

A Little Magic can go a long way

My family just bought a two hundred year old red brick building. My mom is a librarian and this building use to be the main library here in Marilyn. Only my mom has seen it, so when we get into town, mom offers to take us on a tour of the building.

We drive to the middle of town and see a tall narrow red brick building. Mom parks the car and digs out the keys to go inside. There are lots of steps, probably fifteen, to get into the building. When we get to the door, it is a huge thick wooden door that is twice as tall as me. Once inside, mom turns on the lights and I am surprised. There are black marble floors, lots of arched windows, huge glass chandeliers, and a grand staircase that goes up and down, over on the side of the room. The stairs going up lead to a second floor balcony that goes around the whole library. There are tall, wooden, dusty bookshelves all around, with even more upstairs.

We knew we had to come back and clean soon, so we left to go back to our house. That night we talked about cleaning the library, first working on the main floor and then the upstairs balcony area. Mom asked if I would go upstairs on my own to start cleaning.

The next day, I headed up the grand stairway to start cleaning. As I walked around, I discovered many rooms that lined the back wall. Each room was different, each with a theme from countries around the world. In the Germany room, I heard a meow from another room. I went next door to the French room and could still hear meowing. Then I realized it came from the wall. I went back to the Germany room and starting moving books off of the shelf and found a small door with a latch. I opened it and ten orange cats, both babies and grown-ups, came running out.

All of the cats sat down by my feet. One of the cats started to paw at my foot to get my attention. She walked over to a book on the floor and pawed at it. I went over to look and saw that it was a purple big, thick, hard-covered book with the title "Magical Spells to take you on Adventures." I opened it up, not knowing what I would find inside. I read a page out loud to the cats that said:

To the world fair you go

From many years ago

A city of lights

With arches and towers

A whoosh, a swoosh,

You are there!

When I open my eyes, it is dark and the Eiffel Tower is lit up with lights. I see my clothes are different. I have on a long skirt and shirt. There are many people walking around, talking and pointing. There is a paper blowing by my feet and I pick it up. It reads "World Fair 1889" Paris, France. There is a lady passing out papers to people walking by. The paper says to find an ancient key that has been lost to a mansion by a river. I wonder where this mansion is? Is there a map? Then I realize that I have a bag on my shoulder.

Inside the bag I find a map of Paris and a book about the Silver River Mansion. Inside the book, it says the mansion is by a river and it was built in 1685. Governor Raul Pierre had lived there with his wife and five children. The mansion has a library, a pool, a ballroom, a balcony around the house, a billiard room, and a conservatory. Many events had taken place there and the house was a light for the city. While a ball was taking place, someone had stolen a key to a safe in the house and jewelry was taken. Many people were hurt. Governor Pierre felt sad and worried so he took his family and moved to Venice. Since then, the house had been left abandoned and the key to the safe had never been found.

This is a sad story and I would like to try and find the key. Since it is night, I need to find a place to sleep. I walk over to the ferris wheel and stand in line for a ride. When I get on, two other children sit in the seat with me. Ava and Ella are sisters that live in Paris. I see a river in the moonlight and ask Ava the name of the river. Ava says it is the Seine River. I ask if she has heard of a silver river here in Paris. She says that the Seine River use to be called the Silver River, many years ago. Ella asks where I am from and I tell her the United States. They ask where my parents are and I tell them I am alone. Ava and Ella ask if I would like to stay at their house for the night and I am so happy to have a place to be safe!

The next day I say thank you for letting me stay for the night. Ava and Ella offer to show me where the Silver River Mansion is located. We walk about 1 mile and up on a hill I see a huge place, kind of like the Taj Mahal all shiny and white. As we get up the hill, we see a short wooden gate that goes all around the house. We walk up to the gate and the door just swings open when we push it. Inside the gate, the grass is up to our knees and the house is ahead through the grass. The house is white with two stories and a blue door. We walk up a set of stairs to get to the front door and try to open it, but it seems locked. We walk around the outside of the house and in the backyard we see another set of steps that go down to a basement. This door opens. I pull out my book from my bag and start reading. The safe is in the master bedroom. The book says the master bedroom is on the first floor by the kitchen.

We walk up the stairs and the first room I see is the kitchen. There are black and white checkered floors and a small table. There is a door that leads into the master bedroom. A big white bed and wood floors are in this bedroom and there is a closet in the corner. We walk over and see a cut out in the floor. I bend down to open it and there is the safe! It is black and rectangular, with a lock that needs a key. We put the safe back under the floor board and start to search in the bedroom. Ella and Ava look under the bed and I look in the dresser but we don't find anything. So, we walk back to the kitchen.

All of us talk about where we should look in the kitchen. I trip on something on the floor and look down. I tripped on one of the squares of the floor that was coming up. I bend down and it seems like it is loose so I try to pick it up. There is an open space with a small wood box with a little latch. I unlatch it and turn it upside down and there is a key! This key is small, about the length of my finger, with a gold color. Ava, Ella, and I run back to the bedroom to see if the key works on the safe. Ella holds the safe and I slowly try to fit the key in the lock and we hear a click! We open the safe lid and there is a pearl necklace and an amethyst ring. Ella, Ava, and I hug! We are so excited we actually found the key! I am holding the key when there is a WHOOSH and a SWOOSH and suddenly, I am back in the library in Marilyn.

I run down the stairs and ask Mom what time it is. She says it is 12:30pm, which means that no time passed here while I was gone to Paris, France. I run back up the stairs and find the "Magic Spells to take you on Adventures" book. I am going to take the book with me and see if I can go on more adventures.