

Iyla Soumbasakis
December 26, 2018

Enchanted Eyes

It was a foggy day in San Francisco when Iyla, a curious girl, was feeding her six pets. She was about to finish feeding her pet cat, Twix, when her mom yelled, "Happy Birthday, sweetheart! I can't believe you're turning twelve!" Iyla had almost forgotten it was her birthday! She was stunned for a second, but then said, "Thanks mom! I can't believe it either." Her mom came down the steps followed by her dad and gave her a huge hug.

"OK, I think you can let go now!" Iyla said, trying to breathe and releasing her arms from her mom. Her parents let go unwillingly. Then her dad said, "We're going to visit grandpa today. We haven't seen him in a while." Iyla grinned from ear to ear; she loved to visit gramps! It was the perfect birthday gift.

"Everyone in the car!" Iyla's dad hollered. Iyla came skipping out of the house in her favorite hoodie and jeans and a container of cookies in her hand. Gramps loved cookies.

"I got the snicker doodles!" Iyla said, opening the car door to get inside. Looking very groggy and grumpy, Mia shuffled out of the oak door.

"Why are we going this early?" she said. Mia was Iyla's older sister. She was fourteen years old and she *hated* getting up early.

"Mia, you know it's your sister's birthday today, right? We're going to see Grandpa." Iyla's mom said. At that, Mia's brown eyes widened, and she said, "No one told me we were going to grandpa's!" Iyla laughed as she saw Mia rush into the Honda Pilot.

"Everyone in?" Iyla's dad shouted unnecessarily loud.

"Ya, we're in. Let's go now!" Mia said, anxious. Grandpa's house was about fifteen minutes away from theirs, so when there's no traffic it goes very quickly. Fortunately, there was no traffic, and soon they were ringing the tiny yellow doorbell by the silver metal door.

"I don't hear the sound from the doorbell." Iyla said, putting her ear against the door. They had been waiting for five minutes already, and Grandpa hadn't come out yet.

"How about we knock?" Mia said, already banging on the door. As soon as her hand left the big metal door, a huge magnifying glass with an eye in the middle appeared out of the eyehole!

"Uh...Grandpa?" Mia said as she stepped back; the eye was right in front of her face. The eye retracted into the door. They heard a "click, click, click" of the locks, and suddenly, the door opened.

"Grandpa!" Mia said as she flung her arms around him.

"Oh dear, it's so nice to see you! Dear, where's your sister? Her birthday's coming up, isn't it?" Mia let go, giggled and said, "Oh Gramps! Her birthday's today! That's why we're

here.” Grandpa chuckled and looked over Mia’s shoulder. He smiled and said, “Happy birthday, dear!” Iyla rushed over and gave Grandpa his second hug.

“I must’ve gotten my days mixed up. How old are you turning? Ten?” Iyla shook her head and said, “I’m turning twelve.” Grandpa’s eyes popped out. He said, “I guess I got my years mixed up too!”

Once they all said their hellos to grandpa and gave him the snickerdoodles, he gave them a tour of his house. Iyla loved the smell of grandpa’s house. It was like rosemary and peppermint mixed together. There were shiny metal contraptions everywhere; grandpa was a scientist. One of Iyla’s favorite machines was the water tube. It was something that would let you get water from every room.

“Here’s my Science Lab!” Grandpa announced proudly. “This is the only thing that is off limits. I have dangerous things in there that nobody should be around.” Mia and Iyla nodded their heads. “Now I shall show you the Grand Bathroom!” Grandpa said. Mia followed him, but Iyla didn’t. She stayed, looking at the Lab.

“You coming, Iyla?” Mia asked.

“Um... you guys go ahead. I’ll catch up. After all, I don’t need to see the Grand Bathroom.” Mia grinned and walked away.

Iyla felt like something in the Lab was urging her to go in. Her hand itched to go on the cold silver knob. She couldn’t resist the urge any longer. She reached for the handle, but rapidly pulled back. Her grandpa’s word echoed in her head: “*I have dangerous things in there that nobody should be around.*” *I shouldn’t go in*, Iyla thought. Then she felt the urge again. It was stronger than last time. Iyla lurched forward and grabbed the handle, twisted and BOOM! She was in the Lab!

“Wow!” Iyla said to herself. She was surrounded by gleaming, silver gadgets. It was like she was in a silver palace. Everything was metal except for a pair of purple goggles that were on top of a metal device. Iyla felt the urge again. She tried to feel where it was coming from, and she found that it was coming from the pair of goggles. Iyla carefully stepped over everything on the floor until she was directly in front of the purple pair of goggles. She then extended her arm and grasped the goggles. Once she held them the urge was so strong that she couldn’t stop her arms from putting them on her head.

She couldn’t see anything, but she felt something. There was pain, then a soothing feeling that made her relax, then pain again. Iyla quickly took them off; she hated it. Not thinking twice, she placed the goggles back exactly where she found them and dashed out trying to avoid all the contraptions. She felt a bit weird after that, like her head and eyes were changing. Little did she know that once she had put on those goggles everything was changing. She felt weird.

Iyla started to walk toward the kitchen to sit down and drink some water. She was squinting her eyes, staring at the floor, and trying to figure out what had happened to her. She

then abruptly bumped into her sister and fell smack down on the floor. She came to the conclusion that her eyes were definitely feeling weird, but now she thought they were enchanted.

“Oh! Sorry, I didn’t see you. We were looking for you.” Mia said, holding out her hand to help Iyla up. Iyla lifted her head and shot straight up from the floor.

“M-M-Mia? Are you seeing this? Oh my gosh, what’s happening!” Iyla was staring at Mia eyes wide. In tiny purple letters she could see everything she ever knew about her sister and more.

“Iyla, are you okay? Your eyes are bright purple! Mom! Dad!” Mia said. She was looking at Iyla like she was a bird-eating spider. Soon her mom and dad were looking at her in the same way. Iyla had closed her eyes by then; she didn’t want to know all the secrets of her parents. She was swarmed with tons of questions.

“Honey, are you OK?” Iyla heard her mom ask.

“What happened to you?” her dad questioned.

“Hold on,” It was her grandpa’s voice, “Did you go into the Science Lab?” Iyla said “Yes, but I didn’t mean to. There was this urge...it made me go in.” There was a long silence before grandpa said, “Was it coming from a pair of glasses or something similar to that?” Iyla could tell that grandpa was very serious just in the tone of his voice. It was very deep.

“Um... It was goggles and they were purple.”

“I knew it! Those goggles aren’t ready to be worn yet. Please tell me that you didn’t wear them.”

“I did. It was the urge. I couldn’t stop my hands from putting them on.” Iyla still had her eyes closed. She was scared to open them. There was silence, the grandpa said, “Then I guess my granddaughter has a superpower! Of course, only if the goggles worked. Open your eyes and tell me what you see.” Iyla slowly and carefully opened her eyes. As soon as her eyelids had lifted, she was bombarded with purple letters everywhere.

“I see purple letters telling me everything about each person I look at,” Iyla said to her grandpa who was, apparently, afraid of dogs (as Iyla had just learned from looking at him.)

“Excellent! My granddaughter does have a super power!” Grandpa yelled. “Happy birthday, Iyla!”

THE END