

## March Break Short Story Contest

By Ainsley P.

I picked up the small, gold key. "Hmmm... this looks like a special key," I said to myself. I was alone in a forest near my home. I was looking for my dog Biscuit. Biscuit had run away into the forest. "Biscuit! Biscuit!" I cried. But Biscuit was still missing.

All of a sudden the wind started to blow. It got stronger and stronger and then there was a voice. The voice said, "Go to the silver birch tree. Go to the silver birch tree. Go to the silver birch tree!" I was startled. But I decided to go the only silver birch tree that I knew was in the forest. As I walked toward the tree, I saw a black box with gold edges. When I got closer, I noticed that it was a treasure box. Suddenly I thought to myself maybe the gold key will open the treasure box! So I tried it. It worked! The treasure box opened and inside was an old leather covered book. I opened the book and this time the book began to speak! "Take me to Nancy! Take me to Nancy! Nancy on the mountain!"

So I said to myself, I shall go search for Nancy and her house on the mountain. But first I have to find Biscuit. Just then Biscuit came running towards me! "Biscuit! Come here! Where have you been? Biscuit, we have to find someone named Nancy. She lives on the mountain." Biscuit wagged his tail. So we walked to the big mountain on the other side of town. I was scared but I had to be brave.

There at the top of the mountain was a big, old mansion. I thought to myself, "This looks haunted!" But I had to find out who Nancy was. Biscuit was barking. "Biscuit," I said. "That must be her house!" I then knocked on the big, wooden door. After a little while, the door opened. An old woman stood in front of me.

"Hello," I said. "My name is Ainsley. Are you Nancy?"

"Yes," said the old woman. "I am Nancy."

"Is this your book?" I asked.

"Yes! This is my book! It is a magical book! Thank you for bringing it to me," Nancy said to me. Then Nancy said, "Come on in. You must be cold standing out there."

So I went into the house with Biscuit beside me. Nancy took me into her parlour and we sat down. Nancy held the book. She looked happy! Then Nancy told me the story of the book that was locked in the treasure chest.

"An evil witch took my magical book from me when I was a little girl. She locked it in that treasure chest and threw away the gold key. Then she came back and turned me into an old lady!" Nancy said to me.

Then Nancy opened the book. Suddenly the book started to speak again.

"The spell the evil witch has cast is now in the past! You are now a little girl again at last!" Then Nancy began to spin around and around, until all you could see was a white cloud. When she stopped spinning, the cloud floated away and in front of me was a young little girl! Her eyes were blue. Her hair was red and in pony tails. She had a lovely pink dress on. It was Nancy!

"Oh, Ainsley! You have brought my magical book to me and the spell has finally been broken! Thank you! Thank you!"

"You are welcome," I said to Nancy. But that wasn't the best part of the story - Nancy and I became best friends forever and the evil witch never bothered Nancy again!

The End