

## The Finding Adventure

“Sara, don’t move it will only make it worse”, I was saying as she squirmed from the cloth.

“JoJo, it hurts” Sara wailed on and on.

“Do you hear that Sara, listen doesn't it sound like footsteps?”

“Yes I think so, but maybe not.”

“Then we should get moving just in case it is footsteps because we don't want them to find us, come on this way”.

“But my leg JoJo, “Sara said a little too loud for my liking because if there were people around then they would surely hear her.

“Shh, yes here”, I whispered as my mind was racing what to do. Oh wait as I fumbled in my pack the footsteps grew louder and more like running now. My hands were racing now. I pulled them out with what I wanted, cloth and a broken rubber band.

My sweaty hands fumbled to tie the rubber to her bloody leg. Footsteps grew closer and I grabbed my worn and leather pack and pulled Sara to her feet. “It will keep the blood from running,” I said as she looked down.

The air was crisp and the wind was blowing with force in our direction as we set out through the stony alleyway we had been crouched a moment earlier.

When they finally reached the cold and damp forest, the ground was mushy and wet from the past rain. We finally could walk no more, as was showing when Sara finally fell to the ground and we settled on an old tree that was strangely dry. Sara was asleep in a heartbeat but I kept tossing and turning all night and the only ‘sleep’ I got was probably only a few minutes till something or another woke me up. Maybe it was an owl hoot or leaves rustling! When the sun finally rose, it was like someone shining a flashlight in your eye from above.

“JoJo, wake up the sun’s up,” Sara whispered to me as she shook me awake.

“Uh,” I answered as I slowly forced myself up into a sitting position. As I threw on my tattered shoes that had for sure seen better days. When the sun was finally out of my view I could see Sara standing there all woken up and ready to go. She had taken the cloth off that I had tied there later yesterday night. When we were all ready to go, Sara ran back to the old tree that we had slept on.

“Sara, come back we have to keep moving”, I yelled in a low whisper. But she had paid no attention to what I was saying and was clawing through the dirt. Finally she pulled away with her stuffed giraffe who was covered in dirt and misty from the damp colored ground. I started walking again hoping to keep up with the sun because we did not want to be stuck out at night with the peppermint mangles which were vines that would make you into a peppermint hanging vine. Sara ran back to me breaking my trance. We started our long walk to Uncle Sandy’s house because we thought we would try there first and get Uncle Sandy to help us find the fitch. Oops you didn't know about the fitch, well I guess it's safe to tell you a little: Sara and I live with our Aunt Nix who was general of the abstract admission army. Now the fitch is a stone, er a talking stone for that matter, and it’s not just any stone it was Aunt Nix’s stone. So we kinda had to find it before the 22 hours, and what was it, sorry have to check my watch, oh yeah 22 hours and some 13 minutes to find the stone and somehow get home before Aunt Nix does. As we continued to troop through the forest little did we notice that someone was following us and something that we would need in the future ... As the day grew darker for the sun was moving down its cycle and while that occurred I thought of the hundreds of miles we were away from the house that Aunt Nix had for us.

“Oh, pepper perching parrots,” I heard a voice yell from above and as I turned I thought of who that could be and then an image came into mind that I was going to find a horrifying surprise...Aunt Nix! But as I whirled about with a look of puzzlement on my face I could not find Aunt Nix, and then I realized a bird flying over head of course I thought out loud a mockingbird.

But then I got that horrifying look again, think about it the bird has to mock someone and so...Bad, bad news. I was so caught up in thinking about Aunt Nix that I did not realize where we were going, straight for a mud river. Sara must have been lost in thought to, because she just kept walking with a dreamy look on her face. "Stop, Stop", I yelled trying to get Her attention. Finally, she snapped out of it but kept walking. "Sara stop," I screamed at her no longer the quiet self I was a minute ago.

"Hurry up" she said pushing forward but then stopping in her tracks as she saw the mud river that if she would have fallen into one more step closer and to the doom that she would have fallen into! "Uh thanks well I did not really take it in sorry," she said mumbling looking down at her feet.

"It's ok but come on things won't be if we stick around", I answered to her sorry comment. As I said that she gave me a funny look and we started walking. I explained to her the mockingbird and how it repeated Aunt Nix's words. She got the same horrifying expression as I did.

"Well it's about time now you showed up", a voice called from in front of us. Startled I jumped and slowly started to looked and when I saw who it was almost fainted...Standing there with her hands on her hips was Aunt Nix. I looked quickly over at Sara and she was standing there gulping for air.

"Hello, I just heard you talking so you know how to speak."

"Um well it just well we weren't expecting you here for another 22 hours." I quickly answered shivering now even though it was 65 degrees out.

"So now I am not allowed to come home early and when I do you guys and the stone have disappeared. Well anyway get in the car." She motioned toward a long black van that stood ready for action. As we failed to move, Aunt Nix pushed us toward the car and we scrambled in the car not wanting any more trouble. As she started the car it rumbled to life. We sat in silence the whole way home and when our aunt pulled the car to a stop we arose from our drowsy sleep.

"In the house now and up to your rooms" She snapped at us. We scrambled for the door and it creaked open as if no one has been there for years but it had only been 5 days and some hours. I ran for our room that we shared, half and half. I was feeling drowsy but since aunt Nix was not too happy with us I just wanted to get out.

As soon as Sara had caught her breath I told her my marvelous plan: "I will open the window while you slam the door and then we will jump out the window (only about 1 foot) ok, and then run as far from here. Ok?" She nodded her head in approval and we got to work.

"1,2,3,4,5 now", I whispered as we jumped from the house. As we dropped from the house I landed on my feet like cats, but Sara landed sprawling on her legs. As I lifted her up, I took into a sprint into the dim wood forest. The more we ran the more I got worn out so we slowed it to a fast paced walk. Into the woods they went. And that was the story of the finding adventure and you know what, that stone that Aunt nix had found on the drive it was actually a fake and the real one was probably out somewhere having a vacation from being a stone. No one knows for sure though.