

SQUASHED
By Joan Bauer

Characters:

ELLIE MORGAN – she’s a person who is overweight, cooks and grows pumpkins. She is 16 and enjoys astronomy

MR. MORGAN – Ellie’s father, he looks like Abe Lincoln and helps remake people’s life by motivating them. Hates farming, likes ice cream and is a motivational speaker.

RICHARD – Ellie’s cousin, loves baseball and wants to go pro. He wants to play for the Cubs.

CYRIL POOL – Nut head, mean, snarly and evil. Bad sport and a bragger.

NANA – Ellie’s Grandma, good advisor to Ellie and loves gardening and growing flowers.

AUNT PEG – Ellie’s Aunt and was in a car crash

WES – Ellie’s boyfriend. Very nice and understanding. Grows corn.

MAX – Ellie’s prize winning pumpkin.

GRACE – Ellie’s friend and Wes’ cousin.

BIG DADDY – Cyril’s pumpkin

RALPHIE – Photographer/reporter for the Rock River Clarion

MRS. LEMMING’S – Raccoons get into her garbage

SPIDER – a dog that helps protect Ellie’s pumpkin and love biscuits

Questions:

Who is the main character? Ellie Morgan

What’s the name of Ellie’s cousin? Richard

Who is Ellie’s love interest? Wes

What State and town does Ellie live? Rock River Iowa

What does Ellie have a passion to grow? Pumpkins

What’s the name of Ellie’s pumpkin? Max

What else is Ellie good at doing? Cooking

What does Ellie’s Dad do for a living? He wrote a book and does motivational speaking. Sells his movies and tapes

What happened to Ellie’s Mom? She died in a car crash when Ellie was eight

Where did Ellie’s Mom work? Redmont’s Florist

What did Ellie’s Mom like to grow and was good at? Roses (flowers)

Who was Ellie’s biggest competitor at the Harvest Fair? Cyril Pool

What was the name of Cyril’s pumpkin? Big Daddy

What did Ellie’s Dad want her to lose? Weight

What movie did Ellie see as a kid that made her fall in love with pumpkins? Cinderella

What did Ellie’s cousin, Richard, have a passion for? Baseball

What did Ellie’s grandparents do for a living? Farming

What did Ellie’s boyfriend Wes grow? Corn

What did Wes tell Ellie to do to her pumpkin to make it grow bigger? Talk to it like it was a person

Who is Ellie’s best friend? JoAnne Clark

Who tried to steal Wes away from Ellie, at Grace’s party? Sharrell Upton

What beauty contest did Sharrell enter? Sweet Corn Coquette Contest

When the first pumpkin was stolen out of somebody's patch who was it? Mannie Plummer's

Who did Ellie first suspect stole it? Dennis Hickey

What did Ellie put around Max to protect him? A jiggly fence with hanging bells and a sign that read, Back Off, Creeps, You're being watched

What did Richard bring to Ellie to help protect her pumpkin? A dog named Spider

When Spider would bark all night, what would Ellie give to him to keep him quiet? Biscuits

What would the 1st and 2nd place prize be at the Rock River Pumpkin Contest?

1st place – their picture in the Rock River Clarion and a \$1 per pound on their pumpkin in and 2nd would be \$50.00 and whatever price you could get by selling the seeds of your pumpkin

What did Ellie find when something dropped out of Dennis Hickey's pocket, the boy she suspected of stealing the pumpkin's?

A note that read: Pool's Backfarb 11 pm

Who was caught trying to steal Big Daddy? Dennis, his cousin and another friend

What did Wes notice about Big Daddy when he went to spy for Ellie? That Big Daddy was rotting,

Who was caught trying to steal Max? Ralphie (Mrs. Lemming's grandson)

What newspaper came to interview Ellie the next day? The Rock River Clarion

What was the article titled? A Girl and Her Pumpkin

Who did Ellie want to visit before the weigh in? Her Mom in the Circleville Cemetary

What did Ellie and her Dad do for the pumpkin, in the final days of growing? Play a song called Messiah by Handel

Who was present when Ellie cut Max's vine? Nana, Richard and Dad

Why wasn't Wes their? He had a cold flu

What did Ellie give to Max as a final present before the weigh in? A Ziploc bag of soil

What delayed Cyril from getting the Harvest Fair?

He did not have enough friends to help him lift Big Daddy onto the truck

Who wrote Ellie a pep talk letter the day of the e"b§DrĪ<ÜöKm