

A Work

By Mariam Y7

They were gone forever and I knew it, no matter how many times Summer tried to convince me I knew that I were to never see them again. There was only one person I told what had happened and that was Summer but she could not make me feel any better, no matter how much she tried. I knew her too well to know that we both knew she was lying and that they weren't coming back. It had been one full week since '*the disappearance*' and nobody had showed up, not even the scouts trying to sell their awful chewy rubber cookies or the salespeople trying to sell whatever they could find in the bins of the nearby town or even the neighbours to tell us how loud to we were or to ask why we had suddenly gone quiet. The house was barren, most of the day. We used to be the loudest (Without a doubt) and the most fun house on the street. Although our next-door neighbours did not seem very pleased nor appreciative but the rest of the street certainly loved us. The *elderly* people would invite us to play in their grand garden (which seemed more like a football pitch than anything else) and offer us food which they called *refreshments* which was rather posh, the lady opposite used to invite us for *tea* which was **actual** tea and biscuits and the middle-aged couple asked me if I wanted to learn to play the piano but of course I would of *loved* to learn but I had too much on my mind and slowly they started to get older and eventually left leaving a house for sale. Summer moved in opposite me a few years back and ever since we've been best friends ever since.

"Em, if you would just listen, I'm sure they are not gone ... Em!!...Listenn" Summer said not doing a very good job of cheering me up. It was 12 and the teachers were busily running around the school like wild animals trying to sort out the papers and work for next period. We had already had maths (In which I really did not feel the mood for working), Food tech (which of course just made me all the more hungrier yet at the same never want to eat again) and now we were going to science. I didn't like science: I was right at the back of the classroom and the board was in such small font I couldn't read it with a microscope. Summer tried endlessly to cheer me up. School was ok but I barely had any friends apart from summer, I didn't mind though, I was never the popular sort.

The disappearance

2 weeks ago I was stuck at home reading a book : my parents went out but I was grounded and so were my sometimes entertaining but also very infuriating siblings. My parents never came back . I rang and rang and rang , texted till I could no more but no replies no read messages no call backs ... my parents and my whole family were overprotective ,being a Whistletoe can be simply the *worst* especially if your family don't let you do much. My parents would usually constantly ring me but the calls never came nor did any texts , I worried but not too much until a day passed by and they still hadn't come I waited and waited but still no people at the door , even the sun was far too lazy to try to rise but the clouds loved to make the mood even more dreary. Summer tried to persuade me that they had gone somewhere , maybe on holiday but I knew something had happened to them and it was up to me to figure it out...

The day after *'the disappearance'* the world was flipped upside down , it seemed as if all the fun in the world was drowned out and all I could hear was the heavy rain falling down on the hard concrete pavement. I told summer all about it and at first she agreed with me and seemed rather sympathetic but the more she thought about it the more she *tried* to cheer me up and tell me they weren't gone ., of course they were and if I were to see them again it would be a **miracle** but miracles only really appear in fairy tales and I was *certainly* not in one...

I am almost certain that Summer told Levi then Levi told Sophia (after all they are twins) and then Sophia told Jasmine , I guess they were my friends but not very close ones . Levi lived next to summer and Sophia was his twin , Sophia and Jasmine were best friends and they got top scores in every lesson , it was rather scary how clever they were. Levi and Sophia both came up to me to ask me about a dozen questions about what had happened , they seemed as if they were detectives and they were about to solve a crime and of course Jasmine , with her ability to solve any and ever puzzle, came along to help them . Summer and me decided it was time to let them *'assist'* us in the mystery (what they had called it as they thought disappearance sounded boring)

The investigation

As Sophia and Jasmine were known throughout the whole school as 'detective wannabes', yes they were greatly underestimated and ignored even by the younger years and yes they did know about that greatly offending nickname, it was no mystery (no pun intended) that they begged to be part of 'the investigation'. There was no such thing but in one of Summer's *attempt* to cheer me up she suggested that we investigated ; when we were very small me and summer used to did little investigations about *who stole Mr Bunny's teapot* or *who ate all of the chocolate digestive biscuits* , of course back then it wasn't as serious . I don't know exactly **what** Summer meant by the term 'investigation' after all there wasn't much to investigate but the others certainly didn't agree with me.

It was 1pm and we were all in the middle of history lesson , today we were learning about the aphonten jewel , apparently in the 16th century the king stole the jewel from France and a war nearly broke out , the French got it back but last week it was shipped back to England and all hope for the jewel was lost and buried deep down under water. The jewel was going to showcase for the queen's coronation but unfortunately it never showed up and if anyone found it a reward of £1,000,000 were to be paid in return.

I looked down at my now half full , bronze book and noticed an eerie long slip of paper beneath the worksheet the teacher had just given out.

Meet us at 4 at the wandling tree – Summer and the rest of the 'investigators'

P.S:please think of a better word for 'the investigators'

I cautiously slipped the paper into my bag and started packing away for the next lesson.

The rest of the day seemed as if it had grew wings and flew away from me, the hours turned into minutes and the minutes turned into seconds so fast I could barely keep track of them. Whenever I wanted time to fly by it would stand still and refuse to move , it was as if time had a personality and it certainly didn't like me , however today I was rather *excited* for the meeting which surprised me just as much as it surprised them.

The meeting

“So welcome to our very first meeting” Summer said as optimistic as ever, as we all gave a small laugh and returned to our seats. The wandering tree was famous in our school .Sad? Go to the wandering tree , Happy? Go to the wondering tree, Annoyed? go to the wandering tree, Excited? go to the wandering tree , Your parents missing? Have a meeting at the wandering tree!So of course Summer would choose to go there, it was winter and the harsh rain pins fell down on the damp grass which in summer seemed more like a rug.The wandering tree was not oftenly visited at Winter, the tree did not provide much protection from the mighty winds or the frustrating rain so no one really came there. Under the tree , Summer had placed a large mat (which was big but couldn't keep all of us on) and one small one , which of course no one wanted to use as it was isolated from the rest of us so we all squished together on the big one.

We had all gotten the notes Summer had sent out and it was a miracle that no one else noticed but it was ordinary for her as she had a talent for being unnoticed when she didn't want to be seen. Jasmine and Sophia raced us to the tree after school but we were already there by the time that they had gotten there.

“How...did...you...two...get...there...so...quick” Sophia panted , with long pauses between each word as she was trying to catch her breath.

“Two words- Short path” Summer replied, already acting like a detective , “You ought to know all the secret paths in school if you want to be a detective.”

We actually didn't use a short path , I was a *very* slow runner but when your best friend is destined to be in the Olympics , you *have* to be able to keep up. Summer was not the boastful sort so she didn't tell them that she was just very good at running.

“Okay ,So Can anyone think of a name instead of the ‘investigator’?” Summer queried.

“Crime kickers or Crime Killers or-” I immediately shouted out but half way through Summer interrupted me.

“Crime Kickers...Perfect!” She exclaimed , over excited about the name , but I was very proud of the name and we all loved it.

“So to start this meeting of , we are investigating the mysterious dissapperance of Emerald Whistletoe by Me -Sophia Smith , Jasmine Arin and Summer Jones and Emerald Whistletoe , we do not yet have any suspects yet.” Sophie announced sounding very professional , not at all like a wannabee.

“Yet..”I replied which sounded like something Summer would say but I didn't quite know whether having a suspect was *that good* of a thing.

Today I was on 'babysitting duty' so I had to take Amira with me to the wandering tree. She played and messed around with my phone as if she was a 5 year old , played some old games she had downloaded long before *the disappearance* and messed around with chalk crayons she received from school as a reward . Amira could be quite smart but only when she wanted to and she was not at all interested in mystery or crime or detectives so it was rather a surprise for everyone when she suddenly blurted out an idea that was so obvious we hadn't even seen it.

"Emmy , have you checked the cameras?" she asked , I was sure she wasn't asking because we were figuring out a mystery but because she had stolen some chocolate from the sweet draw.

"Cameras..that's it!" I muttered to myself , we had only just become and the mystery was beginning to solve itself.

"Summer , there's cameras in my house , we could use those!"I said with enthusiasm

Summers face lit up like a firework as so did Jasmine and Sophia.

The unceasing rain started to pour far more heavily now , and a tree was not much good for such heavy fall. Sophia, Jasmine and Summer all got texts from their parents and complained but for once wished I had those texts ... Amira was moaning about how her hair had gotten all soaked so I had to leave at once before she fell into a tantrum , it sometimes amazes me how my 7- year old sister can convince me to do so much by doing so little.

Summer and Sophia came with me home as they lived on the same street as me but we didn't talk much , they came over in my house but my older sister didn't seem to mind so much, I always expected her to become bossy when our parents weren't around but she became less stressed and more calm. With much anticipation we raced of to the security cameras. I had forgotten that Thursday had been the record breaking most foggy day this year and it was hard to see what was right in front of you. We stared eyes wide at the screen absorbing as much information as we could and that was when we realised something.

We had our first clue...

The magic trick of the century

On the screen was something none of us could truly believe was real... it was there and there was barely any fog to block our view but none of us had the imagination to believe that it had actually just happened.

“Am I Hallucinating?” Sophia questioned feeling rather faint. We had just witnessed something which seemed rather impossible and not plausible. I was wondering the same thing as Sophia or maybe this was just a dream and it would go back to normal , my parents would be there and this was all not real. Only it wasn't a dream , it was real and my parents were gone unless we solve the mystery and get them back and it wasn't going to happen by itself.

“What happened to the car?” Summer murmured, her voice barely more than a whisper... it was the same question we were all thinking at that exact moment. The car had arrived ,in pristine condition, at the drive , my parents were in the car when they came but just like that they were gone ... they had *disappeared* and I had no clue as to where they had gone.

“But it's impossible!” We all said in unison but it was not the time for laughter , we were so bemused that none of us (including me) realised before now that the car was just outside the house and it wasn't off limits or dangerous.

“Well I think its time we go and check the car itself” I said , still clutching on to the spare , bronze and silver keys that I had grabbed from the key rack.

Sophia and Summer both nodded and gave a small smile, we opened the door to the garden but it was locked , I looked at the keys in my hand but none of them seemed to fit , I tried countless times until I realised that we didn't have a key to the back of the garden , the only people who did were my parents but that was no use now. We all glanced around the room , trying to see if they had left it out , we had hope until Amira told us that they had taken it with them. Unlike most houses , our house was ancient , so old yet the security was so new , we had no other way to get to the garden. I was confused as to why we had no other keys to the garden yet at least one spare key for every other door.

The car was not in the garden so we could go through the front door and investigate. We were all very eager to find some clues and see what had truly happened (since none of us were convinced by the vanishing act). It was no use. There was nothing ... nothing there , the car was still in very good condition and there was not a single trace of anything left behind. No clues = no investigation = one unsolved mystery and no parents.

“It's usele -” I said sighing until I was cut of by Sophia. “Look what I found , I think we may have our first real clue...”She screamed with excitement. I looked down at the fluffy grey toy and minute crumbs she had held in her hand. “It looks like cat food and a toy...”She squealed as if we had just solved the mystery. There was only one person on the road who had cats and she *loved* them. We were all certain no one

else on the street owned a cat apart from her and the toy that Sophia held in her hands was one of Mittens' (the cat) favourite toys. "Well looks like we have our first subject" I said , smiling .We would of investigated more but it wasn't like you could just go up to your neighbour and ask *Hi!Did you take my parents at 1pm two weeks ago? I found your cats food and one of their toys.Do you have an alibi? Should call the police to arrest you?* I had to think of a way to get her alibi without being noticed and it was getting late , Summer and Sophia's parents would start to wonder what we were doing.

The survey

I walked home hastily (after all my house was only a few metres away), it was getting dark and midnight- black ink spilt over the starry sky, stars shimmered and gave me some hope that maybe I would find my parents. I woke up to mittens curled up at the side of my bed, he pounced on me and his small furry head tilted towards the clock. I would usually have a panic attack and run to school but today the polls were being collected so it was closed for the day. I went to open the door to see some exhausted looking scouts standing there with a white strip of paper. "If you could just do this *survey* for us" one of the smaller ones pleaded. The word *survey* hit me like a dagger – so fast and precise. I knew exactly how I would get Miss Canorn to give us her alibi - the plan was simple, we would pretend to do a survey and ask her what she was doing that day. Her memory was sharp and she was **awful** at keeping secrets (but she could be a great liar and lied that she was a bad liar) as well as sounding very suspicious when she had done something. I quickly filled in the survey that the scouts had thrust in front of me and ran to Summer's house. Amira came tailing behind me and a sly, crooked smile grew on her face as she said "What are you doing em! Should I tell Rene?" Rene was our elder sister and she was *very* overprotective just like our parents.

"If you be quiet I will make pancakes" I compromised and it didn't even take her a second to say yes.

I called summer to come out and she ran downstairs in her navy blue dress. "Am I late? What's the time? Ahh its school!!" she screamed running around the house. "Its voting day today: no school!" I said, laughing. It was like summer to be so unorganised. I called Jasmine and Sophia to come to the end of the street in ten minutes and even though Jasmine was further away from us she got there very quickly. "What's the plan?" Jasmine asked enthusiastically. I explained it to them and they didn't say a word but nodded their heads in unison, we slowly walked down to no.5 (Which wasn't far from the end of the road) and pressed the doorbell. The house was old and rusty, moss and ivy snaked around the brick and it looked more like an ancient castle than a modern house.

"Hello Miss Canorn! We have a survey for you what were you doing last Thursday at 1pm?" Sophia said with a smile that reached her eyes. The survey sounded awfully suspicious but she was too distracted with her cats to realise. "Well I was with Ms Hory she was painting my cats, why what a wonderful painting it is" She replied. She held up a large board with a drawing (It looked real ... *almost* real) of her seven cats (Yes she has **seven**!) Her alibi wasn't too attention drawing and it didn't seem very suspicious but the only way to find out was to ask Ms Hory herself.

draw, deceive and pull some tricks

We walked down to no.15 and we were all quite intrigued by our first alibi , it seemed rather innocent but all the other clues were pointing at Miss Canorn , the only way to find out whether or not she was lying was to ask Ms Hory herself. No.15 was opposite Sophia's house and she (as well as all of us) knew that Ms Hory strongly despised pets (particularly dogs and cats) , the whole street found her quite strange and absurd.

We rang the doorbell to see an short woman peeking out of her door , she looked as if she **did not** need any company and didn't want any , all of us apart from Summer were terrified of the glare she gave us.

"Hello Ms Hory! We are here to do a survey , what were you doing on Thursday at 1pm?" Summer asked cheerfully

"A quite strange question , what are you going to do with it may I ask?" She questioned and the shiny smile she gave sent a shiver up my spine.

"We will use it to see the general activities of the neighbourhood so we can find out what to invest in!" Jasmine said , saving us all , it was quite obvious she had done her geography homework.

"Ok then.. I was painting Miss Canorn's cats! Why how lovely they are!" She said , saying the word lovely with much sarcasm and spite.

I said thankyou and we walked of to mark our findings, "Well we can cross them of now!"

"Yes , and it was quite believable how she said the word *lovely*" Sophia smiled and we all burst into laughter. Our next suspect would be Mr Loik , he was the magician on the street and could easily pull of a stunt like the car trick, he was our best suspect and I was sure that he could be it.

This time I knocked on the door an it gave me an uncomfortable feeling – a kidnapper could be just about to open the door and me , being so gullible , could walk straight into a trap.

"Hello Mr Loik can you-" I asked but I was cut off by him

"Can I do a survey for what I did on Thursday at 1pm?Sure!"He laughed taking the words right out of my mouth.

"But how did you-"

"I was practising a magic trick , and also magicians never reveal their secrets" He said with a massive smile , that could trick anyone.

I looked at the tall cupboard he had and without thinking I inquired "What's that for?"

"Well its for my magic trick, of course its big enough to fit people in !" was his reply

We all gave each other suspicious glances and stared right back at him as if those words were grave mistakes

We didn't even say goodbye for at the time we were about to leave , he had disappeared (Or just used a smoke bomb to run through the door and leave his wand carelessly behind).

We had hoped to find more clues and answers but instead all we got was more questions.

Did he take them? Was his alibi fake? Was the reference he used just a coincidence or not...?

More answers or just More questions?

The next person we came to visit was Mrs Miller , she was famous for her home made tea and her delicious recipes for biscuits and she often invited us for tea and biscuits (Yes literal tea) but she did have a strong motive -she hated my my parents tea. My parents made their own home made tea and of course me , Amira and Summer went on about how delicious it was , even though we liked Mrs Miller's tea more, she seemed rather envious of them. However , Mrs Miller seemed harmless and it was almost impossible to imagine her doing such things but that is the thing criminals want you to think about them , and we had to go through each person properly.

"Why, hello !" Mrs Miller said with a genuine smile

"Hi Mrs Miller, could you do a survey for us about what you were doing on Thursday at 1pm?" Jasmine requested innocently

"Well I was picking mint leaves in my garden , would you like some tea?" She urged holding out a tea bag (which I had no idea why she carried with her) and smiled.

"Its okay ,we're fine" Sophia answered and we all knew why- There were millions of questions to her alibi floating around us all. We all walked of to Sophia's house. It was much smaller than mine but it was the kind of house that anyone could feel at home to. Within a blink of an eye she flicked the door handle up and we all walked in.

"But it's Winter and mint leaves die instantly in Winter and they only last 7-10 days , even in Summer!" Jasmine cried as if it had been on her mind all day , "Wait a second , she gave me a tour of her garden a few weeks back there were no leaves and if they don't grow in winter then..." Sophia said , angry or confused (I couldn't tell which one)

"She must be lying but how will we find out it's not like we can just go and ask her to show her mint leaves plant" I moaned , sounding much like Amira.

There was a few awkward seconds when no one spoke but those moments told me exactly how to get Mrs Miller to spill the beans (Or tea in her case)

I knew at that moment that we all had the same idea but we couldn't go now we would have to go tomorrow to not seem suspicious.

Just one survey

"Who's our next suspect?" Jasmine inquired and we all looked at the small piece of paper in my hand – *No.13 – the professor – Motive : _*

"Wait ... What's his motive?" I gave them a puzzled look and then Summer replied "Remember when your parents beat him in that contest , he really wasn't happy!"

"But that was a *year ago*" I said , even more confused than before

"Its still a motive and he doesn't seem like the kind of person to get over it that quickly" Summer hastily added.

We all walked down to number 13 and whispered about Mrs Miller

"But she can't have done it , I have known her for so long and she'd just not that type of person" whispered Sophia and we all nodded in agreement until I said "But then why would she be lying to us?"

The question haunted us as we walked to the house just two doors away from Mrs Miller. The professor was not the sort of person to do '*surveys*' and he would probably guess what we were trying to do before we could finish the question but there was no other plan so we had to make do with what we had and go up to the door.

"What are you doing here?" He asked , in a rather calm tone of voice.

"Well we wanted to ask you to fill in a survey-" Summer said but was cut off by him.

"I don't do surveys!" He spat , this time much more aggressively and he shut the door in our faces.

We all looked at each other , I felt lost but there was no use in going home now , we had to try again , this time I rang the doorbell and I didn't expect it but he opened the door

"I have already told you-!" He shouted but this time it was Summer's turn to cut *him* off

"I thought you wanted to help the community , isn't that what a professor does?"

"Alright but just this once." He said very dimly , red in the face , but we didn't care how he said it , somehow summer worked her magic and convinced him more quickly than even she thought.

"Ok , can you do a survey for what you did on Thursday at 1pm?" Jasmine pleaded

"I ... I ...Umm.. Oh I was in the p-park" He mumbled and it gave us a reason to further invest.

“But I was at the park and you were not there!” I stated confused as to why the professor couldn’t come up with a good excuse.

“Oh I mean I was at home doing professor stuff,” He muttered , using the term *professor stuff* seemed like something someone would only say if they were hiding stuff.

“And what may that be?” Sophia asked whilst writing on a small card.

“How am I supposed to know?! It’s not like I am a professor , I mean do I really seem like one!” He exclaimed and immediately covered his mouth.

“YOU AREN’T A PROFESSER!?” Summer screamed at the top of her voice as if we had solved the case.

“No ,please don’t tell anyone and do not scream about it !” He begged and there was no longer a point to denying that he was not what he had claimed to be.

We all walked away and thought about what had happened , it had seemed like the professor was no longer hiding anything so we could cross him off , the only suspects we had left was Mrs Miller , the magician and Miss Eval, whom I had no idea why she was on there. We would of investigated futher but Jasmine and Sophia had to go home , I hadn’t even realised we had been 2 hours.

As soon as they left Summer received an alert on her phone , “I-I h-have to g-go,” She stumbled . I had known Summer for most of my life and never had she been like that.

“Why?” I interrogated her ,feeling even more like a detective.

“I just have to ok !” She said right back and it more than obvious that she was hiding something...

“Why do I feel like you are hiding something?”

“Because I am!” She admitted but not soon after regretted it.

She dropped her phone and luckily it didn’t smash , I caught it but then looked at the message and dropped it .

“Em, our parents are spies for the MI6” She said , staring at me as if this was easy news.

Tea Tantrum

I walked home that night in awe . If what Summer was telling me was true then my parents had been lying to me my whole life about their job , I felt so gullible and betrayed that I couldn't even eat my Hagen-das ice cream (it was my favourite flavour – salted caramel)and if you knew me , you knew that I would *never* waste good caramel ice cream – even if I was full, but today I was disobeying my own rules , I couldn't eat anything – not even the chips .Yes not even the *chips*. I went to bed at 7 but I only fell asleep at 10 . How could my parents never tell me they were spys , secret agents , that they work for the MI6 , I wondered if they had told Rene and Amira but I didn't want to ask in case they didn't know.It was so unfair how Summer's parents told her about their real jobs but my parents didn't even bother to hint at it.

This had completely changed the whole situation , for all we knew they could be with the most dangerous criminals of all time or just out fighting crime. I couldn't tell Jasmine and Sophia and neither could Summer so they would remain completely oblivious around the fact. Of course there were times when I was about to tell them but I couldn't let a secret like that slip out.

Summer knocked on my door along with Sophia and Jasmine , “It's 10 , come out !” Sophia yelled from outside. I hadn't even realised how late the time so I ran out in a hurry to solve the mystery.

We all ran down to Mrs Miller's house but no one said a word , Summer didn't know what to say to me and I didn't know what to say to her , Jasmine and Sophia must of tasted the bitterness in the air because they didn't say a word either.

“Come in , Come in, have some tea!”Mrs Miller said from inside just as we had arrived at her front garden.

We all went to sit at her lovely hand painted table in the garden . Jasmine and Me decided to keep her busy whilst Sophia thought of a plan and Summer looked around for mint plants.

“Mrs Miller oh please could I have some mint , I need it for food tech!” Jasmine asked her , rather cunningly .

“I have ran out , very sorry dear , how about you two wait while I make you some tea.” She replied as if she was scared we would figure out something.

I was craving water , and even though it was still Winter , it was acrid and hot outside and everyone had a water bottle apart from me.

“Mrs Miller!” I called out but she didn't reply so I wandered inside only to see a few cups of milk a few tea bags and a nervous looking face.

“I-I thought you made homemade tea!” I murmured under my breath but somehow she heard.

"It-It's not what it looks like!" She said and Jasmine , Summer and Sophia all hurried inside

"You don't make homemade tea...?" Jasmine asked , suddenly quiet

"I- I ,fine, no I don't" She finally gave in "But don't tell anyone , It just felt so nice when everyone liked my tea, someone told someone else it was homemade and I didn't bother explaining that it wasn't, I wanted people to believe that It was homemade so I lied for the survey , I was actually just gardening my plants."I remembered her limited edition roses and how they were only on sale that day , at 12 and you must water them an hour after you have bought them , so it was safe to say Mrs Miller hadn't done it.

"It's ok Mrs Miller , we wont tell anyone ,sorry for wasting your time,"Summer replied , we all left and I still did not have any water but at least we could rule of one more suspect.

Mystery solved

We walked down to No.17(which was opposite Summer's house) and there were only 2 suspects left which meant that we were close to solving it. I had no idea as to why Miss Eval was on there as she had no motive and the writing on the slip wasn't ours but we were all too excited to question why and how that slip had gotten here.

"Hi Miss Eval!" Sophia greeted , in a happy , innocent voice .

"What do you want?" Miss Eval snapped as if Sophia had said something rude or vile.

We were all shaken by this but Sophia persevered on "We would like you to do a survey for us for what you did on Thursday at 1pm"

As soon as Sophia said this Miss Eval looked as if she had seen a ghost , her skin went pale and she gave a fake smile .

"Oh , I was painting my fence!" explained Miss Eval, Sophia had already told us that she was painting her fence and we had all witnessed the new white colour but something seemed off. At that moment I heard it. The knocking , that seemed normal but there was one problem. It wasn't from the door. It came and came and came , Miss Eval tried to push me out but I resisted . The knocks carried on and we all heard it , a voice from a cupboard screamed *RUN*. I would of run at that exact moment but there were two things stopping me : One- I heard that voice – it was my parents , I wasn't going to loose them again, and two – Miss Eval was now guarding the door with a sly smile on her face.

"You've figured it out , but I'm sorry you were too late , tell that to the funeral manager" She sniggered .

She grabbed us and threw us in the cupboards where my parents were . I couldn't help but feel as if it was all my fault until something caught my eye across the room , a shine, a shine so bright it could be one of two things . 1. The sun (which it probably wasn't , there are many reasons , which you probably know such as the sun is too big to fit in a house) and 2. The aphonten jewel , not only had we found the person who had taken my parents but the thief who had stolen the most precious jewel . It was no use now though , we were trapped and once she opened the trap we would fall and probably not wake up again (I am sure you know what I mean by that). As soon as we were about to give up hope I saw a person – Rene .

"Stop right there !" Someone said (he looked as if he had just stepped out of men in black) standing next to Rene.

He picked up the jewel and said "Hmm what punishment would be sensible? A life sentence maybe?"

Miss Eval gave him an angry and fierce look and turned to us , “You hand me back the jewel or else”

Another agent stepped into the room , this time , she looked like a normal , boring adult but the words she said next proved she was not your ordinary office worker,

“ I don’t know about that” She chuckled but then soon after did not even have a part of a smile on her face. She took the jewel and tied Miss Eval’s hands

“You’re coming with us” Rene commanded – she had known about it all along and she was a spy too.

We were let out of the cupboard and we all gave each other proud smiles , we had solved our first mystery and on our own (Well mostly).

“Do you know?” My parents asked me as soon as Jasmine and Sophia went with the agents (they had always dreamed of working for the MI6 or CIA) .

“Yes , Summer told me,” I said back to them and gave Summer a small smile. I would ask why they didn’t tell me or how this had happened but I didn’t care about the answers all that I cared about was that my parents were back and we were all safe.

The next day was school , somehow it had gotten out that we had solved a mystery , Jasmine and Sophia were no longer known as *the detective wannabees* but instead their heroic story (Which had somehow been emphasised to saving the world) was spread throughout the school and even the older years admired us. People started to talk to me more and I got to know people much better ,I forgave Summer for not telling me , after all I cant blame her it is called *secret* for a reason. The *crime kickers* solved many more mysteries ,the Aphonten jewel was safely returned to the rightful owner (just in time for the coronation) and the 1 million was shared between us all...