

Sarah Tarpoff Project

The Sky was dim, and Mary was bored out of her mind, desperate for something to do. She was interacting with every animal she could find and they all ran away. Except for one frog, who was not shy whatsoever. She continued to follow the frog. It led her through many fields, which felt like forever. Oh well, it was entertaining. The small little green frog stopped in the middle of a forest she didn't recognize. It jumped near a tree that was bigger than all the others. "What is it, Hoppers??" Mary had an obsession with naming small animals, then crying when her brother "accidentally" stepped on them. After looking around the tree for a while, she finally noticed the small hole in the side of the tree. She looked in, expecting a squirrel, but found a deeper hole than she suspected. "Huh??" Mary said as she dipped her head deeper into the black abyss. "Should I go in, Hopp-," The small frog was gone! "Hoppers?" While looking for the small frog, she thought it might have jumped into the strange hole. So, she jumped in right after it.

"Uh, Hoppers?? This seems dangerous.." She stuttered as she crawled her way through the hole. There were spider webs EVERYWHERE!! But Mary was braver than most girls her age, so there was no way this would stop her from finding her little green friend. "Hoppers!! Please come back, I want to go ho- AUGHHH!!" Before she knew it, she was falling to her death. You might be thinking, falling?? In a hole in a tree?? That's exactly what Mary was thinking. *I need to stop and breath, and calm down*, Mary thought to herself, *I'm falling in a hole, in a tree! This must be a dream. I probably dozed off during class again!!* No matter what Mary said to herself, she couldn't seem to calm down. She already tried to grab on to one of the walls, or the weird things hanging on them. Obviously, it didn't work. *Maybe I could lay flat on my back to slow the fall down!!* She tried this, and it seemed to work!! But only her body was slower, the walls and their decor were still passing very quickly. As she tried to recognize what was happening, her eyes slowly closed, and it all went black.

"Mary.. Mary!!" She heard a strange voice, that she seemed to recognize, as she slowly opened her eyes. "Huh??" She responded while she started to regain consciousness. "Mary!! We need to go!!" As she looked over where the voice was coming from, she saw the face that belonged to the voice pleading for her. It was.. "Grace.. GRACE??" She couldn't believe the fact she was sitting next to her childhood best friend, who happened to disappear 10 years ago.. "We need to go, Now!! We don't have much time!!" Grace yelled as she pulled Mary up off the ground. "Much time- What??" Mary was the most confused she has ever been. As soon as they got to where they needed to be- or where Grace was desperately trying to drag her too- Grace started to explain. "So, Technically, I am asleep somewhere in those woods to everyone else??"

And we are dreaming?? And if we don't find these 3 stupid items-" " They're not stupid, they will keep us alive." Grace interrupted, " And they need to be items you have seen in your dreams before." "Yeah, Yeah, whatever. Anyway, How long do we have??" Mary asked. " To us, 2 days. To the real world, 1 hour." *So Grace has been here for 10 years for me, but for her it's been forever?!?!* Mary felt so bad for Grace- being tortured for this much time. But they don't have time for that right now, Grace insists they find a camp out for them, since the sun is setting. Eventually, They decide to camp out in an abandoned Walmart. This world was so weird, everything was the same, but the colors were messed up, and it was abandoned. After dinner, Grace started to get comfy in her blankets and towels they found in the back of the Walmart. " Goodnight, Mary-Berry." Grace used their nicknames they had before she left!! Mary never thought she would hear those again. " Good night, Gracie Boo." She couldn't help but smile when she said that.

" Mary!! MARY!!" Grace was shouting as soon as Mary woke up. "What, What?? What was so important you had to wake me??" Mary blurted out as she yawned. " The first item!! It's a notebook, with your name on the front." Mary ran over, to see an item she recognized from a dream she had just last week. Perfect!! They packed it in their pocket, and went to work. By the time they found the second item, it had been HOURS!! " YESS!! FINALLY!!" Mary yelled as she picked up the pink shirt Mary was wearing in her dream just last night. " Mary.. We only have an hour.." Now that was bad. In a panic, they decided to head to town. After 45 minutes of searching, Grace yelled " UGH!! WE ARE NEVER GONNA MAKE IT!!" Then she started to cry. " It's ok Grace, lets just go get a snack from the Walma-" That's when she realized. " We need to go into Walmart and find the pink blanket from this morning." Mary stuttered as she blurted out the words. " What??" Grace asked. Mary started running into Walmart, searching every shelf. Every item was from a closer time than the first, so they needed an item from this morning, or this dream. "We need to touch it together." Without hesitation, Mary grabbed Grace's hand and touched the blanket. It all went black. They were back. The tree, the frog, the hole. "Grace, we did it!!" Mary shouted. " Mary, thank you so much.." Grace cried as she hugged her. " We did it together Grace.. " Mary stuttered as she hugged Grace. Together.

-Molly Cunningham