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Julian and the Glowing Compass

Book 4

The Garden of Little Wonders



Kostenlose Leseprobe

The Garden of Little Wonders (English PDF)

Originalseiten mit den ersten zwei Kapiteln der englischen Ausgabe; zusätzlich Cover und Inhaltsverzeichnis.

Inhaltsverzeichnis des vollständigen Buches

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CHAPTER 1

The Flower on the Windowsill



It was a beautiful Saturday morning. Sunshine streamed through Julian's bedroom window. Outside, birds were singing, and a light breeze stirred the leaves on the trees. Julian was still cosy in bed. He had been hoping to sleep in. But suddenly, something tickled his nose.

“Atchoo!”

Julian sat up.

“What was that?”

He looked around. A tiny golden petal lay on his pillow. Julian carefully picked it up between two fingers. It was as soft as silk. And it glowed.

“Strange.”

He looked towards the window. Something was there that hadn't been there yesterday. A little flower. It was growing straight out of his windowsill. With no flowerpot. No soil.

No water. Its stem was silver, its leaves shimmered green, and its blossom glowed gold. Julian jumped out of bed.

“Wow!”

He leaned closer. The flower moved. Even though there was no breeze in the room. Then he heard a tiny voice.

“You're awake at last.”

Julian froze.

“You can talk?”

The flower tilted her head.

“Of course.”

Julian grinned.

“Nothing here really surprises me any more.”

Suddenly, the glowing compass on his desk began to shine. Three golden stars sparkled on its face. Courage. Listening. Honesty. The needle turned.

Once. Twice. Then it pointed straight at the flower. A familiar voice spoke behind Julian.

“Well, now that's what I call a flowery welcome.”

Julian turned. Lio sat on his bed. As always, the silver fox wore his blue scarf.

“Lio!”

The fox grinned.

“Good morning, Julian.”

Julian pointed at the flower.

“What is it?”

Lio jumped off the bed. He looked at the golden blossom. Then his face grew serious.

“Oh.”

Julian sighed.

“Whenever you say ‘Oh’, an adventure begins.”

Lio nodded.

“Then you'd better get your backpack.”

CHAPTER 2

A Flower Named Lumi



Julian sat down in front of the window.

“What's your name, anyway?” he asked the flower.

She lifted her petals.

“Lumi.”

“That's a lovely name.”

The flower began to glow a little brighter.

“Thank you.”

Julian smiled.

“Where do you come from?”

Lumi's petals drooped.

“From the Garden of Little Wonders.”

Lio sat beside Julian.

“A special place.”

Julian looked at him.

“What's there?”

“Flowers that tell stories.”

Julian stared in wonder.

“Really?”

“Trees that keep memories.”

“Wow.”

“And butterflies that collect wishes.”

Julian grinned.

“That sounds wonderful!”

Lumi sighed. Her light grew fainter.

“It used to be wonderful.”

Julian noticed at once that something was wrong.

“What happened?”

Lumi was quiet for a moment. Then she said:

“Our garden is losing its colours.”

Julian frowned.

“Why?”

“Because no one notices the little wonders any more.”

Julian didn't understand.

“What do you mean?”

Lumi answered:

“Everyone is looking for something bigger. More beautiful. More special.”

Lio nodded slowly.

“And they overlook what is already there.”

Lumi began to tremble. A golden petal fell off. Julian caught it.

“Can we help?”

Lumi straightened up.

“That's why I'm here.”