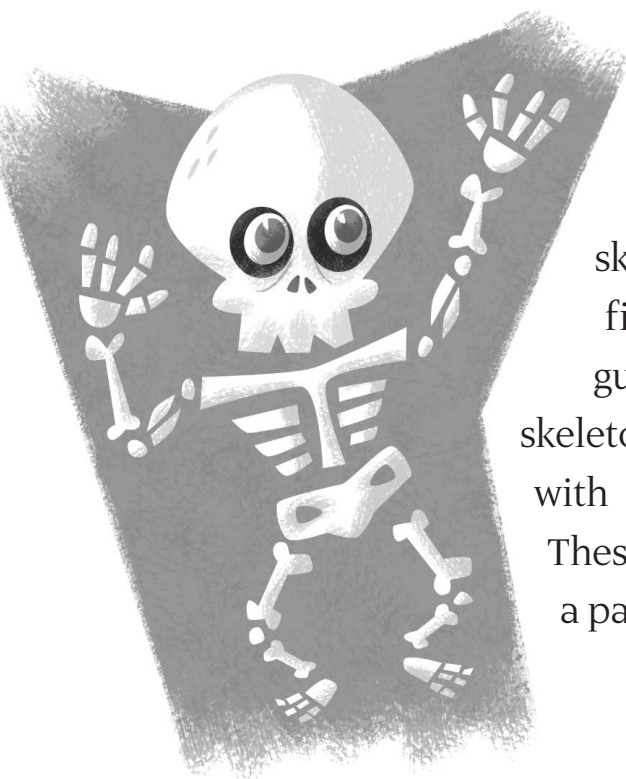


STERMONT



Once there was a pile of bones.



Actually, the bones weren't in a pile. They made up a small skeleton, which was filled with squishy guts. On top of that skeleton sat a huge skull with deep eye sockets. These eye sockets held a pair of googly eyes.

The whole thing would have been really gross, except it was covered in a layer of skin and had a mop of curly hair on top. This mop-haired, bug-eyed, gut-filled bag of bones was named Alexander Bopp. And he was scared to death.



Alexander was scared of:

1. spending his first night in a new house;
2. going to a new school in a new town; and
3. having to make new friends.