



Alice's Wonderland wasn't as Lewis Carroll told it, believes Frank Beddor. In his new book, *The Looking Glass Wars* [Egmont, £12.99], Wonderland is a violent fantasy of royal rivalry with Alyss [not Alice] at its centre.

"It chose me," Frank tells us, when we ask why he re-visited such a classic tale. After having his interest ignited by some ancient cards at the British Museum, Frank visited an antiques dealer who recalled the epic Looking Glass legend:

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"He was called Dugan Buffington. He was kind enough to share his folklore and that inspired me, in the tradition of the Grimm Brothers," continues Frank.

It took five years to complete the book. "The hardest part was the world creation and the foundation of the social rules. Those things now seem organic but they were torturous," he recalls.



Frank is never one to give up, though. He's also a world champion freestyle skier, an actor and a movie producer. "I had a very crazy father," he says, trying to explain his colourful career.