

Geronimo Stilton

Thea Stilton

THE PHANTOM OF THE ORCHESTRA



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WHEN YOU LEAST EXPECT IT

The **bell** rang to end classes for the day at Mouseford Academy. Mice spilled out of their classrooms into the hallway, filling it with cheerful squeaks.

“Do you want to watch a **MOVIE** together tonight?” Pamela asked her friends the Thea Sisters. “There’s a new action film I’ve been wanting to see.”

Colette replied, “After a long week of schoolwork, I think I’m in the





mood for something **light** and **fun**.”

“What do you think, Violet?” Pamela asked. But Violet wasn’t paying any attention to her friends. Instead, she was **STARING** at her cell phone.

“Violet?” Pamela asked again.

“Huh?” Violet replied, glancing around in confusion. “What?”

“Let me guess,” Paulina teased. “You were checking your **email** again.”

Violet smiled, a little **embarrassed**.

“Yes, that’s exactly what I was doing!” she replied.

A few weeks ago, the music teacher told Violet that an orchestra in **London** had an opening for a violinist. They were performing a new **musical version** of William Shakespeare’s tragedy **Romeo and Juliet**. Violet decided to audition, and she had been waiting



eagerly for the results. Unfortunately, she hadn't heard a thing.

"I don't think I got the **part**." Violet sighed. "I'm sure they chose someone with more **experience** playing in a big orchestra. Still, I can't stop checking my email!"

"Well, you know what they say." Nicky comforted her friend. "Things have a way of happening when you least expect them. Maybe you should try to just stop **thinking** about it for now."

Violet agreed to give it a try, and the friends headed back to their dorm. A few hours later, the mouselets were watching a movie when





WHEN YOU LEAST EXPECT IT

things **unfolded** exactly as Nicky had guessed they would.

BUZZ! BUZZ!

“Do you hear that?” Paulina asked, **LOOKING** around.

“It’s Violet’s cell phone!” Colette exclaimed, pointing to the table.

They all **LOOKED** at Violet. Their friend was nestled in the cushions, fast asleep.





Paulina glanced at the screen.

“Well, it seems our sleeping beauty just received a text from a theater in London,” she told her friends. “It says: **CONGRATULATIONS!**”

“She got the part!” Nicky whispered excitedly.

“We have to tell her right away,” Pamela said.

“Or we could **surprise** her!” Colette suggested with a big **smile**.

When Violet woke up from her nap a short while later, she was alone. Her friends had disappeared! But there was a note on the pillow next to her. It read:

We have **AMAZING** news! But you'll have to solve this puzzle to find out what it is. Go to the library and find a special book on the third shelf in the first section.



WHEN YOU LEAST EXPECT IT



Still a little tired from her nap and confused by the note, Violet went to the **LIBRARY** and went to the first section of bookshelves. She quickly found a book on the third shelf that **STOOD OUT** from the others.

“*Romeo and Juliet!*” Violet exclaimed. She opened the book and found another **CLUE** inside.

You might already have solved the mystery, but don't stop now! Go to Pamela and Colette's room. The surprise is waiting for you there!

Violet hurried to Colette and Pamela's room and took a **deep breath** before she knocked.



“Come in!” a voice called.

When she opened the door, she found her friends standing there holding a big sign with words that were **MUSIC** to her ears.

“The orchestra finally contacted you,” Pamela explained. “You were chosen!”

Violet’s eyes filled with **happy** tears.

“I can’t believe it!” she squeaked.

“Well, **believe** it!” Colette said happily.

“Your **adventure** is about to begin.”

