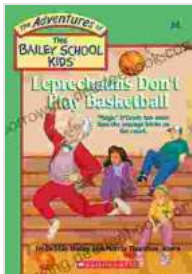


Leprechauns Don't Play Basketball: The Bailey School Kids' Adventures

Chapter 1: The Rainbow's End

It was a bright and sunny day in Bailey City. The birds were singing, the flowers were blooming, and the children were playing outside. But not all of them. Inside the Bailey School library, a group of friends were huddled around a book, their faces pressed close to the pages.



Leprechauns Don't Play Basketball (The Bailey School Kids #4) (Adventures of the Bailey School Kids)

by Marcia Thornton Jones

★★★★☆ 4.6 out of 5

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"I can't believe it," said Nicky, the group's leader. "I can't believe we're actually going to do this."

"I know," said Jenny. "It's crazy."

"But it's also exciting," said Michael. "We're going to find a pot of gold."

"And a leprechaun," added Lucy.

"A real live leprechaun?" asked Nicky.

The friends nodded. They had been reading about leprechauns all week, and they were convinced that they could find one. They had even made a map of all the places in Bailey City where leprechauns might hide.

"So what are we waiting for?" said Nicky. "Let's go."

"Hold on," said Jenny. "We need to make sure we have everything."

"Like what?" asked Michael.

Jenny checked her backpack. "Food, water, a flashlight, a magnifying glass, and a camera."

"I have a camera," said Lucy.

"And I have a flashlight," said Michael.

"I have food and water," said Nicky.

"And I have a magnifying glass," said Jenny.

The friends were ready. They grabbed their backpacks and headed out the door.

They followed their map all over Bailey City, but they couldn't find a leprechaun anywhere. They looked under bridges, in trees, and even in the sewers. But no luck.

Just when they were about to give up, they saw something out of the corner of their eyes. It was a rainbow. And at the end of the rainbow was a pot of gold.

The friends ran towards the pot of gold as fast as they could. But when they got there, they saw that it was empty.

"Aww," said Nicky. "I guess we were too late."

"Don't worry," said Jenny. "We still had a lot of fun."

"Yeah," said Michael. "And we can always come back tomorrow."

"Or next week," added Lucy.

The friends turned and started to walk away. But then, they heard a noise behind them. They turned around and saw a small, green creature standing in front of the pot of gold.

"Well, well, well," said the creature. "What have we here?"

"A leprechaun!" exclaimed Nicky.

The leprechaun smiled. "That's right. And I'm very glad to see you."

"Why?" asked Jenny.

"Because I'm the one who put that pot of gold there," said the leprechaun.

"And I'm the one who's going to give it to you."

"Really?" asked Michael.

"Really," said the leprechaun. "But first, you have to answer a question."

"What question?" asked Lucy.

"What is the meaning of life?" asked the leprechaun.

The friends looked at each other. They didn't know the answer to that question. But then, Nicky spoke up.

"I think the meaning of life is to be happy," he said. "And to make other people happy."

"That's a good answer," said the leprechaun. "And it's the answer I was

looking for."

"So can we have the pot of gold now?" asked Jenny.

The leprechaun laughed. "Of course you can. But first, you have to promise me one thing."

"What's that?" asked Michael.

"You have to promise to always be kind to each other," said the leprechaun.

"And to always help those in need."

"We promise," said the friends.

The leprechaun smiled. "Good. Now, take the pot of gold. And use it wisely."

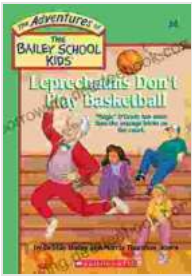
The friends took the pot of gold and thanked the leprechaun. Then they turned and started to walk away.

As they walked, they talked about what they were going to do with the gold. They decided to give some of it to charity, and to use the rest to make their dreams come true.

By the time they got back to the Bailey School library, they were all tired but happy. They had had an amazing adventure, and they had learned a valuable lesson about the meaning of life.

They put the pot of gold in a safe place, and then they sat down to read some more books. But they couldn't concentrate. They kept thinking about the leprechaun and the pot of gold. They knew that they would never forget their adventure.

The End



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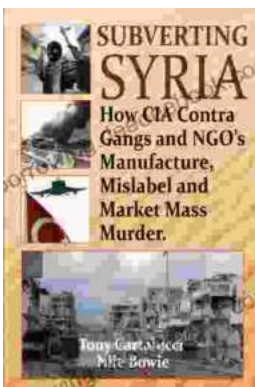
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