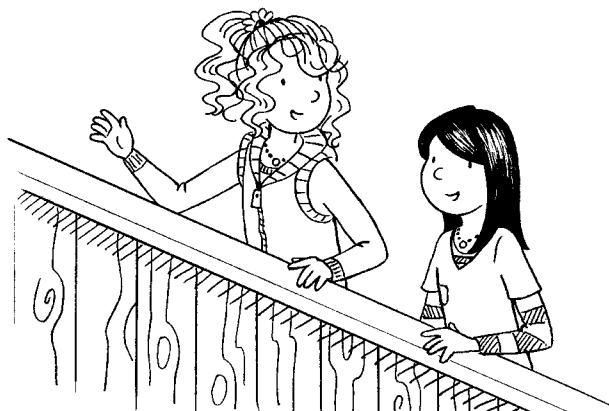




# Buttons Barks

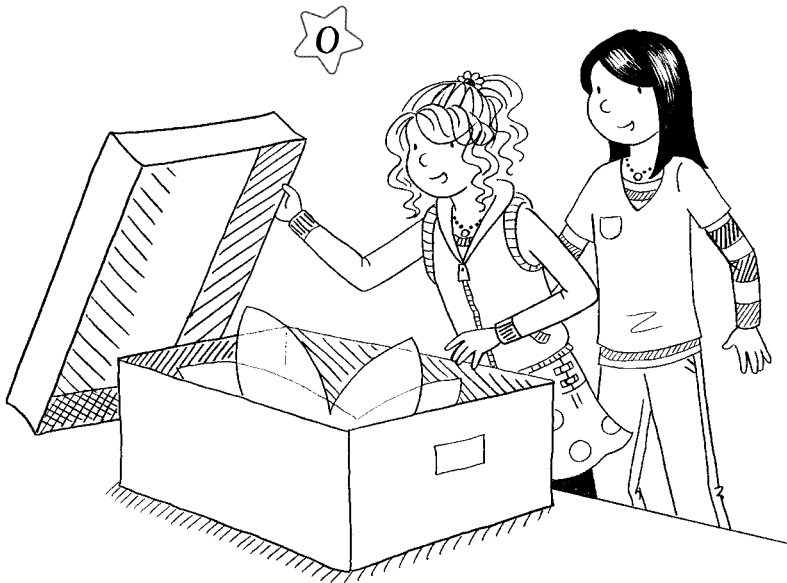


“I can’t wait to show you the fairy wings,” Rachel Walker said to her best friend, Kirsty Tate, as they climbed the stairs to Rachel’s room.

“I’m looking forward to seeing them,” Kirsty replied. “It will be so much fun to trick-or-treat together!”

Kirsty was visiting Rachel for the weekend, and it just happened to be Halloween! They were both going to dress up as fairies and go trick-or-treating in Tippington.

The two girls exchanged smiles as Rachel lifted the lid of a box. Inside were two sets of glittery fairy wings: one was pale pink and the other was light purple. There were also two fairy wands.



“Oh, Rachel! They look almost real,” Kirsty said, giving her friend a secret smile. After all, the girls knew just how real fairies’ wings looked, because they were friends with the fairies!

Rachel and Kirsty had first met when they were on holiday with their families on Rainspell Island. There, they had helped the Rainbow Fairies get back to Fairyland after they had been banished by wicked Jack Frost. Since then, the girls had had a lot more adventures, and the King and Queen of Fairyland always looked to them when Jack Frost was up to his old tricks.

“I’m going to try mine on,” Kirsty said, carefully lifting up the pink pair of wings.



Just then, they heard a loud bark. Buttons, Rachel’s dog, raced into the room. He bounded past Kirsty and knocked over the box on his way to the window.



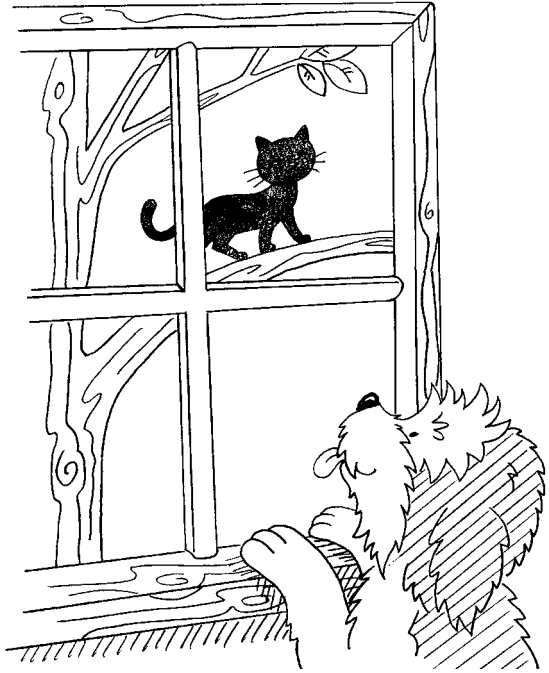
“Buttons!” Rachel yelled as the costumes flew up in the air. But Buttons kept barking at something outside. Then he turned to Rachel and whimpered. “What is it, boy?” Rachel asked with concern.

“Oh look! There’s a kitten in the tree!”  
Kirsty said, pointing out of the window.  
The kitten was black from its nose to  
its tail.

“That’s  
strange,”  
Rachel said.  
“Buttons  
usually  
likes cats.”

Now  
the big  
sheepdog  
pawed at  
the window.

“Do you  
think the kitten’s  
stuck?” Kirsty asked.  
“Maybe it needs our help.”



But at that moment, the little black cat leapt onto a nearby branch. It strutted past the window and seemed to look right at Buttons and the girls, then scurried down another tree.

Buttons let out a yelp, dashed from the room, and ran down the stairs.

“Strange,”  
Rachel said  
with a laugh.

Kirsty  
nodded before  
letting out a  
groan. “Oh  
no! Look at  
our costumes!”

Rachel bent  
down and lifted  
up her wings.





The thin fabric had a big tear in it. Kirsty's wings looked the same.

"Buttons must have done this when he raced past," Rachel sighed.

"But that's not all that's wrong," Kirsty said, glancing around with a dismayed look on her face. "The glitter seems to have fallen off the fabric. The wings aren't shimmery any more. And one of our wands is missing!"

“I can’t see my sparkly fairy tights, either,” Rachel added, looking around the room and under her bed. She sat up and sighed.



“It looks like there could be something mysterious going on here,” Kirsty said.

“Mysterious, or magical?” Rachel smiled.

Kirsty’s eyes sparkled.

She hoped her friend was right!

“Either way, I suppose we’ll have to start all over again with our fairy

costumes,” she sighed.

“Let’s go to the party shop to see what they’ve got,” Rachel suggested. “We only have two days left until Halloween!”





# Costume Chaos



Rachel and Kirsty made a list of what they needed to get from the party shop, and Rachel told her mum where they were going.

As they walked down the street, the girls wondered what had happened to the other parts of their costumes. “It doesn’t make sense,” Kirsty said. “I definitely remember seeing two wands in the box.”