

A Tail Through Time

“Achoo! Not again” I say as a swirl of lights comes around me. “Here we go again,” I say as I travel back in time.

Excuse me, I should probably start at the beginning but after I get back to the present. Right now I'm going into the past. I don't know when and I don't know where, but I'll see you when I get into the present. Well this is the farthest back I've ever traveled. Is that a triceratops and a T-Rex? Wow! It looks like I'm going to be here for a while until I sneeze. Maybe there's some pepper around. What else could make me sneeze? Oh maybe a feather. I'll look all around and see if I can find one. Here we go I found a feather. Tickle, tickle, tickle my nose. "Achoo!" Ah, there we go. I'm back in the present. Now let's start from the beginning, and I mean the very beginning.

It all started the day I was born. I'm a mouse. My name is Mika but I always go by Mona. I was born February 22nd at exactly 2:22 in the afternoon. I'm considered a lucky Mouse because it was the 22nd and I was born at 2:22. Those are all twos. I was born in 2022. It's 2023 now.

My parents died a few months ago in a big thunderstorm. It was my fault at least I think so my parents were “famouse”

and that meant so was I. Our names were the Acorns. Melissa Acorn (my mom) Flash Acorn (my dad) and me Mona Acorn. My parents named me Mika because they thought the name was cute but after they died in the storm I go by Mona and now I always will.

Right now I'm looking for a job. I've been through 15 interviews! 14 out of 15 I sneezed my way into the past. and on the 15th I wrote my name backwards. I wasn't meant to be a lawyer anyway. I want to be an artist. I think I'm going to go for that next. Or a designer. My mom was a famous singer and my dad was a famous police mouse. Even though I have famous parents I'm not famous for anything. I'm sad that I don't have my parents anymore but sometimes I feel a little bit glad that they don't see me fail at every job interview.

I have two things to keep me company in this ginormous world. My little brother Max who is always getting into something he shouldn't be and my pet ladybug. My ladybug's name is Flutter. I keep her in a small black and white cage. I made it. Once my brother tried to open it. Flutter almost flew away but luckily I caught her.

"Time to take a walk," I say to Flutter as I open her cage and put her tiny leash on that I made out of grass. Max asks if he could come. I say, "sure," even though I want to say no. Maybe he could pick up some stuff for me that I find. I like

crafting things out of everything. I'm walking along and then I suddenly stop. Max runs into me.

“What's wrong?” says Max.

“ Look at the poster Max.”

“ What poster?” asks Max.

“ That one, the one right in front of me.”

“I can't see a poster,” says Max.

“ It's right in front of me and it has mom and dad on it.”

“Really?” asks Max. “I want to see it but there's nothing in front of you.”

“ It's right here.”

“ I think you hit your head in the past.”

“ No, I'm sure it's right here, I can even touch it.”

“ Maybe it's trying to tell you something to go back into the past. “

“you know I can't control it right Max?”

“I know but you really got to work on it. You can't keep doing it in your job interviews.”

“ I know I know,” I say. “Achoo! Here we go again,” I say, swirling into the past.

Where am I? This is in the past? I've never been here. This place was supposed to be built in 4 years. I'd be dead by then. Did I go into the future? Oh no, I've never been to the future before.

“Hello Mika,” says a voice from behind me. I turn around quickly.

“I think you got the wrong Mouse, my name is Mona.”

“ You must have changed your name after your parents died in the bad storm. “

“What are you talking about and how do you know me?” I ask confused.

“ Let me show you everything, follow me.”

“ Okay,” I say nervously. I didn't have to walk that fast to keep up with him as he was an old mouse. He had gray fur and

washed out pink on his nose and his ears. I took a deep breath and decided to ask him where he was taking me.

“I cannot tell you that. I'm sorry but you'll see I'm sure you'll like it.”

“Who are you?” I ask.

“My name is James.”

“ All right then James I want to know when I am and where I am?”

“I cannot tell you that Mika but you'll be here for longer than you ever have in the past before.”

“ What about my brother and my pet?”

“ Oh I'll take care of that,” then he snaps his fingers and they appear behind me.

“Flutter,Max,?”I say confused.

“ Where are we?” asks Max.

“We're in the future, it's my first time ever being in the future.”

“Same here,” says Max.

“We have to find a way out. I'm tired and I'm hungry.”

“you're always hungry Max.”

“Oh here we are,” says James. We all stop slowly.

” I don't see anything,” says Max.

“I do” says Mona

“ Just like you saw the billboard with Mom and Dad on it,” says max.

“No I really see something, it's a big old mansion”

“ I see nothing, just a forest.”

“Oh right, sorry,” James snaps his fingers again and I thought he was sending Max and Flutter back but he didn't. He just did something to the house. It was brighter now but Max could see it.

“Oh there's a house,” says Max.”I don't like it in the future.”

“Oh come on” I say as I grab his hand and pull him closer to the door.

"Welcome home," said James.

"H-h-home," I sputter. "We can't stay here, we need to go back into the present.

"Well, let's see what you do after you stay the night."

"How do you know I'm not going to sneeze," I say to James.

"I can just feed it," said James. He opens the big creaky door. It went creek creek creek as it opened "Melissa, Flash!" he calls out into the dark castle.

"How do you know my parents' names?" I ask.

"Yes James!" calls a voice.

"Who is that?" I ask.

"That's your mom," said James. "She'll be down in a moment."

"What?" I say. "My parents died in a thunderstorm, you said it yourself."

My mom and my dad come to the door. I freeze and all I can manage to squeak is "what?" How's this possible?

My mother gasps. "Mika," my father says. Mom, Dad, me and Max stand all confused.

“Where are we?” I ask again.

“Oh we're in the present honey”

“What?”

“ You've been going into the double past but you were stuck in the past. What is your present is actually the past and your past is actually the double past.”

“Are you saying I've been stuck in the past for one, two, three, four, five, six, seven, eight months?”

“Yep, welcome home honey,” says my dad with a big smile. I grab my brother and we have a big family hug.

“B-but I thought you died in the thunderstorm!”

“That was a vision,” says my mom.

“Just like the billboard?” I ask.

“No, that's more like a ticket home. I have visions and time travel powers too, just like you.

“Really?” I ask, confused.

“Same with me,” says Dad.

“What?” says Max. “I'm the only one who doesn't have them?”

“You're not old enough to get them yet,” says dad.

“Too bad,” I chuckle quietly to myself.

“I remember giving you Flutter when you were just born.”

“So that's where I got her?” I ask.

“Yes,” says my father.” Anyway, we should probably go to bed. It's getting late, probably 7:30.

I say “Yes we should go to bed.”

Mom says “come on I'll show you to your rooms.”

The end