

Sarah's Adventure

in medieval dungeon



A StoryCraft Adventure



Sarah finds herself in a strange, dark place. The air is cool and a little damp. Big, grey stone walls are all around her. There are no bright colors here at all. A tiny bit of light comes from a crack far up high. Sarah looks left. Sarah looks right. She feels a little bit curious about this new room. She wonders where she is and what fun things she can find. She sees old, empty cells with rusty iron bars. It looks like a very old castle's secret room, deep underground.

Sarah walks slowly, looking for something new. She hears a tiny sound. *Squeak!* It sounds small and a little bit sad. Sarah looks down a small, dark hallway. There, behind a tiny grate, is a little glowing friend! It looks stuck and cannot move much. The grate is too small for Sarah to reach through with her hand. The little creature wiggles its tiny wings, but it cannot fly out. Sarah wants to help her new friend. This friend looks very worried and needs help right now. How can Sarah free the little glowing creature from behind the grate?





Sarah did not pick a way to help. She just looked at Sparklewing. Sparklewing still pushed and pushed against the strong grate. Its tiny wings moved faster, but it could not get out. The grate was too strong for Sparklewing alone. Sparklewing's bright green eyes looked very sad now. The glowing light around it seemed a little bit dimmer too. Sarah's happy smile slowly went away. She felt a new worry in her heart. She knew Sparklewing was still stuck and getting very tired. Doing nothing was not making things better for her new friend.

Sarah held onto the cold, rusty bars of the grate. She pulled with all her might. Her little muscles strained. She tugged and tugged, but the grate did not move even a tiny bit. It was stuck tight! Sarah tried again, pulling harder, her face turning a little red. "Ugh!" she huffed. The grate stayed put, strong and still. Sparklewing watched her, its tiny glow now very dim. Its green eyes looked even sadder. Sarah felt a new wave of worry. She couldn't do it by herself. This grate was too big and too strong for just one girl to open.





Sarah let go of the cold, rusty bars. Her small hands hurt a little from pulling so hard. She had tried her very best, but the grate had not moved even a tiny bit. Sparklewing's beautiful glow was now so, so dim. Its tiny wings barely fluttered. It looked very tired and sad, still trapped behind the strong bars. Sarah knew for sure now: she could not free her friend all by herself. This was a job that needed more than just one person. She had to find a different way to help Sparklewing, and fast!

Sarah watched, her heart thumping fast. Sparklewing's beautiful glow was now so dim, it was almost invisible. Its tiny wings barely moved, and its little head drooped. It looked very, very tired. Sarah felt a cold shiver run down her back. Doing it all by herself had not worked at all. Sparklewing was fading, and Sarah knew she was running out of time. She needed help, and she needed it right now. This was not a job for just one girl.





Sarah took a deep breath. "Help! Can anyone hear me?" she called out loudly. Her small voice echoed, *help... help...* in the big, stone room. She waited. Only the soft *drip-drip* of water answered her. Sparklewing's light flickered one last time, growing even fainter. Sarah's heart felt heavy. She closed her eyes, feeling very worried. Then, she opened them fast and called out one more time, even louder. "Please! We really need help right now!"

Suddenly, Sarah heard a small *thump* sound. It came from one of the dark, empty cells nearby. Sarah spun around super fast, her hazel eyes wide with surprise. "Hello?" she whispered, her voice very quiet. A shadow moved behind the rusty bars. From inside the cell, a boy's face peeked out. He had bright, curious blue eyes. He looked at Sarah, then down at the super dim glow of Sparklewing. "Who are you?" he asked, his voice a little quiet. "And what's happening to your glowing friend in there?"





Sarah looked at Leo. She felt a tiny bit of hope in her heart. "He's stuck!" Sarah pointed to Sparklewing. "The grate is too strong for me alone." Sparklewing's glow was almost gone now. It looked very, very sleepy. Leo saw Sparklewing. He saw how sad and tired the tiny friend looked. His blue eyes looked worried too. This was a very big problem for Sparklewing.

Leo looked closely at the strong, old grate. He saw how thick the metal bars were. He looked at Sarah. "One person can't open this," Leo said wisely. "It's too heavy and stuck tight." Sarah nodded her head fast. "I tried and tried!" she told him. "My hands hurt from pulling." Leo thought for a moment, putting his hand on his chin. He pointed to a rusty hinge on the grate. "Maybe if we both push... or both pull?" he wondered aloud. They looked at each other, starting to think together.





Sarah looked at Leo with wide, hopeful eyes. "How do we pull together?" she asked, her voice a little fast. Leo thought for a quick moment. "Okay," he said, "We need to grab the bars on each side. Then, on the count of three, we both pull really, really hard!" He showed her how to grip the cold, rusty metal. Sarah nodded, her face looking more determined now. Even Sparklewing's dim light seemed to flicker a tiny bit brighter, watching them both get ready. It felt good to have a plan and someone to help.

Leo took a deep breath. "One... two... THREE!" he shouted. Sarah and Leo grabbed the cold, rusty bars. They pulled with all their strength. Their small muscles strained and pushed. *Squeak! Grrr-unk!* The old grate moved a tiny, tiny bit! It did not open all the way, but it moved! Sarah and Leo looked at each other with wide, excited eyes. Sparklewing's dim light flared much brighter! It flapped its wings with renewed hope. They knew working together was making a difference. It was still very hard, but they were doing it!



The End

You learned about: teamwork