

To Emma Clerkin, a very special friend of the fairies! Special thanks to Sue Mongredien

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"I can't believe that we're going home tomorrow," Rachel Walker said, gazing out to sea. "This has been such a terrific vacation!"

"I know," her best friend, Kirsty Tate, agreed. "I'll never forget it."



The two girls leaned against the railing at the end of Leamouth Pier. It was a warm, clear day and the sun cast dancing sparkles on the water below. Bouncy music boomed out from the carnival behind them.

Kirsty and Rachel had been staying with Kirsty's gran for a week of their spring vacation, and it had been a very exciting time. They had met the seven Ocean Fairies and enjoyed some wonderful

adventures with them as they tried to





find the lost pieces of the magic golden conch shell.

Rachel sighed. "I'm a little worried. We still haven't found the last piece of the conch shell, and time's running out."

"We can't let our vacation end without finding it," Kirsty replied. "I really hope we meet Courtney the Clownfish Fairy soon!"

Kirsty and Rachel had met the Ocean Fairies on the first day of their trip. They'd been invited to the special Ocean Gala in Fairyland.



Every year at the party, Shannon the Ocean Fairy played a song on the magic golden conch shell. It ensured happy times in and around the oceans for

everyone. But this year, before she could play the song, Jack Frost had crashed the party. He said he hated the ocean. He didn't like seeing anyone enjoy themselves, and he couldn't stand getting sand between his toes! He'd ordered his goblins to seize the golden conch shell. Unfortunately, they'd fought over it and then dropped it.

The shell had smashed into seven pieces. Before the Ocean Fairies could



grab them, Jack Frost used his magic to send the shell pieces into the human world. Luckily, the fairy queen had acted quickly. She sent the Ocean Fairies' seven magic creatures—a dolphin, a seal, a penquin, a turtle, a starfish, a whale, and a clownfish—out into the human world, too. They would find and protect each piece of the shell. So far, Kirsty and Rachel had helped six of the Ocean Fairies find their magic creatures and the hidden pieces of the conch shell. They still needed to find Courtney's clownfish and the seventh piece of shell.

Until the shell was put back together, the girls knew there would be chaos all throughout the oceans.

The girls gazed at the carnival rides, hoping they might see the little fairy.



There was a giant spiral slide, a bouncy castle, a spinning octopus ride, and lots of game booths. "Is that a sparkle of fairy dust near the slide?" Kirsty asked, pointing.

Rachel shaded her eyes to see. "No," she replied sadly. "It's just the flash from a camera." She linked her arm with Kirsty's. "It's no



use for us to search for Courtney," she continued. "Remember what Queen Titania always says? We don't need to look for fairy magic. It will find its way to us."

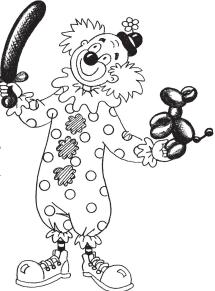


Kirsty nodded. "You're right," she said. "Come on, let's go to the carnival. Look, there's a clown over there."

The girls wandered closer to the clown. He was wearing a red-and-white polkadotted jumpsuit, a little black hat with a yellow flower on top, huge floppy shoes, and full clown makeup. He was busy

bending balloons into shapes. The girls watched as he turned a red balloon into a dog for a little girl, and a blue balloon into a sword for a boy.

The clown saw





them watching and waved. "Hello!" he called. "Let me make something for you."

He pulled out a long orange balloon and twisted it into the shape of a fish. "Here you go! Don't let him swim away!"

"Thank you," Kirsty said, taking the fish balloon. As the clown walked away,



Kirsty's heart skipped excitedly.

A magical glimmer was coming from inside the balloon. As she looked closer, she realized it was Courtney the Clownfish Fairy!

