

## The Magic Hat

Last week I was going out for a picnic, but on the doorstep outside my house, there stood a large box that had a note reading: “Lost property – handle with care.” Astonished but excited at the same time, I wanted to find out what the box contained. I soon forgot my picnic.

I opened the box carefully, making sure not to damage the contents, but to my greatest surprise only a pointed black hat lay there! Nevertheless, I withdrew it and put it on, finding it fitted me well. But as soon as I was going to take it off, I found out that it was stuck to me! I gasped in fright and tried to take it off several times but it seemed to be fixed to my head forever!

At one moment, the hat spoke to me and chanted a magic word. After a while, I found myself in a large room in space in front of a man wearing black and violet clothes. He said that the hat was a magical one and he was its owner. Thanking me several times, I felt my eyes growing tired and gradually the magic hat flew to the man who was very delighted to have it back. Since I couldn't accustom my eyes to the room clearly, I blinked them quite a lot of times to do so. Afterwards, the man shook my hand and let me go.

Immediately, I was at my house after my unexpected mission. I remembered my picnic again and was about to get away but there was yet another box on the doorstep. Kneeling down while heaving a sigh of patience, I opened the box and found a packet inside. Being rather late for my picnic, I opened it hastily and before my very eyes stood an incredibly large sum of money consisting of coins and even twenty-pound notes.

As I couldn't make head or tail why the money was there, I was confronted by the man from space who told me that it was a reward for giving him his most precious thing – The Magic Hat!

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