

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

SECRET OF THE TOMB



 SCHOLASTIC

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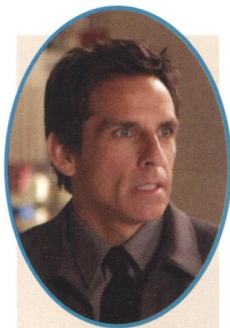
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NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

SECRET OF THE TOMB



LARRY DALEY

is a night guard at the Museum of Natural History. Larry loves his job.

NICK

is Larry's son. Nick is seventeen. He can't decide what to do when he leaves school.

DEXTER

is a capuchin monkey.



DR MCPHEE

is the head of the Museum of Natural History. He doesn't believe in magic.

TILLY

is a guard at the British Museum, but she doesn't enjoy her job.

PLACES



THE MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

is in New York. It is one of the largest museums in the world.



THE BRITISH MUSEUM

is a famous museum in London. It has exhibits from all over the world.

IN THE MUSEUM

There are many exhibits in the Museum of Natural History.

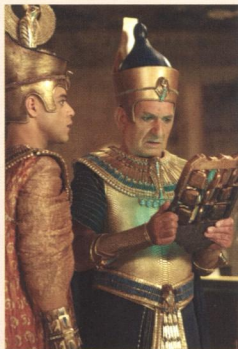


TEDDY ROOSEVELT

was the youngest president of the USA. He was very clever.

SACAJAWEA

was a Native American who helped American adventurers to reach the Pacific Ocean.



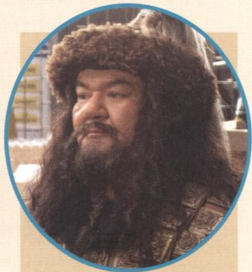
AHKMENRAH

was an Egyptian king. His father gave him a special tablet.



LANCELOT

was a famous knight in the stories of King Arthur. He was in love with Queen Guinevere and went on many quests. These were adventures to find something important.



ATTILA THE HUN

was a very strong leader who led many attacks against the Romans.

Octavius was a famous Roman leader.

Jedediah was an American adventurer who discovered new places.

Laaa is a new exhibit. He is a Neanderthal. Neanderthal people lived about 250,000 years ago.

NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

SECRET OF THE TOMB

THE SECRET OF THE MUSEUM

Every night magic things happen at the Museum of Natural History in New York. There are electronic exhibits that walk and talk like real people and animals. Many visitors come to see the electronic exhibits. They think they are wonderful and very clever. But they don't know the secret. The exhibits aren't electronic, they are real!

Ahkmenrah has a magic tablet from Egypt. At night the tablet shines and the exhibits come to life. Many years ago Larry discovered this secret and the exhibits became his friends. Larry asked Dr McPhee to open the museum for visitors at night too.

Larry and his son, Nick, have had many adventures with their friends at the museum. There was the time when a night guard tried to take the tablet away. And once Dr McPhee sent the tablet to another museum and Larry had to get it back.

It's the start of another adventure at the Museum of Natural History. What's going to happen tonight?

CHAPTER 1

ONE NIGHT AT THE MUSEUM

It was an important evening at the Museum of Natural History. Rich and famous people arrived at the entrance in their big, black cars. They were there to see the new planetarium*.

Larry Daley watched them. He felt a little hot and uncomfortable in his expensive clothes. He hoped everything was ready. He and the exhibits were planning a very special show for the guests. Some of the people here tonight could give lots of money to the museum.

Dr McPhee, the head of the museum, was watching too. His face was red and his small eyes looked worried.

Larry touched Dr McPhee's arm. 'Nice jacket, boss,' he said. 'Did you borrow it?'

'No, I did not!' said McPhee angrily and he pushed Larry's hand away. 'I'm the head of this museum. I don't need to borrow clothes!' He walked quickly into the museum and Larry followed.

The new planetarium looked fantastic. It was in a very large glass room and right now the room was full of people. Everyone was smiling and talking.

'Big night for you!' Dr McPhee looked at Larry. He was always worried when Larry planned things. There were often problems. 'I hope your surprise is ready.'

* You can look at the moon and stars from a planetarium.

McPhee knew the story about the magic tablet but he didn't believe it. For McPhee, magic was impossible.

'Good evening,' said Madeleine Phelps, McPhee's boss. She came over to them and smiled at Larry. 'Ah, Mr Daley,' she said. 'You have done wonderful work for the museum. We are getting more and more visitors for your shows at night!'

McPhee moved forward. 'Daley is really only a night guard,' he said. 'All the shows are my idea, you know.'

'Really?' said Dr Phelps. 'You don't look like an ideas man. But tell me about the electronic parts inside the T-Rex. How do you do it?'

McPhee's face went red. He turned to his night guard. 'Larry?'

'No, Dr McPhee,' Larry said with a smile. 'Why don't you explain your ideas?'

'Er ...' Dr McPhee started uncomfortably, 'a good magician doesn't tell his ... er ... secrets.'

'Nice one, McPhee,' said Larry quietly. He looked at his watch. It was nearly show time. He needed to talk to his friends. Larry hurried away.

'There's a new exhibit, Larry!' McPhee called after him. 'It's a Neanderthal. I hope you like him!'

The exhibits were waiting at the main entrance for the show to begin. Larry went past the information desk. The Romans were there. There was a Roman town in the museum. It had small houses, small shops and lots of very small Romans. They were playing on the computer and laughing at a video of some baby cats. The cats were jumping on a red light as it moved across the floor.

'Post the video and message on Facebook!' Octavius, their leader, was giving orders. The Romans jumped up and down on the letters on the keyboard.

'Would you like to put a message on Twitter too?' one of the Romans asked.

'That's enough, guys!' shouted Larry. He turned to his friends. 'Now, it's a big night tonight. Are we all ready?'

Everyone cheered. They wanted to start.

Teddy Roosevelt came up to Larry. He was on his horse and a group of big, strong men walked behind him. 'Larry, my boy,' Teddy said quietly. 'You need to see the new Neanderthal.'

One of the men looked up and Larry had a surprise. Was he looking in a mirror? The Neanderthal had Larry's face! 'McPhee's little joke,' thought Larry. 'Very funny.'

'Hi, I'm Larry!' said Larry.

The Neanderthal copied Larry. 'Laaa ...' he said slowly. He touched Larry's hair and face with his big hand. Then he touched his own face. He gave a big smile. 'Dada?' he said.

'No,' said Larry quickly. 'I'm not your dada.'

'Dada,' said Laaa again and he put his strong arms around Larry. 'Dada! Dada!'

Teddy smiled. 'It's good to have family,' he said kindly. 'But now we must capalackpagillapropper ...' Teddy froze.

Larry looked at him, 'Are you OK?'

Teddy moved his head carefully. 'That was strange. I am sorry,' he smiled. 'Yes, my boy, I'm fine.'

Larry turned again to the group of exhibits. 'It's nearly party time!' he said. 'Don't worry. Just have fun!'



The guests were sitting at tables in the planetarium after an expensive dinner. They were waiting for the show to start and they were hoping for something fantastic.

Larry spoke quietly into his phone. 'Go, lights! Go, Teddy!'

Music filled the room and a light shone in the centre of the room. Teddy rode in on his horse. He looked the perfect President. Everyone cheered.

Teddy spoke loudly and clearly. 'Since I was a boy, this museum has brought the past to life for the people of this city,' he said. The Neanderthals came in. They were holding fire torches.

'Today,' continued Teddy, 'we look into the sky, to the sun, the moon and the stars. Would you like to meet them? Tonight you can.' He smiled. Behind him, starry lights appeared in the dark. They danced and moved around the room. It was a fantastic show.

Teddy spoke to the guests again. 'This is all possible because of you,' he smiled. 'I look at you all and I see ...'

Everyone waited for his next words.

Suddenly Teddy's face changed. His eyes became cold and his smile disappeared. 'Fight them!' he shouted. He jumped off his horse and pointed his gun at the guests.

Larry stood up quickly. What was happening? Something was very wrong here.

'They're all around us!' Teddy shouted to the other exhibits. 'Fight them to the end!'

The Neanderthals started moving towards the guests, waving their torches. Dex the monkey screamed at them. People jumped up and tried to leave the room. But they couldn't get out.

Octavius and his men were running across the floor. They pulled over chairs and hit people's feet with their little swords. Even Sacajawea was throwing pieces of cheese. The guests were falling over and screaming. It was like a very bad dream.



Larry ran over to Teddy. 'What are you doing?' he shouted.

Teddy was angry. He pointed his gun at Larry.

'Teddy, it's me!' said Larry.

'I don't know you!' said Teddy and he pushed Larry away and fired his gun across the room.

'Stop this!' McPhee shouted at Larry as Dexter threw a meatball past his ear. But Larry couldn't do anything. He had no answers.

Then Teddy suddenly froze. 'Firgil-fliminy-geegar-zeezah!' he said and fell over, face first into a plate of butter.

Larry moved to help him, but then he heard a sound. He looked back. One of the tables was on fire and behind it something was moving in the thick smoke. A large animal came through the fire. It was REXY, the T-Rex*, and he did *not* look happy.

'AAAAAARRRR!'

'Oh no!' thought Larry.

* T-Rex = Tyrannosuarus Rex. It lived about 67,000,000 years ago.

CHAPTER 2

'THE END WILL COME'

At last the exhibits were quiet again. Larry put water on the fire. What was going on? He didn't understand.

'What happened, guys?' he asked his friends. But they just looked at the floor.

Teddy's face was red. 'We are very sorry, my boy,' he said quietly. 'We don't know.'

'No,' said Octavius. He was upset. 'It was strange and horrible. We didn't have a choice.'

Then Ahkmenrah called Larry over. 'Come quickly!' he said. 'You must see this!' Larry and Teddy followed him to the Egyptian room.

Ahkmenrah pointed at the tablet. 'Look!' Ahkmenrah was worried. Usually the tablet shone with a brilliant white light, but now the light was not so strong. Part of the tablet was green.

'Oh no,' thought Larry. 'If the tablet stops working, the exhibits won't come to life.'

'What's happening to it?' Larry asked Ahkmenrah.

'I've never seen this before,' the young man said sadly. 'My father didn't tell me all the secrets of the tablet. I don't know what to do!' He was almost crying.

Larry thought quickly. 'OK,' he told the exhibits. 'I'll find an answer. For now, go back to your places and don't move. I'll be back tomorrow night.'

Larry thought about the museum on the way home. He was only certain of one thing: the exhibits needed him. He had to help them, but how?

When Larry got into the lift to go up to his flat, there were two policemen in it.

'Everything OK?' asked Larry.

'Noise problem,' said one of the policemen. He looked tired. 'Long night.'

'I know what you mean,' smiled Larry.

Larry was surprised when the policemen followed him out of the lift. They could hear very loud music.

'Who's playing such loud music at this time of night?' thought Larry. Then he stopped. It was coming from his flat!

'What's going on?' he shouted as he opened the door. The small flat was full of people dancing and talking.

Nick, Larry's son, was having a party.

'OK, the party's over!' shouted Larry. But nobody could hear him. Larry turned off the music.

'Dad! What are you doing here?' said Nick. 'It's only three o'clock!'

'Time to go home!' one of the policemen shouted.

A pretty red-haired girl smiled at Nick and wrote something on his arm. 'My number,' she said. 'Call me! Best party you've had!'

Larry turned to his son. He was angry. 'All-night parties while I'm at work? Why, Nick?'

Nick didn't look at his dad. 'You're never here,' he said. He walked away and started clearing up empty bottles.

Larry loved his son. He tried not to shout. 'You can't have parties like this, Nick,' he said. 'You have to work hard for university next year.'

Nick looked away. 'I'm not going to university.'

'What?' said Larry. 'But we had a plan.'

'No, Dad,' said Nick. 'You had a plan, I didn't. I'm going to bed.'

Larry's head was hurting. What a night! First there were the problems at the museum and now this. He wanted to talk to his son but he couldn't find the words.

'This conversation isn't finished,' he said to Nick's back.



Larry went to the museum the next morning. Why was the tablet going green? He needed to learn more about the tablet and he had an idea. He found an old box in a cupboard downstairs. Inside there were newspaper stories about the tomb where they found Ahkmenrah and the tablet. Larry read through them until he found an important piece of information. When they discovered the tablet, there was a message with it: 'If you move the things in this tomb, the end will come.'

Larry didn't understand. Did it mean the end of the world or perhaps the end of the magic? Only Ahkmenrah's father knew the answer. And where was he? Larry read more. Ahkmenrah's mother and father were in the British Museum, in London. Larry smiled. 'That's it,' he thought. 'I have to take the tablet to London!'

Larry went to speak to Dr McPhee. McPhee was clearing his office. He wasn't happy. 'I've lost my job,' said McPhee coldly. 'They think it was all my fault.'

'It was the tablet,' said Larry. 'The tablet is going green and the magic is going wrong.'

McPhee stood up. 'Magic! Magic?' he shouted at Larry. 'It isn't magic!' But he sounded frightened.

Larry knew that McPhee loved the museum too.

'Without the tablet, there will be no more shows at night,' said Larry, 'and the museum won't be special anymore. I can help. But I need to take Ahkmenrah and the tablet to the British Museum in London.'

McPhee was quiet for a moment. 'I can't do it,' he said finally. 'I don't work here anymore!'

'They don't know that in London,' said Larry. 'Please!'

'All right,' McPhee said at last. 'I can ask the British Museum to clean the tablet. You can take it. But look after it!'



'We're going to London,' Larry told Nick.

Nick wasn't very pleased. 'I can't go,' he said. 'I've got school and I've got plans.'

'Oh yes? What plans?' said Larry.

Suddenly there was a loud 'Hi-yah!' from Nick's phone. Nick laughed. He had a new message.

'Stop looking at your phone, Nick!' shouted Larry.

'Listen to me. This will be an exciting adventure for you and me. And we can talk.'

'I don't want an adventure. And I don't want to talk,' said Nick.

'The exhibits are in trouble,' Larry's voice was hard.

'They need our help. So you and I are going to London.'

CHAPTER 3

THE BRITISH MUSEUM

Larry and Nick needed to wait until dark before driving to the British Museum. They walked by the River Thames.

‘That’s the Tower of London,’ said Larry. ‘They killed Mary, Queen of Scots there.’



‘No, it isn’t,’ Nick said. His dad knew nothing! ‘It’s Tower Bridge. That’s the Tower of London*.’ He pointed to a big, old building by the side of the river. ‘And it wasn’t Mary, it was Anne Boleyn**!’

‘Oh!’ said Larry. He looked at Nick in surprise.

* The Tower of London is a famous old building in the centre of London. Tower Bridge is 130 years old and opens for ships to go through.

** Mary, Queen of Scots was the cousin of a famous Queen of England, Elizabeth I. Anne Boleyn was Elizabeth’s mother.

'About university ...' Larry started.

'I want to be a DJ in Ibiza*,' Nick said quickly.

'A DJ?' asked Larry.

'You didn't go to university,' said Nick. 'And you've got a cool job.'

'Yeah, after twenty years of terrible jobs!'

Nick turned away. 'Well,' he said. 'I've decided. Anyway, I'm not your problem anymore.'

'Nick,' Larry said, 'you're always going to be my problem.' He felt really sad. Being a dad was getting more and more difficult.



Larry was wearing his guard's clothes as they drove to the back entrance of the British Museum. They had Ahkmenrah and the tablet with them in a big box. There was one guard in a small office. Nick hid so the guard couldn't see him. She looked at Larry.

'Who are you?' she asked.

'Larry Daley from the Museum of Natural History,' said Larry.

'Ah, yes, the American guard! You travel the world and I can't even go inside,' she said sadly. 'I have to sit here in this office outside one of the best museums in the world. My name's Tilly.'

Tilly looked at Larry's papers. Then she came out of the small guard house and pushed some numbers on the wall to unlock the big doors. Behind her, Larry watched carefully.

Tilly helped Larry put the big box on the floor. 'That's heavy,' she said. Then she locked the doors again.

* Ibiza is a popular place for holidays in the Mediterranean Sea.



'Thanks, Tilly,' said Larry.

Tilly waved goodbye but it was Nick who drove out again. Larry was waiting inside.

Later that evening, Tilly was speaking on her phone and she didn't see Nick hurry past her office in the dark. Larry pushed the right numbers and opened the door for Nick. Inside the museum, the strange light of the tablet was shining from the box. Then they heard something move and the top of the box lifted. Ahkmenrah climbed out with the tablet.

'Hi,' said Ahkmenrah. He gave the tablet to Nick who put it in his bag.

'Hi,' said Larry.

Then Teddy climbed out of the box. 'Good to see you, my boy,' smiled Teddy.

Larry was too surprised to speak.

'We had to come too. You might need us,' explained Teddy. He helped Sacajawea out of the box. Attila followed her.



The Roman, Octavius, was next with his small friend, Jedediah. Dexter jumped out and finally Larry saw the big Neanderthal. Laaa put his strong arms around Larry.

‘Dada,’ he said happily.

‘OK,’ said Larry slowly, but it was good to have his friends there. Perhaps they could help. ‘Laaa – I want you to stay here and guard this door. Understand?’

Laaa smiled and showed his big, white teeth. ‘Laaa – door!’ he agreed.

‘Good. Everyone else – we’re going into the museum. We need to find Ahkmenrah’s parents in the Egyptian room. Stay together and be careful. We don’t know what’s in here!’

The museum was dark and full of strange sounds. Thanks to the tablet, the exhibits were coming to life for the first time. A new world was waking up. Larry and his

friends moved slowly through the first room. Larry shone his torch and they could see three ghostly women with long clothes. They were standing completely still. Larry saw that one woman didn't have a head, another had no hands and the third had only one arm. Behind them, there were more men and women. Some tried to walk on only one leg, others lifted broken arms towards them.

Then Larry understood. They were old statues from the Parthenon* in Ancient Greece. Suddenly a small statue threw itself at Larry. The statue had no feet. It put its strong arms around Larry and pulled him to the floor.

'Help!' shouted Larry.

Nick thought quickly. On the floor there was a box of feet and hands from old statues. Nick saw a foot and threw it to his dad. Larry showed it to the statue. 'Do you want this?' he asked.

The statue smiled and took the foot. He sat up and put the new foot on the end of his leg. It wasn't the right size but he didn't care. He moved away happily.

'That's the answer, my boy,' called Teddy. 'They just want some help!' So Larry and the group took hands and feet and gave them to the statues. Now the statues could move around more easily. They were happy.

Suddenly there was a loud noise. Something very big and heavy was coming towards them out of the dark. It was a Triceratops** – a very angry Triceratops.

'We're in trouble, my boy,' Teddy said quietly.

Larry remembered when he first met REXY. Quickly he took a big animal tooth from the wall. He threw it past the Triceratops.

* The Parthenon is a famous building in Athens, in Greece.

** Triceratops lived about the same time as the T-Rex.

'Want to play?' he shouted. 'Fetch!' Remy loved this game.

But the Triceratops just looked at the tooth on the floor. Then it looked back at Larry and opened its mouth.

'AAAAAARRRR!'

'I think we need a different plan,' said Teddy in Larry's ear.

'What's that?' Larry asked as he moved slowly away from the angry Triceratops.

'Run!' shouted Teddy.

CHAPTER 4

A KNIGHT IN SHINING ARMOUR



Everyone ran as fast as they could. The Triceratops ran after them but it was heavy and slow. It crashed into walls and doors.

The group hurried into another room. The room was full of armour from knights long ago. Larry closed the heavy wooden door. Perhaps they were safe here.

CRASH! The Triceratops came through the door. Its big teeth pulled Nick's bag from his back and the tablet flew across the floor. Nick tried to reach it but the animal turned to him again. The boy froze.

'Here!' shouted Larry and waved his arms. The Triceratops ran towards him. Larry tried to run away but he fell against a knight in armour. The Triceratops was getting closer. What could Larry do now?

'Ah,' said a voice behind Larry. 'Can I help?' A knight with a shining sword jumped forward to fight the Triceratops. He was very quick and moved like a dancer. One moment he was in front of the animal and the next moment he was behind it. The Triceratops' teeth came dangerously close again and again but the knight was always too quick.

Then the knight threw his sword to Larry. He hit the Triceratops hard between the eyes. The Triceratops turned and ran away and the fight was over.

'That was really cool,' smiled Nick.

Larry gave the sword back. 'Wonderful, just wonderful!' The knight smiled at the group. He was very good-looking.

'My name is Lancelot of Camelot*' he said.

Teddy took his hand. 'Theodore Roosevelt, President of the USA,' he said. 'I've read a lot of stories about you! You are a strong and good man.'

'Thank you,' said Lancelot. He took off his scarf and showed it to them. It had a picture of a beautiful place.

'This is my home, Camelot,' he said sadly. 'My love, the beautiful Queen Guinevere, lives there. She gave me this scarf but I cannot go back yet. First I must find the Holy Grail. It's a magic cup,' he explained. 'Drink from it and you will never die.'

'Well, good luck with that!' said Larry. 'We're going to Egypt. Thank you for your help, Lancelot.'

* In the stories, King Arthur lived in a beautiful place called Camelot.

'And I will lead you,' said Lancelot in a strong voice. 'There is strange magic here and dangerous animals. It is my job to care for people who are in need. Follow me.'

Lancelot walked to the door. Larry wasn't sure about Lancelot, but all his friends liked the knight.

'OK, cool,' said Larry. 'Let's go, everyone!' He looked around. They weren't all there. 'Where are Octavius and Jed?'

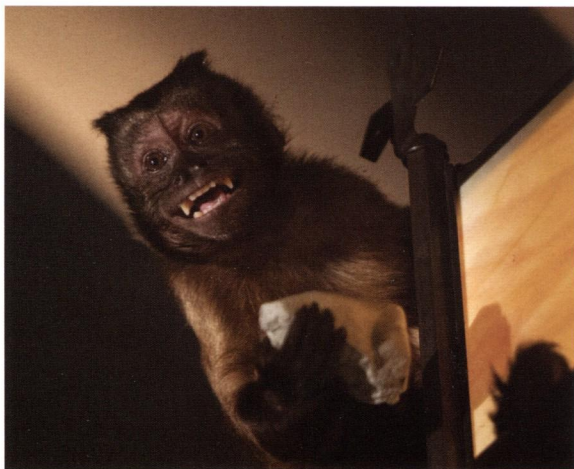
They all searched for their small friends.

'Look!' said Sacajawea. She was holding a very small piece of red scarf. 'I think they've fallen down here.' She pointed to some thin bars over a hole in the floor.

'Dexter, you're small enough to go down and find them,' said Larry. 'Nick – we need your phone.'

'Why?' asked Nick.

'It will tell me where Dexter is,' said Larry.



'Dexter can't make phone calls,' said Teddy.

'I put a tracking device on Nick's phone,' said Larry finally. 'Then I know if he is safe.'

'What?' shouted Nick. 'That's not cool! Take the phone – I don't want it!' Angrily, Nick gave Larry the phone.

'Here, Dexter, put this on. We must find them,' explained Larry. 'Good luck!'

The little monkey gave a small smile and jumped down the hole. 'Hi-yah!' went Nick's phone. Then the monkey disappeared.

Larry took out his own phone. There was a moving blue light on it. 'That's Dexter,' said Larry happily. The blue light moved again and Larry followed it. 'This way!' he shouted.



Lancelot walked next to Larry. 'Is the monkey always the leader of your quest?'

Larry looked at him. 'He isn't the leader. We're just following him.'

'Exactly,' said Lancelot. 'So, what is your quest?'

'A magic tablet,' said Larry.

'Ah! And where is this tablet? Is it far away in the land of hope and dreams?'

'No,' said Larry. 'It's there. Ahk's holding it.'

'Why don't you just take it?' asked Lancelot.

'It's not that easy,' said Larry.



Octavius and Jed were on the edge of a deep, dark hole. They were lost and frightened. And an angry animal was following them. It made strange noises. They heard the noise again and it was closer this time.

'Hi-yah!'

'AAAARRRR!' cried Jed and Octavius and together they jumped down into the dark hole.

They landed on something hard. But now there was light all around them and they could see that they were in a small town with roads and buildings – just their size! It was all in a big glass box.

'This is a Roman town,' said Octavius happily. There was a glass wall in front of them and he tried to read a word on the other side. 'It says 'iiepmoP. I've never heard of that. Oh, I think I read that wrong ...'

Suddenly everything in the town started to move. They looked up. There was a big mountain behind the town. The top of the mountain was on fire. It was a volcano! The fire was coming down the sides of the volcano and into the streets of the town.

'Yeah,' said Jed. 'It isn't iiepmoP.'
'It's Pompeii*!' shouted Octavius.



* * *

Lancelot was walking next to Nick. 'Are those magic numbers on your arm?' he asked.

Nick laughed. 'Yeah. That's a girl's phone number.'

'Remember,' said Lancelot. 'You are a man. No one must stand between you and your love!'

* In 79 AD most of the people in the Roman town of Pompeii died. The town was near the volcano, Vesuvius.

'I hear you,' said Nick and he looked angrily at his dad. Larry stopped suddenly. 'Sshh!' he said. There was a very big snake in front of them. Luckily it was asleep. The group moved around it carefully.

Then a green light shone in Larry's eyes. It was coming from the tablet.

'Oh no,' thought Larry. 'Not now!'

Suddenly Teddy started walking around and shouting, 'What can you do for your country?'

Sacajawea froze and Attila lay down on the floor and screamed. Larry looked around. The snake was awake now and looking at them. And it had nine heads!

CHAPTER 5

THE SECRET OF THE TOMB



Lancelot was very happy. He loved fighting. He threw a sword to Nick. 'Have you used a sword before?'

Nick looked at the sword and then at the snake with nine heads. 'Only in *World of Warcraft**,' he said.

'Stay back!' shouted Larry. He was worried about his son.

'No,' cried Lancelot. 'Fight, boy! Show that you are a man!' He hit one of the snake's heads with his sword.

* *World of Warcraft* is a very famous computer game.

Nick looked frightened, but he joined Lancelot and waved the sword in front of another of the snake's heads.

Larry didn't have anything to fight with. Then he saw something on the wall. It was a heart defibrillator. Quickly he took it and jumped over one of the snake's heads. Another head moved towards him and opened its mouth but Larry was quick and went under it. He pushed the defibrillator against the animal's body and turned it on. The snake lifted all of its heads and then froze before falling heavily onto the floor.

Lancelot was angry. 'Next time we fight like men, not magicians!' he said. He touched Nick's arm. 'A good fight, my boy. Now you are a man and you can choose your own way in life!'

Larry was worried. He didn't want Nick to listen to Lancelot. But what could Larry do? Nick didn't want to listen to his father anymore.

'How are you doing?' Larry asked Teddy.

The President smiled. 'It has passed for now,' he said. 'But look!' Larry's phone was in pieces after the fight. How could they find Octavius and Jed now?

'OK,' Larry decided. 'The tablet is dying. We must find Ahk's parents quickly. If we don't, we can't save anyone.'

Larry led the way with Ahkmenrah. 'What was your father like?' he asked. 'Did you disagree with him too?'

'Oh, yes, all the time,' said Ahkmenrah. 'And I never stop thinking about it.'



Octavius and Jed could feel the heat all around them. Everything was on fire. Was this really the end?

Suddenly they heard a noise above them and they looked up. Dexter's face appeared in a hole. The monkey

put his arms through the hole and lifted Octavius and Jed out of Pompeii. They were safe.



Larry saw the sign to the Egyptian room. 'Finally!' he thought. 'Perhaps now Lancelot will leave us.'

'We're here!' said Larry. 'Now, Lancelot, you must continue with your own quest and find the Holy Grail. Thank you and goodbye!'

'I will go, but I won't say goodbye!' Lancelot said loudly. 'We will meet again!' Then he left.

'Now it's just us!' said Larry and he took his friends into the Egyptian room. The room was quite dark but on the walls they could see Egyptian letters and pictures of cats and birds. As the magic of the tablet touched them, they came to life and moved across the walls. There were strange statues too, some with men's bodies and dogs' heads. Then they saw some ghostly wooden boxes. These held the mummies* of Egyptian kings. The boxes opened and the mummies climbed out. Ahkmenrah welcomed the mummies like lost friends!

A man and a beautiful woman came out of the dark. They were wearing rich clothes like Ahkmenrah.

'Mother!' cried Ahkmenrah.

'Ahkmen!' The beautiful woman put her arms around her son. She was crying too.

The man came forward. 'Father,' said Ahkmenrah slowly. The two Egyptians stood for a moment. Then the older man put his arms around his son. 'Welcome home, my son.' Larry looked across at Nick. Nick was smiling. But when he saw Larry, he looked away.

* Mummies are very old dead bodies. Many come from Ancient Egypt.

'Hi,' said Larry to Ahkmenrah's parents. 'We've got a bit of a problem with the tablet. Perhaps you can help us?'

The King looked at the tablet and touched the green part carefully. 'It's losing its magic,' he said slowly. Then he got angry. 'I left a message: the end will come!'



'What can we do?' asked Larry.

'The secret of the tablet is for my son only,' answered Ahkmenrah's father.

'Please, Father,' said Ahkmenrah. 'Tell us. I'm a king now and I need to know.'

His father was quiet for a moment. Then he explained. 'You came into the world at midnight when the moon was shining. The tablet was a present for you. It holds the magic of the moon. With this, we will never die. But it has been away from the moonlight for too long. When the sun comes up, it will be the end for all of us.'

The green light started to shine from the tablet again and Ahkmenrah put his hands on his head. 'It hurts!' he cried.

Larry and Nick took the tablet and ran out of the room. Where could they find moonlight? Then Larry saw a thin line of light which was cutting through the dark. Moonlight was coming through a small window. Larry held the tablet in the moonlight. The tablet started to feel warm again, but it stayed green.

Then Larry saw that some parts of the tablet were not in the right place. He moved them quickly. There was just one more to turn when he stopped. Something cold touched his arm. Larry turned slowly.

Lancelot's sword shone in the moonlight. 'We meet again,' he smiled coldly. 'Give me the tablet.'

'I don't think so,' said Larry.

Lancelot moved his sword from Larry to Nick. 'How about now?'

CHAPTER 6

IN THE STREETS OF LONDON

Larry had no choice. He wanted to help his friends, but he also had to save his son. He gave the tablet to the knight.

Lancelot smiled. 'All this time, King Arthur was wrong! He thought the Holy Grail was a cup, but it isn't. It's a tablet! I'm going to ride to Camelot tonight!'

He turned and ran, the tablet under his arm.

'Quick!' shouted Larry. 'Call the others. He must not leave the museum!'

Nick ran back to the Egyptian room while Larry ran after Lancelot.

They ran through room after room and Larry was getting closer. Lancelot was wearing heavy armour and he was slow. And running after exhibits wasn't a new activity for Larry! The knight ran around a corner and stopped. Teddy was there at the top of some stairs and he was pointing his gun.

'Good work, Teddy!' shouted Larry.

'No, there's a problem!' said Teddy. His hands froze and the gun fell out of them. He began to fall towards the stairs. Larry jumped and saved him just in time. Lancelot ran off.

'Quick!' shouted Teddy. 'Run after him!' But Lancelot was now a long way ahead of them.



Octavius, Jed and Dexter were still trying to find their friends when they heard heavy feet on the floor. Someone was running towards them and he was carrying their tablet!

'Did you see that, Jed?' Octavius was angry. 'What's that strange man doing with our tablet?' Then they heard more feet behind them. It was Larry, Nick and the exhibits.

Larry saw the small pair and put them in Nick's pocket. 'I am so happy to see you two!' he smiled.

Ahkmenrah looked serious. 'Lancelot is also an exhibit. He will also die when the sun comes up. We have to take the tablet from him.'

'You go that way,' said Larry quickly, 'and I'll go down here.'



Larry ran towards the back entrance of the museum. The door was open and Lancelot was outside on a horse. The knight waved as he rode off down the road.

Larry started to follow but then someone stopped him. It was Tilly. She had Laaa with her. She was holding his arm and she looked very angry.

'Did you just see a knight in shining armour?' asked Larry.

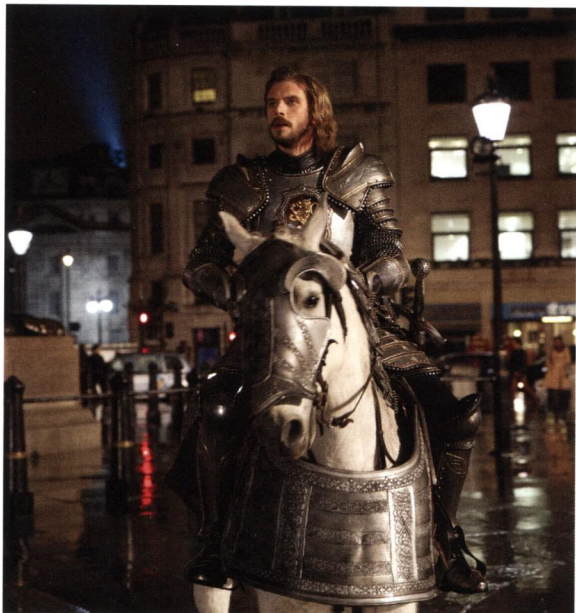
'I knew there was something strange about you,' she said. 'I found your brother. You tried to trick me, didn't you?'

'He's not my brother!' said Larry.

'I've heard enough!' said Tilly. 'You and your dirty brother are coming with me ... now!'

The guard locked Larry and Laaa in a small room. Larry tried hard to think of a plan. But it was no use. The door had a window, but the glass was too strong. They couldn't escape.

Laaa sat down and hit his head on the table. He was



very angry with himself. He didn't guard the door well and his friends were in trouble.

'It's not your fault, Laaa,' said Larry kindly.

Laaa pointed to the door and then his head.

'Yes, yes ... I'm thinking!' said Larry.

Laaa went to the door. He stood back for a moment and then he hit the window with his hard head. The glass broke into pieces and he opened the door from the outside.

'Nice one, Laaa!' shouted Larry. 'Now we need to stop Tilly. She mustn't call the police!'

But Tilly wasn't a problem anymore. She was back inside her office. Teddy and the other exhibits looked very pleased with themselves.

'That's great, guys!' said Larry. 'Now we have to find Lancelot.' He looked at Laaa. The Neanderthal put his big hands on the door. 'Laaa ... stay!' Larry said loudly.

'Stay!' answered Laaa.

Teddy turned to Larry. He was very worried. 'It's getting worse, my boy,' he said. Both his arms were completely frozen. Larry looked at the others. Sacajawea couldn't open her mouth and one of Attila's eyes was now glass. Ahkmenrah was looking older and older.

'Come on! Don't stop now!' said Larry. 'Let's get our tablet back.'

'Dad, there are eight million people in London!' said Nick. 'How can we find him?'

'Sacajawea, can you help?' asked Larry.



Sacajawea looked at the road and then walked a few metres and looked again. Her eyes shone and she pointed down the road.

Sacajawea was right. As they ran down the road they could hear frightened cries. They were in Trafalgar Square.* There were four lion statues in Trafalgar Square, but tonight the lions were walking around and frightening the visitors!

‘Lancelot certainly came here,’ said Larry. A lion started to run towards him. ‘Oh no!’ he shouted.

‘Quick, Larry, shine your torch!’ shouted Jed from Nick’s pocket. ‘These big cats want to play!’



* Trafalgar Square is a popular meeting place in the centre of London.

Larry shone his torch on the floor. The lions watched the light as it moved. Then one tried to put its foot on it. Larry moved the light again and the other lions joined in. They loved the game – just like the cats in Octavius’s favourite video.

‘Cool, man!’ laughed Jed.

‘Film it!’ shouted Octavius. ‘We can put it on YouTube!’

‘No time!’ Larry looked around the square. There was no sign of Lancelot. Then he saw a red London bus. There was a big picture on its side. *Camelot* – a show about King Arthur and his famous knights – was on at the Palladium Theatre*.

Larry smiled. He knew where Lancelot was.

* The Palladium Theatre is one of the most famous theatres in London. It is over 100 years old.

CHAPTER 7

FINDING CAMELOT



The group took the bus to the Palladium Theatre. The other passengers looked at them strangely. Larry could understand. How often did you see a US president, an Egyptian king and a monkey on a city bus? And it wasn't even Hallowe'en!

They were certainly in the right place. There was a big horse in the road and hundreds of people were running out of the building. They looked frightened.

When they got inside, Larry saw Lancelot. He was standing with a beautiful woman and a man who looked

like a king. Behind them, fire torches were hanging near a big picture of Camelot.

'My quest is over. King Arthur, I bring you the Holy Grail.' Lancelot showed the tablet to the man. 'If you have this, you cannot die.'

'Who are you? What are you doing?' the woman's voice was frightened. 'This isn't real. This is a show!'

Lancelot looked around uncertainly. He saw that Camelot was just a picture. 'You're right,' he said angrily. 'Camelot is false!'

Then Lancelot saw Larry. Quickly, he took a fire torch from the wall and ran. Larry and the exhibits followed him up a lot of stairs until they came to the top of the building. They walked through a small door into the cold, dark night. Snow was falling. Lancelot was standing near the edge of the building.

'Please, Lancelot. Give me the tablet. It's over,' Larry said quietly.

Lancelot waved the torch and the heat from the fire reached his nose. It started to melt and dropped to the side of his mouth.

'My nose!' cried Lancelot. He tried to push his nose back into place. 'How do I look?' he asked Larry.

'Not great ...' said Larry.

'But I'm Lancelot!' The knight held his sword up like a mirror to see his face.

'You're not real,' said Larry softly. 'You're an exhibit, like the others. You came to life because of the tablet.'

'But I don't want to be an exhibit. I don't want to stand with children looking at me all the time!'

'They also learn from you,' said Teddy kindly.

Everyone watched as Lancelot's nose dropped further down his face. 'Don't look at my nose!' shouted the knight.

Suddenly Teddy froze completely and fell on his face. Attila screamed and fell down in the snow.

'Larry.' Ahkmenrah's eyes were big and dark in his white face. 'There is no more time.'

'Look, Lancelot!' said Larry quickly. 'My friends are all dying. The tablet needs moonlight.'

Then Dexter moved forward with heavy legs. His eyes were empty and he fell on his back. His little body was still.

'Dexter!' cried Larry. 'Don't die! Fight! Fight for your life!' He tried to move the small animal's arms and legs but the monkey was cold.

Larry picked up the dead monkey and held him in his arms. He was crying. It was his fault. He couldn't save him. He couldn't save any of his friends. He looked at his son. Nick was crying too.

Lancelot spoke sadly. 'You really cared for that monkey, didn't you?'

'He was my friend,' Larry said.

Then Lancelot smiled. 'I understand now. The quest wasn't about the tablet. It was about real friends.' He gave the tablet to Larry. 'I have been so stupid. I am sorry.'

The tablet was now completely green and it was hard to move the pieces. Larry found the last one and pushed it into the right place. Nothing happened. It was too late. The magic was over.

Or was it? As Larry watched, the green started to disappear from the tablet. Suddenly the tablet shone with a brilliant yellow light.

The exhibits slowly came to life again. Attila sat up with a surprised look on his face. Ahkmenrah looked strong and young again. Dexter gave a cry and jumped into Larry's arms.

'Welcome back, Dex!' Larry laughed.

Lancelot took the scarf from his pocket and looked at the picture of Camelot. 'It was a beautiful dream. I didn't want it to end,' he said sadly.

Larry looked at his son and all of his friends. 'I understand,' he said. 'Believe me.'

For a moment Lancelot held the scarf close to his face. Then he lifted it up and let it go. The wind and snow carried it and it disappeared into the dark sky. The knight touched his nose and pushed it back with his hands.

'How do I look?' he asked Larry.

Larry smiled. 'You look like Lancelot.'



Back at the museum, Ahkmenrah's parents were happy to see their son safe again.

'Thank you,' his father said to Larry. He looked at Ahkmenrah. 'It's a strange thing to see your boy become a man.'

Larry looked at Nick. 'I know what you mean.'

The exhibits came slowly up to Larry. Teddy touched his arm. 'Larry,' he said quietly. 'We've talked about Ahkmenrah and ...'

'His place is here with his family,' finished Octavius. 'He must stay here.'

Larry thought for a moment. 'OK,' he said finally.

'The tablet has to stay here too,' continued Teddy. 'It's their tablet. It's only right.'

'Then you guys have to stay here as well!' said Larry. 'That's the only way.'

'No,' said Sacajawea sadly. 'Our home is in New York.'

Larry couldn't believe it. 'But then you can't come to life again!'

‘That’s OK, Big Man,’ said Jedediah. ‘We’re museum exhibits. Children can still come and learn something from us. We can live in their heads.’

Everything was going too fast for Larry. What was happening? He wanted to keep the magic, not take it away.

‘But I’ll never talk to you again. We won’t have any more adventures ...’ Larry’s voice was breaking.

Teddy put his arms around Larry. ‘Let us go,’ he said softly. ‘It’s time. We’re ready.’

Larry looked at the exhibits and he looked at Nick. These were the people he loved most in his life. How could he let them go – all of them? But deep inside, Larry knew that it was the right thing to do, and the right time. He had to let his friends go and he had to let his son go too.

‘Let’s catch the next plane,’ said Nick quietly. ‘We can get home before the sun comes up.’

‘OK, son,’ said Larry sadly. He said goodbye to Ahkmenrah and gave him the tablet.



While the exhibits were climbing back into their box, Larry remembered Laaa. Was he still guarding Tilly?

The door of the guard house was open and Larry couldn’t see Laaa anywhere.

‘Not again!’ thought Larry as he ran to look inside. Then his mouth fell open. Laaa was sitting happily on the floor in front of Tilly. She was talking to him and doing his hair. He looked much cleaner than before.

‘You are much nicer than my boyfriend,’ she was saying. ‘He’s a good guy really, but he never listens to me. But you ... you really listen and you care, don’t you?’



'So sorry,' said Larry. 'But we have to go.'

'Oh no! Please stay!' Tilly looked into Laaa's eyes. 'We could have a life together, you and me!'

Laaa smiled at Tilly and touched her face softly. Then he walked slowly out of the office to join his friends.

'I'll never forget you!' she cried.

Larry turned. 'I know you hate your job, but wait until tomorrow night.' He gave her a big smile. 'It's going to be the best job ever!'

CHAPTER 8

A NEW DAY

Back at the Museum of Natural History, Larry walked around the exhibitions for the last time. There were a few moments before the sun came up and his friends became exhibits again. It was hard to say goodbye.

When Larry finally reached Teddy, he was feeling very sad. "So ..." Larry said slowly, 'is this goodbye?'

'I think it is, my boy,' said Teddy. 'It's time for your next adventure.' He smiled. 'I know that Nick is going to do great things.'

'Yes,' said Larry a little sadly. 'He's ready to go out into the world.'

'Then you've done your job,' said Teddy. 'You are a good man, Larry. It has been wonderful and I will never forget you.'

The president put his arms around Larry and then climbed onto his horse.

'I don't know what I'm going to do tomorrow,' said Larry. Teddy's eyes shone. 'How exciting!' he said.

Early sunlight started to come through the windows and onto the exhibits in the museum.

'Thank you, Teddy,' said Larry. His mouth felt very dry.

Teddy smiled. 'You're welcome.' Then he looked out of the window. 'Smile, my boy,' he said. 'The sun's up.'

Larry looked too. It was beautiful. He turned back and saw that Teddy was not moving. Now it really was over.



Nick sat with Larry outside the museum. They watched the people in the road for a moment without speaking.

Then Nick said, 'About Ibiza, Dad. You know, I'm not sure if it's the right thing. But I just know that it's the next thing, OK?'

'Sounds like a plan,' smiled Larry.

'That was a cool adventure!' Nick said and stood up. Larry watched him walk off. He was growing into a man, a good man.

'They grow up so fast, don't they?' someone said behind him. It was Dr McPhee. 'Happily, I don't have children.' The head of the museum looked terrible. His face and clothes were dirty.

'I slept in the park,' he explained. 'I didn't know what to do. Did everything go well in London?'

'Yes,' said Larry. 'Very well. Ahkmenrah and the tablet are staying at the British Museum.'

McPhee's face went white. 'But you can't do that!'

Larry gave a big smile. 'No, but you can,' he said. 'I'm going to tell Dr Phelps that all the problems in the planetarium were my fault. You'll get your job back.'

'But you'll lose yours.'

'That's OK,' said Larry. 'It's time for me to go.' He took his torch from his pocket and gave it to McPhee. 'This is yours now.'

'Thank you. That's ... I'm' McPhee looked uncomfortable. Then he gave Larry a small smile.

Larry took his bag and walked down the road. It was the beginning of a new day and – as Teddy said – it was exciting.

EPILOGUE

It was three years later and a sign outside the museum told visitors about a new exhibition. For a short time only, King Ahkmenrah and his tablet were back in New York!

Dr McPhee looked around the exhibition. He thought about Larry. McPhee wanted to tell him about the exhibition. But no one knew where Larry was.

The exhibition was nearly ready. It was late. The sun was going down and its orange light touched the walls of the museum. McPhee just had to put the tablet on the wall. He held it in his hands. Then he remembered Larry's stories about the magic tablet. McPhee laughed. The tablet wasn't shining! Larry had some very strange ideas.

He put the tablet up and stood back. But something was wrong. He looked carefully at the tablet and pushed one of the pieces into place. That was better.


McPhee turned to leave the room. Suddenly a strong yellow light lit up the wall in front of him. McPhee stopped in surprise. Where was the light coming from?


Slowly he turned around. When he saw the tablet, his mouth fell open.


'Larry was right,' thought McPhee. 'It's shining!'

THE BRITISH

In *Night at the Museum 3* Larry and his friends go to the British Museum, in London. It is one of the most popular museums in the world!

 In 1759 the British Museum became the first museum in the UK that was free and open to everyone. It is still free to visit today.

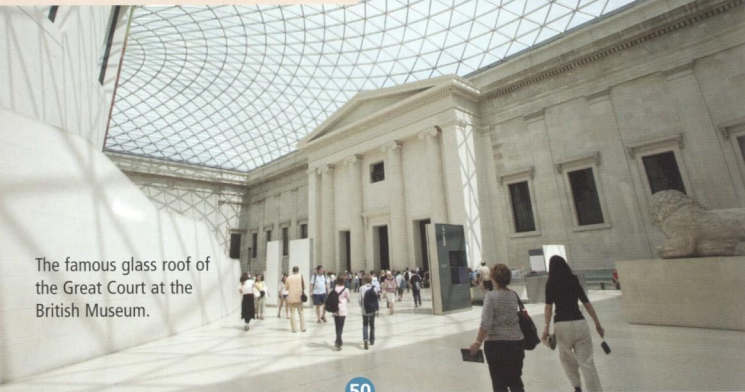
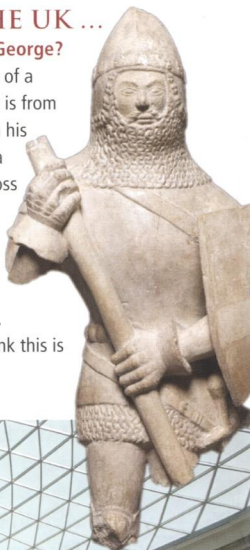
 More than 6 million people visit the British Museum every year and there are more than 7 million things to see.

 Visit the British Museum to find out about the history of the world. There are exhibits from around the world. The oldest thing in the museum is a stone tool from East Africa which is two and a half million years old.

FROM THE UK ...

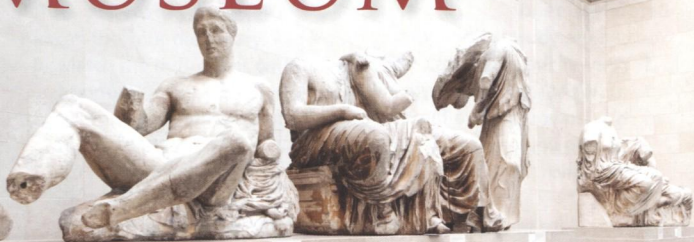
A statue of St George?

This small statue of a knight in armour is from around 1400. On his armour there is a cross. The red cross of St George is the English flag and also part of the flag of the United Kingdom. Some people think this is St George.



The famous glass roof of the Great Court at the British Museum.

MUSEUM



FROM GREECE ...

The Parthenon Sculptures

Many people from around the world have seen the Parthenon Sculptures at the British Museum. The sculptures are from the Parthenon in Greece and are about two and a half thousand years old. More of the sculptures are at the Acropolis Museum in Athens.

FROM EGYPT ...

The Rosetta Stone

The Rosetta Stone is more than 2,000 years old. There is Greek and Egyptian writing on it. People have learnt a lot about old Egyptian letters from this stone.



Which of these exhibits would you most like to see? Why?

A mummified cat

Egyptian mummies of people and animals are some of the most popular exhibits in the museum!

What do these words mean?

You can use a dictionary.

history stone tool
cross flag roof
sculpture

CHAPTERS 1–2

Before you read

You can use your dictionary.

- 1 Answer the questions.
 - a) What's your favourite animal?
 - b) Can you name a famous leader from your country?
 - c) Can you name two places where you can find a guard?
 - d) Which museum exhibit would you most like to see in the world?
- 2 Complete the sentences with these words.
torch freeze cheer tomb scream
 - a) People ... loudly when they're frightened. But sometimes they ... and stay very quiet.
 - b) We use a ... when it's dark.
 - c) A ... is a place for dead people.
 - d) People ... loudly when they like something.

After you read

- 3 Look at 'People and places' on pages 4–5. Answer these questions.
Who ...
 - a) ... works at the British Museum?
 - b) ... is a person from a famous story?
 - c) ... has a magic tablet?
 - d) ... is a teenager?
 - e) ... is an animal?
 - f) ... is Larry's boss?
- 4 Correct the sentences.
 - a) A lot of rich people are at the museum to meet Larry.
 - b) The new Neanderthal looks like Dr McPhee.
 - c) The exhibits are frightened by the guests.
 - d) The policemen go to Larry's flat because he's having a party.
 - e) Larry is going to London to find another magic tablet.
- 5 What do you think?
Why is Larry upset with Nick?

CHAPTERS 3–4

Before you read

You can use your dictionary.

- 6 Match the definitions with these words.

armour a tracking device a scarf statues a sword

- a) You wear this when you're cold.
- b) You can have this on your phone so you know where it is.
- c) A knight used this for fighting.
- d) A knight rode a horse and wore this.
- e) You can see these in city parks. They are usually of famous people.

- 7 What do you think?

How will Larry and Nick get back into the British Museum at night?

After you read

- 8 Complete the sentences with these names.

Attila Camelot Dexter Egyptian room Nick Tilly

- a) Ahkmenrah's parents are in the
- b) The tablet is in ... 's bag.
- c) ... follows Octavius and Jedediah.
- d) ... locks the door of the Museum.
- e) Lancelot's home is
- f) When the tablet shines green, ... screams.

- 9 Choose the correct endings for the sentences.

- a) Inside the box there are **i)** six exhibits. **ii)** eight exhibits.
- b) Larry tries to stop the Triceratops by **i)** shouting at it.
ii) playing a game with it.
- c) Lancelot is looking for **i)** a magic cup. **ii)** the woman he loves.
- d) The snake wakes up because of **i)** the green light in its eyes.
ii) the noise.

- 10 What do you think?

Why is Nick upset with Larry?

CHAPTERS 5–6

Before you read

- 11 What do you think?
What happens to the snake?

After you read

- 12 Put the events in the correct order.
- Larry moves some parts of the tablet.
 - Larry's phone breaks.
 - Ahkmenrah's father tells them the secret.
 - Dexter finds Octavius and Jedediah.
 - Tilly locks Larry and Laaa in a room.
 - Lancelot takes the tablet.
- 13 Are these sentences true or false? Correct the false sentences.
- Larry thinks Lancelot is a good friend for Nick.
 - The tablet needs moonlight.
 - Teddy fights Lancelot.
 - Laaa breaks a window with his head.
 - Larry plays a game with some lions.
 - Larry sees a picture of the museum on a bus.
- 14 Match the pairs of sentences.
- Ahkmenrah's father was angry.
 - Lancelot was excited.
 - Laaa was angry with himself.
 - Larry was worried.
 - The people in Trafalgar Square were frightened.
- He didn't want the snake to hurt Nick.
 - People didn't understand his message.
 - He wanted to give the magic tablet to King Arthur.
 - The lion statues came to life.
 - He didn't guard the door well.

CHAPTERS 7–8

Before you read

- 15 What do you think? Which of these things happen in the story?
- Lancelot keeps the tablet.
 - Larry stays in London.
 - The magic of the tablet returns.

After you read

- 16 Who says these things? Who are they talking to and when?
- 'How do I look?'
 - 'They also learn from you.'
 - 'Fight for your life!'
 - 'His place is here with his family.'
 - 'We can get home before the sun comes up.'
 - 'You are much nicer than my boyfriend.'
 - 'They grow up so fast, don't they?'
- 17 Answer the questions.
- Why does Lancelot go to the Palladium Theatre?
 - Why does Lancelot's nose melt?
 - What do the exhibits decide to do and why?
 - How does McPhee look?
 - What does Larry give McPhee? Why?
 - How happens three years later?
 - Why is Dr McPhee surprised?
- 18 What do you think?
- Will Larry ever have another adventure with the exhibits?
 - What do you think Nick will do in the future? Why?
 - Which person in the story do you like best? Why?

New Words

What do these words mean?

animal (n)

armour (n)

cheer (v)

come to life (v)

exhibit (n) / exhibition (n)

freeze (v) / *past* froze

guard (n & v)

heart defibrillator (n)

knight (n)

lead (v) / leader (n)

let (someone / something) go (v)

magic (n) / magician (n)

melt (v)

scarf (n)

scream (v)

statue (n)

sword (n)

tomb (n)

torch (n)

tracking device (n)