



A Nighttime Adventure



“I’m Queen Malice!” cried the girl in black. She shook her long, dark hair back from her face. “Get them, Storm Sprites!” Two small creatures with black wings ran into the room and cackled nastily.

Summer Hammond and Ellie Macdonald squealed and dived over the playroom sofa. The girl in black was only their friend Jasmine Smith, dressed in an old sheet and waving a thunderbolt made from a painted stick. But her acting was



so good that it almost seemed like nasty Queen Malice was in the room!

The Storm Sprites were Summer's little brothers, Finn and Connor, dressed up to look like Queen Malice's horrible gray-skinned, spiky-fingered helpers. Ellie had tucked old towels into their T-shirts and folded them in the shape of the Storm Sprites' batlike wings.





The boys shrieked with excitement and ran across the room to grab Summer's legs as she tried to scrunch herself up behind the sofa.

"Got you!" Connor giggled.

"That's what you think," laughed Summer, jumping up and tickling him. Ellie did the same to Finn.

"Foolish sprites!" scolded Jasmine in a dramatic voice. "Do I have to do everything myself?" She poked Summer playfully with the thunderbolt stick.

"Connor, Finn!" Summer's stepdad called from the kitchen. "Bath time!"

Summer let Connor go and went to the door. "They're coming!" she called back. "Sorry, guys," she told her little brothers. "We have to stop playing now."

"But I want to be a Storm Sprite,"