

The pebbles clinked together as Katie and I walked down the stone path. Mom had sent us to the park, and Katie was bubbling with joy as she skipped happily beside me. We were about to run for the swings when a silver gleam begged for my attention. I bent down to see what it was, but as soon as I touched it, a bolt of strange energy shot through my body like lightning. I looked around, confused at the strange new surroundings.

“You must face a series of challenges if you wish to make it back to your precious world.” A bold voice sprinted across the room Katie and I had somehow teleported to. Katie looked around with fear in her eyes. The same fear was boiling up inside of me. There were a thousand butterflies in my stomach.

“Alyssa, what do we do?” Katie asked me, her tiny voice shaking. I take a deep breath and quickly study the room. It had white walls and the floor was just grass. I take a step forward and the voice appears again.

“For your first challenge, you must answer my riddle. It is the hardest one you will ever hear. I doubt you will be able to solve it correctly. You only have three tries. Even that will not be enough.” The voice was as stiff as a statue. I looked over nervously at Katie, what could this riddle possibly be? “There are three people. One of them broke a vase in a circle mansion. The man who lived in the mansion said he was getting the mail. The maid said she was cleaning the corners, and the man’s daughter said she was listening to music in her room. Which one of them is lying.”

“The maid. It’s a circle mansion.” I replied confidently.

“Wha-at? How did you know that? The riddle is impossible.” The more accurate word was obvious. I had heard that one a million times before.

“So, can you send us home now?” I ask, after all, we had answered the impossible riddle correctly.

“I suppose. This was an unusual experience I must say. No one’s ever managed to get that one.....uh, well, bye now!” Before I know it, we’re back to the park’s stone path, and Katie runs for the swings.

“Well, that was a piece of cake.” I smile to myself as I chase after her.