# **Mystery City** Written and illustrated by Shraddha Renjith



### Mystery City

Written & illustrated by

Shraddha Renjith

Aged 11

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#### Chapter 1- The Beginning

One calm Saturday evening, Amy, her best friend, Olivia and her mum, Jenny were watching TV in the living room.

They were watching a movie for about two hours sitting spellbound together on a vibrant, coloured sofa with a very curious and cunning cat for company, which had beautiful, soft fur and long divine whiskers, named Tina.

Amy and her mum, Jenny are inseparable. They always look out for each other. If anything were to happen to her, she'd melt down.

While Amy and her friend Olivia were just lying on the sofa, Jenny sat on the floor to give them space. That is one of the reasons that Amy loves her so much - she is very kind.



#### Chapter 2- Together No More

As they were watching TV, the power suddenly shut off. It was pitch black and it felt like a void. When the power came back on, Amy's mum was gone.

"Where did she go?" asked Amy with a petrified voice.

"I-I-II don't know," replied Olivia, afraid.

Amy gasped.

"Wh-whe-where would she have gone?" she cried.

"I don't know," whimpered Olivia.

Amy broke down in tears. Knowing that her mother was missing; her whole world shattered. Her mother was everything to her. With her gone, Amy would fall apart, but she is lucky she has a good friend to help her stay strong.



"Thanks for being here, Liv." smiled Amy.

"No problem, Amy." comforted Olivia.

#### Chapter 3- Clues

It was extremely hard for Amy knowing that her mother had disappeared, but she needed to keep moving and find other clues to figure out where her mother had gone.

While Amy shed tears, Olivia discovered something. A note! Written in Amy's mother's handwriting.

"Let's read it" exclaimed Amy.

The note said:

Hey Amy,

If you're reading this then something has happened to me.

I need you to listen to me.

All you need to find me is in this note.

Do not lose it!

Please don't lose hope and stay strong.

I love you and I hope we will see each other again soon.

Take care.

Love, Mum xx

As soon as Amy read that note, she bent over and cried and cried and cried until there were no more tears left to cry.

When she finally calmed down, she gathered up her courage and went with Olivia to solve the puzzles and riddles needed to save her mum.

Although it would be tricky for most people, Amy and Olivia had a lot of experience in solving puzzles and riddles so this should be a piece of cake for them.

#### Chapter 4- A Big Mystery

Amy and Olivia had been travelling for days searching and thinking and so far, they had only found a couple pieces of paper that have letters written on it. H, I, K, P and another P.

Amy and Olivia couldn't make sense of them.

"I don't get it." said Amy, confused.

"Me neither," replied Olivia.

They were getting riddles and puzzles of all sorts. Some easy and some hard like: "What's the third vowel in the alphabet?" or "What's the seventh number of pi?"

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Some of them were really personal, like the second letter of Amy's birthday month.

It was definitely a very strange day for both of them, and a tough one.



#### Chapter 5- Last Riddle

It had been five days since Amy's mum disappeared. It looked like they only had to do one last puzzle or riddle to find her.

The riddle said:

I run, but I have no legs,

I wait, but I have no patience.

I am underground and above,

but I'm not a worm or a slug.

Who am I?

It was definitely a tricky one.

"I got it!" exclaimed Olivia.

Really, what is it?" asked Amy.

" It's a train," said Olivia proudly.

"Of course, a train! It runs but doesn't have legs, it doesn't have patience. It goes underground and above but is not a worm or a slug." replied Amy.

They ran to the local train station and started rummaging through it, searching, and searching.

"I found it." said Amy enthusiastically.

" Really? show me." replied Olivia.

In Amy's hand was a small piece of paper with the letter, L.

When Amy and Olivia finally brought all the clues together, it looked like they were forming a sentence of some sort and one of the tricky puzzles showed them where the letters needed to go.

It took some digging until they finally figured out the sentence and were in complete shock.

It was a distress message from Amy's mum, which said:

HELP. I'M KIDNAPPED. PLEASE HELP.

I AM BY THE OLD OAK GRUB ALLEY.

#### Chapter 6- Distress Message

They looked at each other for a moment.

"What are we going to do!" cried Amy.

"Wait a minute, do you remember your mum used to take us to those karate classes?" asked Olivia.

"Yeah, what about them?" said Amy, confused.

"Let's use our karate skills to save your mom. After all, we were black belts," smiled Olivia.

" Of course, how could I forget," said Amy cheerfully.

"Then tomorrow, we will save your mum." Olivia proudly explained.

"No," said Amy in a sudden voice.

"Huh," confused, Olivia said," What do you mean no?"

"No. I don't want to wait until tomorrow to save her. Who knows what things they will do to her tomorrow? I don't want to wait!" exclaimed Amy.

"Fine. Let's go now," replied Olivia.

#### Chapter 7- Rescue Mission

While Olivia was grabbing their nunchucks, Amy put a photo of her and her mother in her pocket for good luck.

"Come on, let's go save my mum," said Amy with a slight smile.

At the Old Oak Grub Alley, Amy heard a slight sound saying, "HELP."

"This way!" yelled Amy

They both chased the sound. There she was, Amy's mum was just sitting on a chair with her mouth taped, and her arms and legs roped to the chair. The masked kidnappers were standing behind her.

Her mum had an aghast expression on her face.

By the time the masked kidnappers noticed, Amy and Olivia already smacked their faces and karate-chopped them and Amy's mum's expression changed immediately when she saw them.



#### Chapter 8- Victory Celebration

Amy's mum was very pleased with them, especially their courage and bravery.

"MUM!" screamed Amy.

She ran over to her mother, untied her from the ropes, and removed the tape from her mouth.

"Mum, are you okay?" she asked with a frightened voice.

"Of course, darling." Amy's mum smiled.

"Thank God!" exclaimed Olivia," now let's get out of here, this place gives me the creeps."

"Agreed," admitted Amy.

They went to an ice-cream parlour to celebrate. Amy's mum allowed them to get any flavour they desired.

It was an extraordinary ending for all, except the masked kidnappers.



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Amy and Olivia are best friends who would like to live peacefully but Jenny, Amy's mum, suddenly disappears.

Amy and Olivia have to solve some puzzles and riddles on how to locate her. Will they find her?

Will they ever find Jenny?