

The seven cacti



EUROTALES

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The seven cacti

written and designed

by pupils from

Germany

Spain

Turkey

Sweden

Slovenia

Great Britain

France



Die sieben Kakteen

Track 1

A musical score consisting of five staves of music. The key signature is G major (one sharp). The time signature is 2/4. The music is divided into measures by vertical bar lines. The first staff begins with a quarter note followed by eighth notes. The second staff starts with a half note. The third staff begins with a quarter note. The fourth staff starts with a half note. The fifth staff begins with a quarter note.



Once upon a time there was a young bandit called Ernestus.

This bandit invaded seven countries in Europe by violence and hid a cursed cactus in every country.

This cactus was supposed to spread illnesses and epidemics. Only kids would be able to resist this curse.





Es war einmal ein junger Räuber namens Ernestus. Dieser Räuber drang mit Gewalt in sieben Länder Europas ein und hinterließ in jedem Land einen Unheil bringenden Kaktus.

Dieser Kaktus sollte unter den Menschen Krankheiten und Seuchen verbreiten. Nur Kinder konnten diesem Fluch widerstehen.

When Ernestus got older he was very sorry about what he had done. So he decided no longer to be a bandit but to become a monk and he joined the monastery in the little town Rehna.

After many years he got sick and felt that he would die soon. He remembered the seven cacti. Full of remorse he started to choose kids who would be able to find the cacti and so to break that terrible curse.





Als Ernestus älter wurde, tat ihm Leid, was er getan hatte. So beschloss er, nicht länger Räuber zu sein sondern Mönch zu werden und ging ins Kloster zu Rehna. Nach vielen Jahren wurde er krank und spürte, dass er bald sterben würde. Er erinnerte sich an die sieben Kakteen. Reuevoll machte er sich daran, Kinder auszusuchen, die die Kakteen finden und dadurch diesen furchtbaren Fluch brechen konnten.

He met Tina and Tom, two smart ten year olds from Rehna, and he chose them for this adventurous challenge. Unfortunately Ernestus was not able to remember all the hiding spots but he still had his old map full of mysterious signs and symbols. This was at least a little help and soon the kids were on their way to search Mecklenburg Western Pommerania (Mecklenburg-Vorpommern), the north-eastern part of Germany, to find the first cactus.





Er begegnete Tina und Tom, zwei pfiffigen Zehnjährigen aus Rehna, und wählte sie für diese abenteuerliche Herausforderung aus. Leider konnte sich Ernestus nicht mehr an alle Verstecke erinnern, aber er hatte seine alte Landkarte mit vielen geheimnisvollen Zeichen und Symbolen aufbewahrt. Das war wenigstens eine kleine Hilfe und bald machten sich die Kinder auf die Suche durch Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, um den ersten Kaktus zu finden.

First of all Tina and Tom went to Rostock, a big seaport by the Baltic Sea. They searched the church Marienkirche in the centre of the city. It was built in the Middle Ages and inside was a huge astronomical clock - but no cactus. After this failure the kids went to Güstrow, a nice town with a beautiful old castle which is a museum nowadays. The kids saw lots of famous paintings but unfortunately no cactus yet again.





Zuerst fuhren Tina und Tom nach Rostock, einer großen Hafenstadt an der Ostsee. Sie durchsuchten die Marienkirche. Das im Mittelalter erbaute Gebäude befindet sich direkt im Stadtzentrum und besitzt eine riesige astronomische Uhr - aber keinen Kaktus. Nach diesem Fehlschlag ging es nach Güstrow in das schöne, alte Schloss. Es ist heute ein Museum. Die Kinder bewunderten viele berühmte Gemälde , aber leider wieder keinen Kaktus.

According to the map there was only one last chance: Schwerin, the state capital of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, with its famous fairy-tale castle.

On the old map Tina and Tom saw a little manikin wearing a big hat. They recognized him at once - the Petermännchen, the helpful and also a little cheeky ghost of the castle.

The kids visited him in his museum at the market square and told him about their important mission. Of course the Petermännchen was dying to help.





Laut Karte gab es nur noch eine Möglichkeit: die Landeshauptstadt Schwerin mit dem Märchenschloss. Auf der alten Landkarte sahen Tina und Tom ein kleines Männchen mit einem großen Hut. Sie erkannten es sofort - das Petermännchen, den hilfsbereiten und ein wenig frechen Schlossgeist. Die Kinder besuchten es in seinem Museum auf dem Marktplatz und erzählten von ihrer wichtigen Mission. Natürlich brannte das Petermännchen darauf zu helfen.

Fortunately the Petermännchen knew the castle like the back of his hand. But neither in the throne room nor in the picture gallery, nor under the star covered blue ceiling of the castle church the three of them could find any cactus. They had searched every room and they did not know what to do next when the Petermännchen jumped up and started to run. The kids had trouble to keep up with the manikin. Suddenly they stood in an old cellar in front of a very old chest covered with thick dust. The heavy cover squeaked and creaked on opening but sure enough - there it was, the first cactus.





Zum Glück kannte sich das Petermännchen im Schweriner Schloss besser aus als jeder andere. Aber weder im Thronsaal, noch in der Gemäldesammlung und auch nicht unter der Sternenhimmeldecke der Schlosskirche entdeckten sie einen Kaktus. Sie hatten schon alles durchsucht und wussten sich nun keinen Rat mehr als das Petermännchen aufsprang und loslief. Die Kinder hatten Mühe, Schritt zu halten. Plötzlich standen sie in einem alten Kellergang vor einer uralten, mit dickem Staub bedeckten Truhe. Der schwere Deckel quietschte und knarrte beim Öffnen, aber tatsächlich - da war er, der erste Kaktus.

Proudly they lifted it up. In this very moment they heard Ernestus' voice:

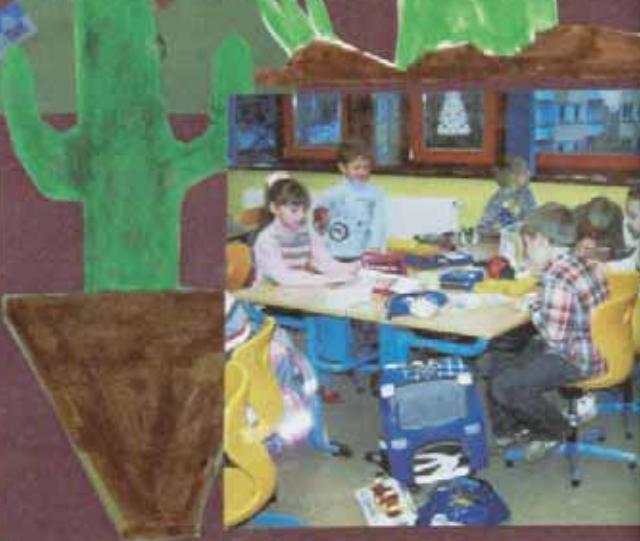
"Congratulations. You have found the first cactus.
Germany is now freed from my terrible curse. The second
cactus is hidden in Spain."

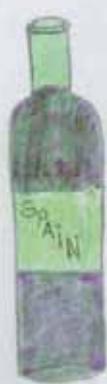


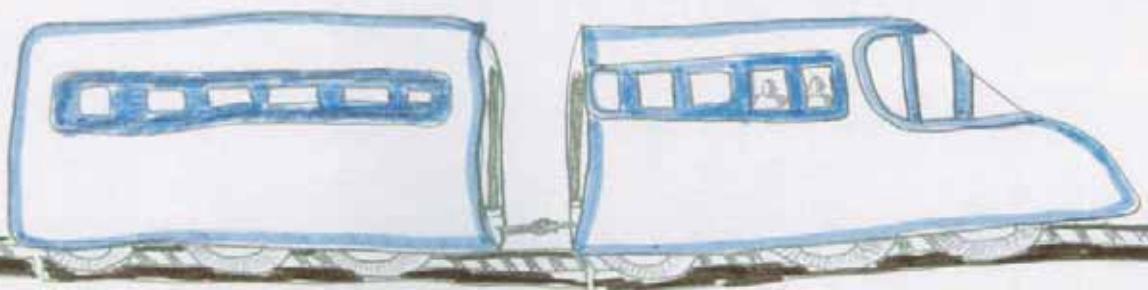
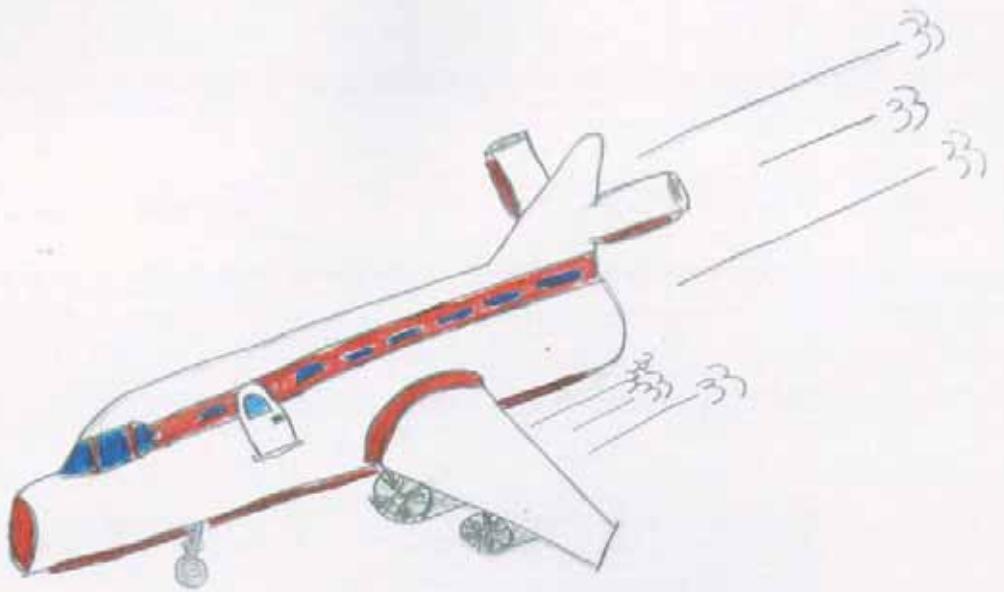


Stolz hoben sie ihn empor. Da ertönte plötzlich Ernestus' Stimme:

"Gratulation. Ihr habt den ersten Kaktus gefunden.
Deutschland ist nun von meinem Fluch befreit. Der nächste Kaktus ist in Spanien versteckt."







Tom y Tina siguiendo el mapa, llegaron al aeropuerto de Ciudad Real en España desde el que tomaron un tren de alta velocidad que les llevó a la ciudad de Puertollano.

A la salida de la estación preguntaron dónde se hallaba la Iglesia de la Virgen de Gracia, se dirigieron hacia allí y preguntaron por el sacerdote de la Iglesia D. Juan.

Tom no dudó un segundo en informarse de si en la Iglesia había algo especial; el párroco les dijo que no pero que podían visitarla si querían. Después de hacerlo, le dieron las gracias y se marcharon.



Tom and Tina following the map arrived in Ciudad Real Airport in Spain and from there they took a high speed train to a city called Puertollano.

When they got into the station they asked for the most famous church of the town: Virgen de Gracia and a man told them how to get there. They met the priest Mr. Juan and Tom asked if he had seen something special in the church, for example a Cactus as he had been living in that place for a long time. Unfortunately, there was no trace of it! They said thank-you and left.





Hicieron un descanso para comer y pensaron en la estrategia que iban a seguir. La siguiente pista del mapa les conducía al Colegio Salesiano San Juan Bosco.

Al llegar allí, Tom y Tina se hicieron muy amigos de los niños de aquel colegio y Tina les preguntó mostrándoles el mapa que contenía esos símbolos y signos tan raros:

- ¿Os resulta algo familiar?

De repente, el director D. Antonio Rodríguez, que casualmente pasaba por allí, les dijo:

- ¡Hola! A mí si que me resulta algo familiar... ¿me podéis acompañar?

- ¡Claro! Dijeron a la vez.



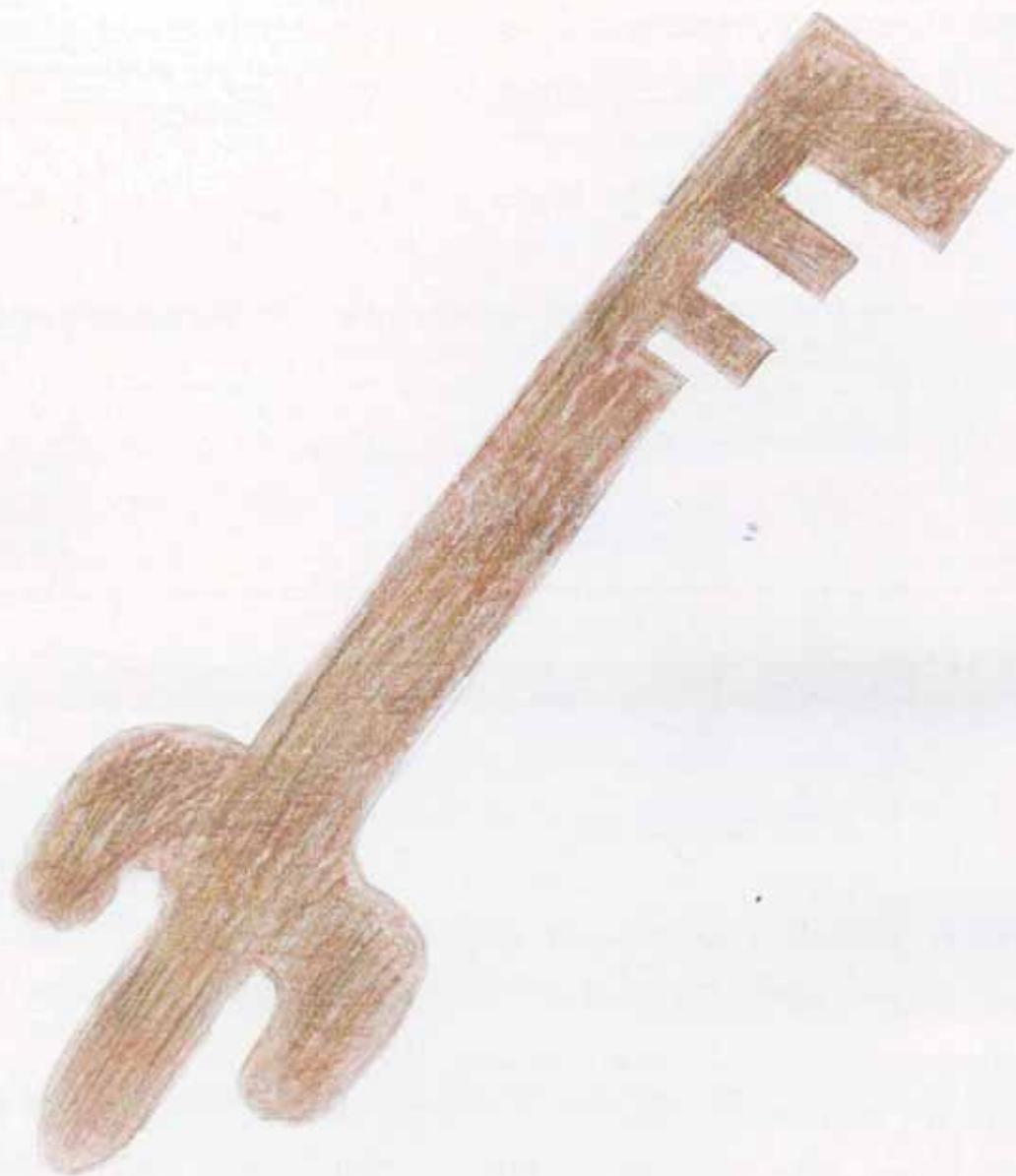
They were really tired and had a break; meanwhile they started to think their next strategy. They followed up the map and they went to one of the most important Schools of Puertollano: Colegio Salesiano San Juan Bosco.

Tina got on well with all the children from the school and she showed them the map with the symbols and signs and asked them:

- Is there anything familiar to you?

Suddenly, Mr.Rodriguez, the Headmaster, who was passing that way, was very interested and told Tina and Tom to come with him.





D. Antonio Rodríguez, observando el mapa, les dijo a Tom y Tina que debajo de la sacristía había unas escaleras que conducían al sótano.

Allí se dirigieron y les mostró una pequeña caja que contenía una extraña llave con el mango en forma de cactus. Los niños observaron toda la habitación y encontraron una forma extraña en la pared, se acercaron e introdujeron la llave...¡una losa de piedra se abrió!!

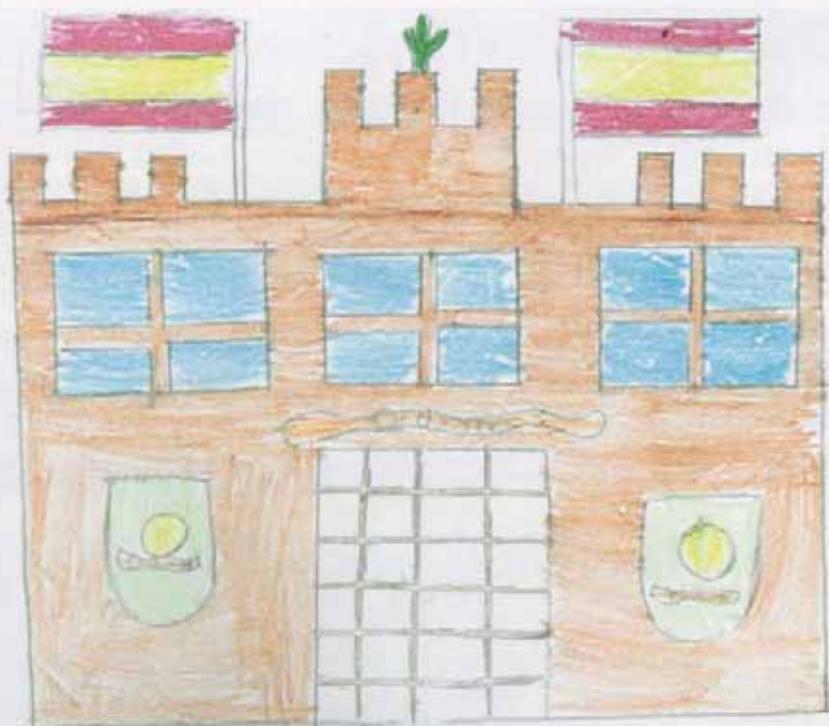
Entre los tres empujaron la pesada losa y entraron a una diminuta habitación donde había un cofre de metal. Lo abrieron y allí se encontraba un medallón con una inscripción que ponía: "Castillo de Calatrava".



They went to the vestry of the church of the school and came down the spiral staircase which took to an old cellar. Mr. Rodriguez showed them a little jeweller. There was a strange key inside... a cactus-shaped key!

Tom observed that room and realized that there was a shape in the wall. Mr. Rodriguez introduced the key and a slab was opened. They moved it away very carefully and got into a tiny room where there was a metal trunk. As soon as they could open it, they found a medallion in which it was written: "Castillo de Calatrava" (Calatrava Castle).





Tom y Tina se despidieron de D. Antonio dándoles las gracias por todo y se marcharon hacia el Castillo en autobús.

El Castillo de Calatrava estaba situado en lo alto de una montaña; subieron por un empinado camino y llegaron al Castillo después de una larga caminata. Estaba dividido en tres partes: el recinto amurallado, la Iglesia y otras dependencias. Este Castillo fue construido en el siglo XIII y perteneció a la Orden de los Calatravos.

Según el mapa, todo apuntaba a que debían de pasar por la Iglesia; una vez dentro, vieron un claustro con una gran puerta que daba acceso a la capilla de los maestres de la orden. Entraron y vieron un gran rosetón que iluminaba un altar.



Tom and Tina thanked Mr. Rodriguez for his help and they continued their way to Calatrava Castle by bus. It was situated in a mountain side; they climbed the steep way and arrived to the castle. It was divided in three parts: the fortified precincts, the church and others outbuildings. The Calatrava Castle was built in the thirteenth century and belonged to Calatrava order.

Tom and Tina made themselves way towards the church and there they could see a cloister with a huge door...there was an entry to the chapel. They went in and saw a rose window which lighted up an altar. Behind that altar there was a wall in which





-¡Detrás del altar!- dijo Tom.

En aquel muro encontraron pintado el medallón que habían encontrado en el Colegio.

En ese momento sabían que algo debía haber escondido por allí...

-¡Mira en la esquina!- dijo Tina muy sorprendida.

Allí estaba... ¡el segundo cactus!

Lo cogieron apresuradamente y en aquel preciso instante sonó la voz de Ernestus que decía:

- Tengo que felicitaros amigos míos. ¡Enhorabuena! Habéis encontrado el segundo cactus. España queda libre de mi terrible maldición.

El tercer cactus está escondido en Turquía...



it was painted the medallion that they found in the school before. They realized that something was hidden in that place....there was the second cactus in the corner!!!

- At last!! Said Tom.

They took it and at that very moment the voice of Ernestus was heard:

- I must congratulate you! You have found the second cactus.

Spain is now freed from my terrible curse.

Ernestus' voice added:

- The third cactus is hidden in Turkey...

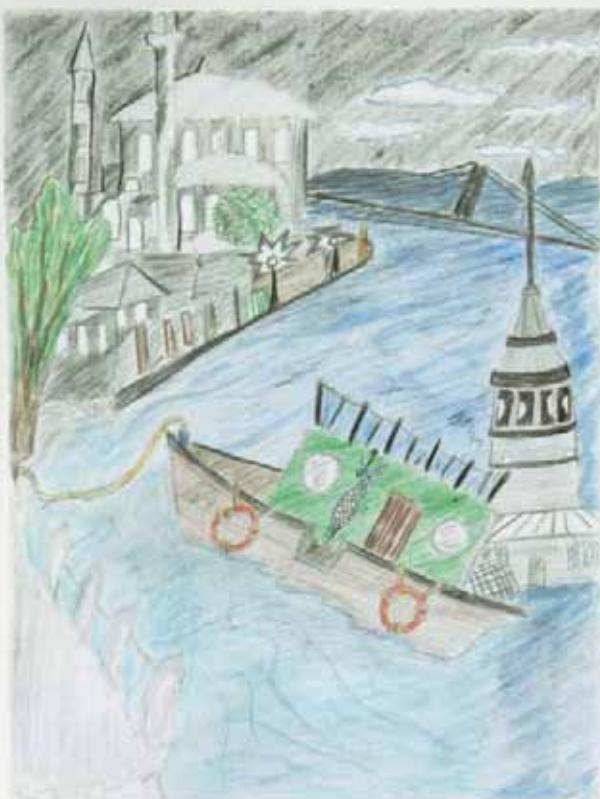


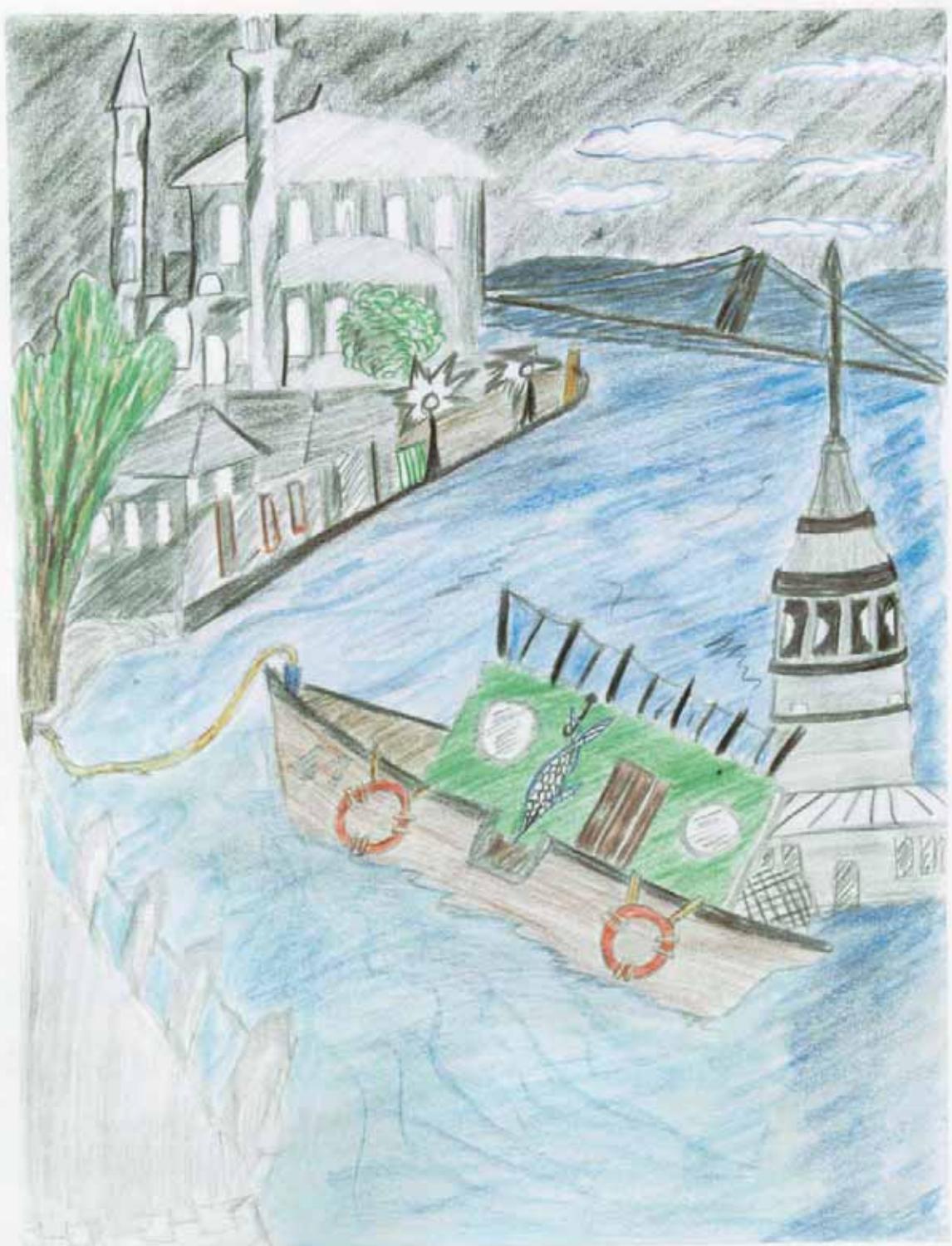


TÜRKİYE









THE CACTUS HIDDEN IN TURKEY

Two of seven hidden cacti were found in Germany and Spain by Tom and Tina. They have just started to make plan for the new search.

When Tina and Tom saw Turkey on the map, they decided to go there by seaway as there were three different seas around the country.

Their ship "Secret", set out from Mediterranean to Aegean coasts. Then they passed through Gallipoli and reached Istanbul. Tina and Tom wanted to stay in Istanbul for a few days to find out some clues about the hidden cactus and discover the magic city as well.

The captain helped them to find a city guide. They admired "Kız Kulesi, Sultanahmet Mosque and Saint Sophia Museum" on their city tour. They were very happy in Istanbul but they still could not find any clue about the cactus.

TÜRKİYE'DEKİ GİZLİ KAKTÜS

Geçmişte Ernestus tarafından yedi ülkeye bırakılan kaktüslerden iki tanesini Almanya ve İspanya'dakini bulan Tom ve Tina kendilerine verilen yeni görev için hemen çalışmaya başladılar.

Almanya ve İspanya'ya uçakla giden Tom ve Tina haritadan Türkiye'nin nerede olduğunu arastırırlar. Üç tarafının denizlerle çevrili olduğunu görünce bir değişiklik yapıp deniz yoluyla gitmeye karar verirler.

İspanya'dan bindikleri Secret adlı gemi muhteşem manzaralı Ege kıyılarını ve Çanakkale Boğazı'ni geçip İstanbul'a ulaşır. Tom ve Tina hem aradıkları kaktüs hakkında bir ipucu bulmak hem de hakkında çok şey duydukları şehrin tarihi ve kültürel değerlerini gezmeyle amacıyla birkaç gün İstanbul'da kalmaya karar verirler.

Kaptanın yardımıyla bir rehber bulurlar ve şehri rehber refakatinde gezmeye başlarlar. İstanbul'u çok beğenirler. Özellikle Kız Kulesi, Sultan Ahmet Camii ve Ayasofya Müzesi'ne hayran kalırlar. Gezip gördüklerine hayran kalırlar fakat asıl amaçlarına ulaşamak bir iz bulamadıkları için üzgündürler.



They went back to the ship "Secret" and thanked the guide for the gorgeous city tour. When they sat to relax for a while, they also had a look at Turkey brochures. Suddenly they noticed something important. It was written "The eye of the world, Amasra" on one of the brochures. Tina and Tom :

- "It can be a sign. If that is the eye of the world, everything can be seen there. Even the place of the cactus that Ernestus hid".

They decided to ask captain whether he knew the 'eye of the world'. He said:

- "I have been there for several times. If you like, I can take you there as well."

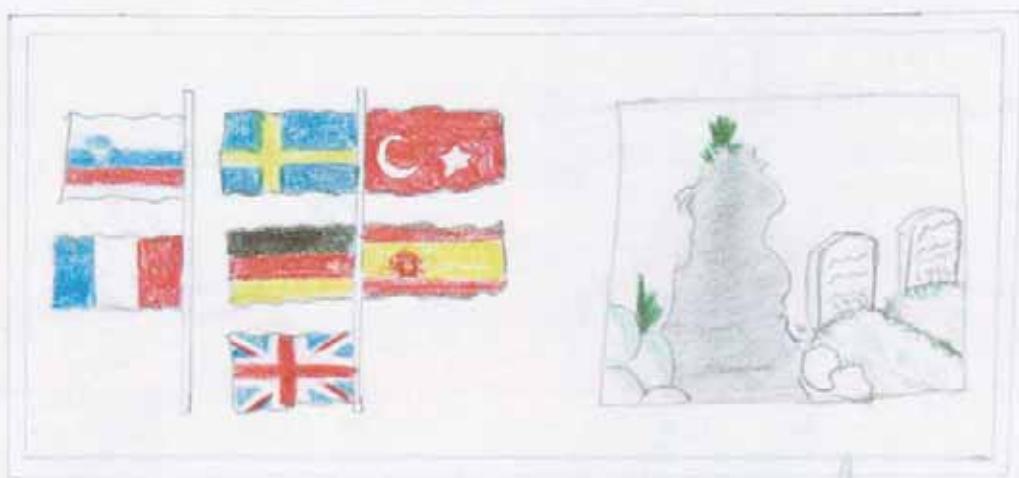
They all set off and after a long and exciting journey, they reached the harbour.

The first thing they noticed was Amasra museum. They went in and learned lots of things about the history but nothing about the cactus.

Rehber onları kaldıkları gemiye götürür. Tom ve Tina rehbere teşekkür ederler. Rehber işi bittiği için yanlarından ayrılacakken elindeki birkaç broşürü onlara verir. Bu broşürler Türkiye'nin tarihi ve turistik yerleri hakkında bilgi vermektedir. Tom broşürü incelerken bir söz dileğatını çeker. "Dünyanın gözü". Bu ifadenin bir işaret olabileceğini düşür ve düşüncesini Tina ile paylaşır.

Birlikte şöyle bir sonuca varırlar. Oraya dönyanın gözü denmesinin mutlaka bir sebebi vardır. Eğer orası dönyanın gözüysse her şeyi görür. Hatta Ernestus'un kaktüsünü bıraktığı yeri bile görmüş olabilir. Hemen geminin kaptanını çağırırlar. Dönyanın gözü de denen Amasra'yi bilip bilmediğini sorarlar. Kaptan da oraya birkaç kez gittigini ve çok güzel bir şehir olduğunu söyler. Tom ile Tina kaptana oraya gitmek istediklerini söyleyler.

Amasra'ya ulaştıklarında vakit kaybetmeden kaktüsle ilgili bir şeyler bulmak için işe koyulurlar ve ilke olarak Amasra müzesine giderler. Müzede etkilenirler fakat kaktüsse dair bir şey bulamazlar. Daha sonra Amasra'nın bağlı olduğu ile Bartın'a giderler.



Then they went to the city center. They visited an antique shop, talked to the shopkeeper and asked the cactus, but the answer was the same, nothing.

With a great disappointment, Tim and Tom wanted to try once more and went to the City Library to search the history books. At that moment Librarian came and offered help. They told the whole story to him. The man guided them to Çayönü Primary School as it had a big library as well.

Tom and Tina met a strange thing at the entrance of the school. It was a map including seven different European countries that would find seven hidden cacti. On one of the countries, Turkey, there was a picture of a cave. They understood that was a sign. They asked it to the students of the school. Students eager to help:

- "It is Gürcüoluk cave and it has a strange story about a mother and a son."
- "Could you take us to that cave, please!"
- "Of course. Come on."

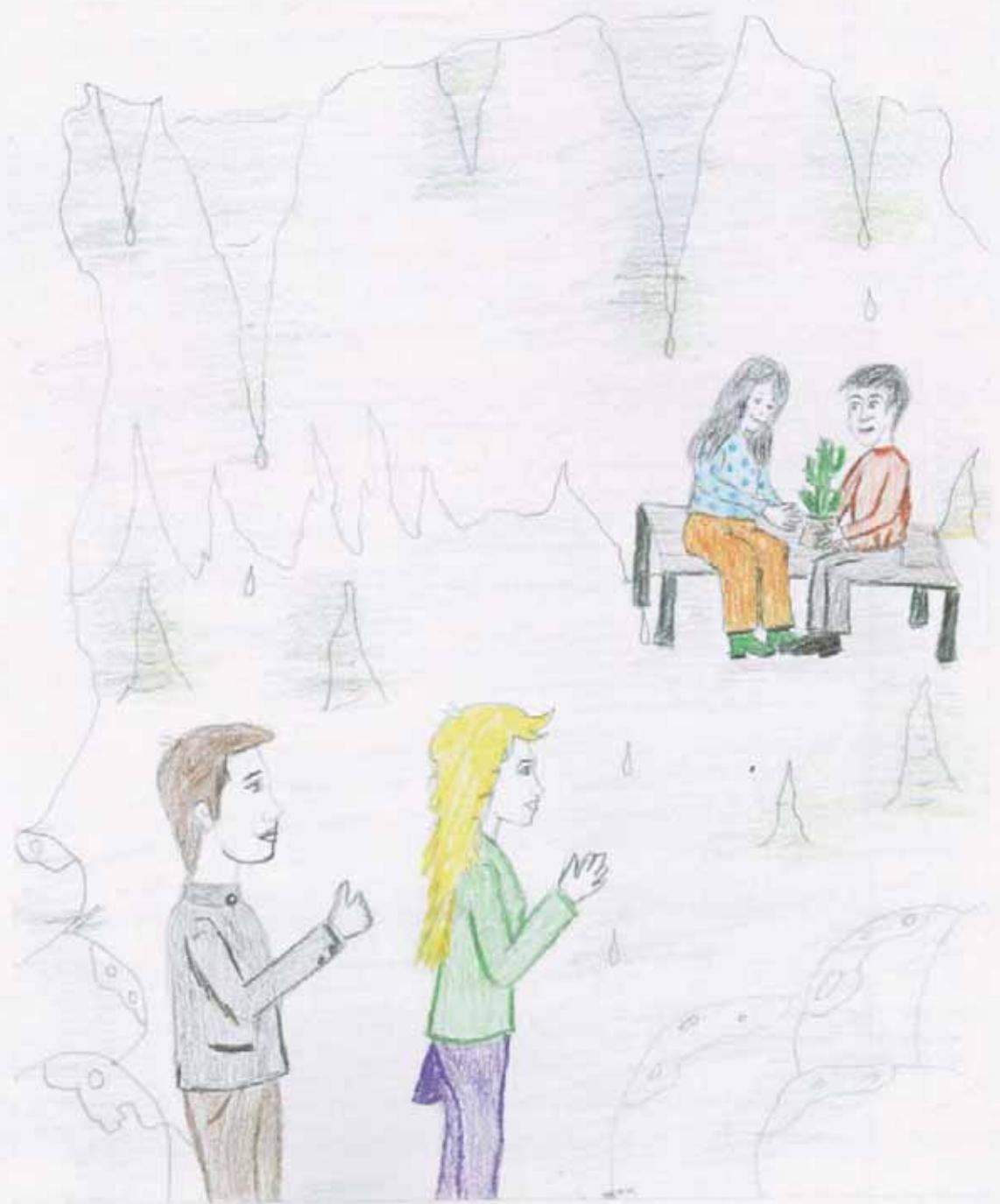
Şehirde dolaşırken antika eşya satan dükkanları gezerler. En son gittikleri dükkanın sahibi onlara tam olarak nasıl bir şey aradıklarını sorar. Onlar da kektüs resimli bir nesne cevabını verirler. Dükkan sahibi onlara böyle bir nesne olmadığını fakat Törelegin İbrahim adında bir dükkanı olduğunu, orada her şeyi bulabileceğini söyler.

Tom ile Tina orada da aradıklarını bulamaz ve şehirde son umut olarak belki birsey buluruz diye İl Mülle Kütüphanesine giderek eski kitapları incelerler. Onlara birçok dili ana dili gibi bilen kütüphane görevlisi yardım eder. Fakat aradıkları hakkında en küçük bir işarette ulaşamazlar.

Kütüphane görevlisi onları Çayönü İlköğretim Okulu adında bir okula yönlendirir. Bu okulun kütüphanesinde çok kitabı olduğunu, belki işlerine yardımcı olabileceğiğini söyler. Onlara okulun adresini verir.

Tom ve Tina vakit kaybetmeden ellerindeki adresi takip ederek okulu bulurlar. Okulun ilk katında bir pano dikkatlerini çeker. Bu panoda daha önce kektusları buldukları ülke resimleriyle yanında iki mezar olan bir mağara resmi ayrıca birkaç yazı vardır. Bu panonun bir işaret olabileceğini düşünürler. Panoyu hazırlayan öğrencileri bulurlar ve onlardan bilgi alırlar. Özellikle mağara ve yanındaki mezarları sorırlar.

Öğrenciler onlara bu mağaranın Amasra'da bulunan Gürcüoluk Mağarası olduğunu söyler ve mağaranın efsanesini anlatırlar. Tom ile Tina bu mağaraya gitmek istediklerini söylerler. Öğrenciler onları dünyının gözü de denen Amasra'daki Gürcüoluk Mağarası'na götürürler.



When they arrived the cave, they searched the mother and son's graves.

A sentence was written on the grave.

- "Hey, what's written on it?" asked Tina and Tom.
- "It means 'Win through!' answered the students.

As they read that saying on the grave, they didn't hesitate even for a moment to enter. The students warned them:

- "Nobody has ever managed it before. You may not either."
- "We should try it for the children around the world."

There was a light coming from inside. Approaching with curiosity, they met a mother and a son holding a cactus. Tom and Tina realised that the people were Gürçü and Oluk, the cactus was the one they were looking for.

- "That is the cactus hidden by Ernestus and we came to take it," said Tina.
 - "Yes we know the story. Take that. And our job has finished," added Gürçü.
- Suddenly, the mother and the son disappeared. While Tina and Tom were in a shock, they heard Ernestus' voice:
- "Well done! You got the third cactus successfully. Turkey has also survived. Your next step is Sweden".

Tom ve Tina mağarayı dikkatli bir şekilde inceleyer. Mağaranın yanındaki Gürçü ile Oluk'un mezarlarını incelerken mezar taşlarındaki yazılar Tina'nın dikkatini çeker. Öğrencilere bu yazının ne anlamına geldiğini sorar. Onlar da mezar taşında yazılı olanların çevirisi yaparlar. Taşlarda mezarda yatan kişiler hakkında bilgi vardır. Mezar taşındaki son cümle şöyle biter: "Amacın uğruna sonuna kadar git." Bu cumlenin bir işaret olabileceğini düşünürler ve mağaranın içine girip sonuna kadar gitmeye karar verirler.

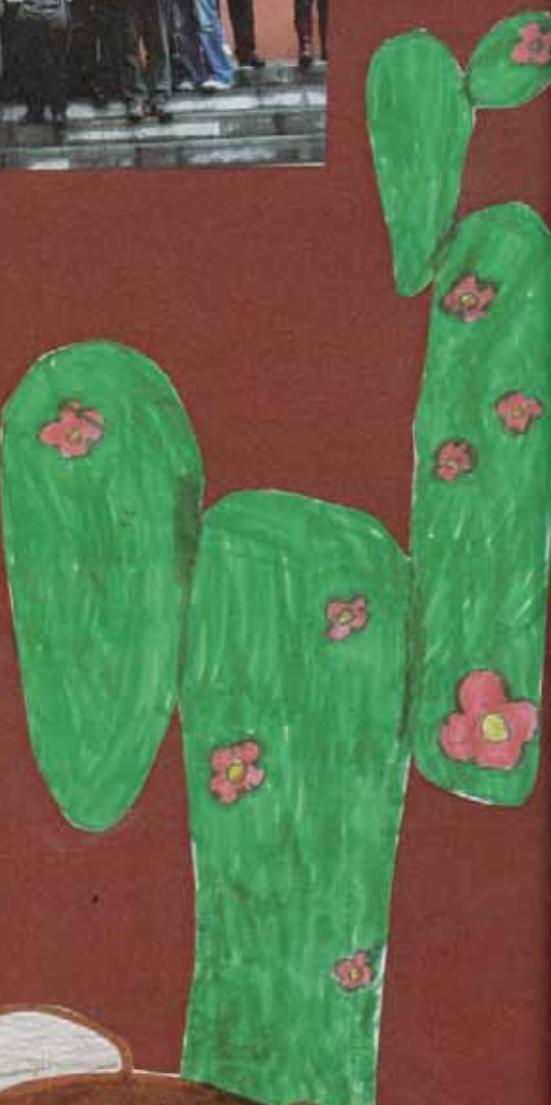
Öğrenciler onlara bunun çok tehlikeli olduğunu çünkü şimdiye kadar kim gittiysse geri dönmediğini, bu yüzden sonuna kadar gitmeye kimseyin cesaret edemediğini söylerler.

Tom ve Tina ne olursa olsun bunu yapmak istediklerini söyler ve mağaraya girerek ilerlemeye başlarlar.

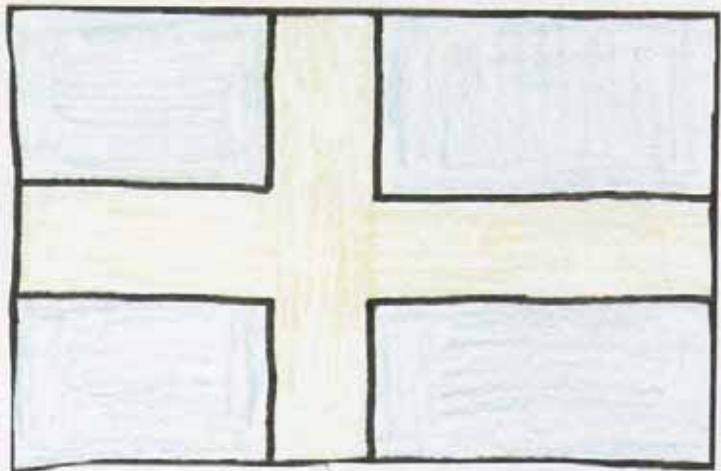
Yaklaşık iki yüz metre ileri gittikten sonra bir ışık görürler. Işığa doğru yaklaşıklarında iki kişinin oturduğunu ve elinde bir şeyi sıkı sıkı tuttuklarını fark ederler. Evet bu aradıkları kaktüsür. Kaktüsün ellerinde tutanlar da mezarda yatan anne ile oğlu. Kaktüsün insanlara zarar vermemesi için sıkı sıkı tutarlar.

Tom ve Tina yanlarına yaklaşıklarında Ernestus'un sesi duyulur. Sesle birlikte anne ile oğlu da ortadan kaybolurlar.

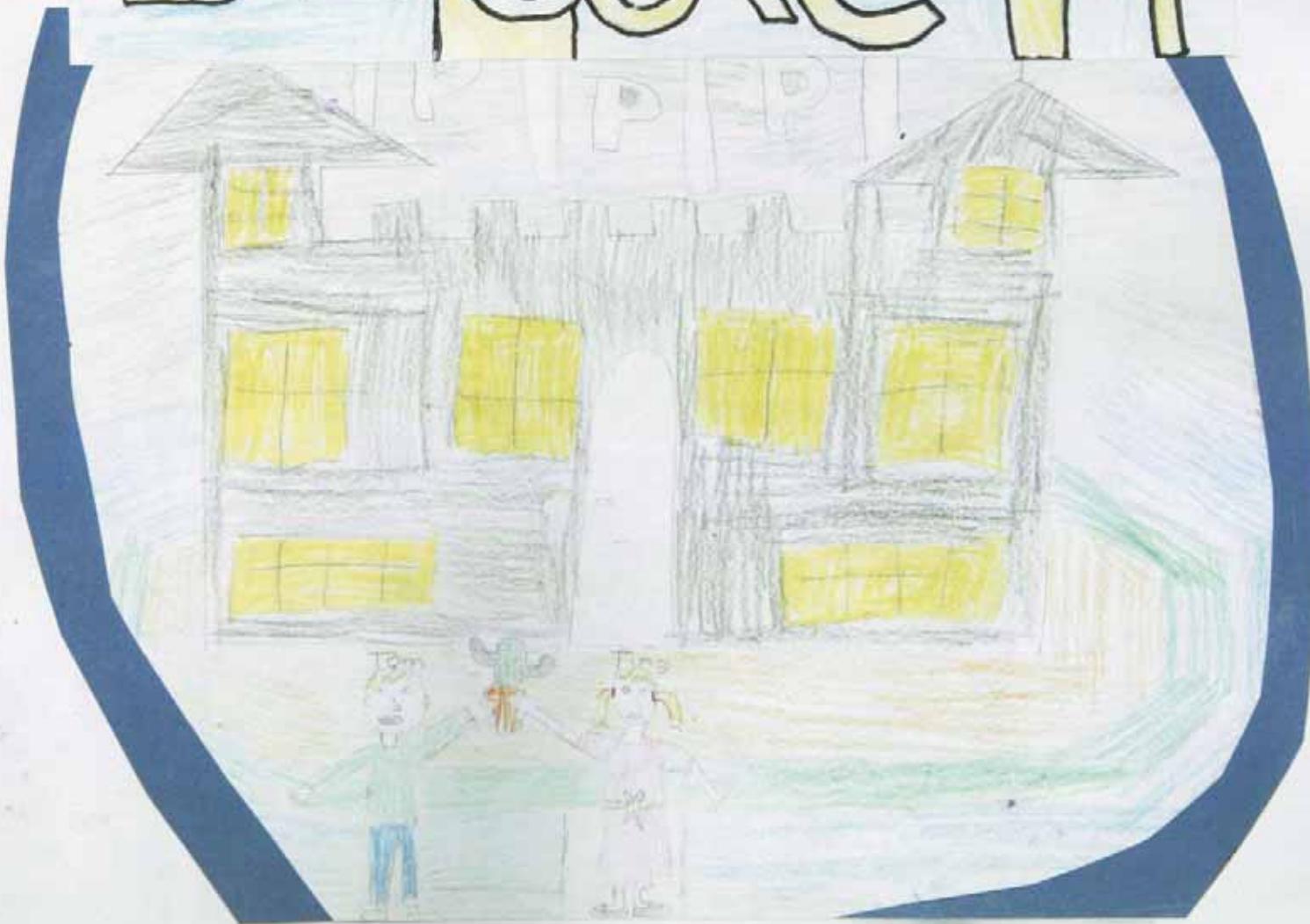
Aferin çocukların kaktüsü buldunuz. Türkiye'de tehlikeeden kurtuldu. Şimdi sıra İsviçre. Hadi kolay gelsin.



The hidden cactus



Sweden





Efter en lång resa från Turkiet hade Tom och Tina landat på Arlanda flygplats utanför Stockholm i Sverige.

De tog en buss in till Stockholm och köpte en karta för att hitta till Mjölby.

De köpte varsin hamburgare och upptäckte att Mc Donald's fanns i Sverige också!

De bestämde sig för att köpa en tandemcykel och cykla till Mjölby!

Nu var Tom och Tina på väg till Mjölby.

När de kom fram växlade de sina turkiska pengar till svenska kronor och bokade ett rum på stadshotellet i Mjölby.



After a long journey from Turkey, Tom and Tina arrived to Sweden and Arlanda International airport outside Stockholm, the capital of Sweden.

By bus they went to Stockholm and bought a map to find the way to Mjölby.

They were hungry and bought a hamburger at Mc Donald's.

Tom and Tina decided to buy a bike to get to Mjölby.

Now they were on their way....

When they arrived to Mjölby they went to a bank and exchanged the Turkish money into Swedish krona and made a reservation at Mjölby hotel.



De tittade på Ernestus karta och gick ut och började leta efter kaktusen.

Då hörde de plötsligt musik!

De följde musiken och kom till Mjölby kulturskola. Det var Ann-Britt, Lukas, Nora och Hanna som spelade fiol.

Tom frågade om de hade sett en kaktus någonstans bland fiolfodralen. Tyvärr svarade Ann-Britt, någon kaktus hade de inte sett!

Tom och Tina fortsatte till Vadstena och kung Gustav Vasas vackra slott.

De gick in i det stora slottet och tittade i alla rum. De såg vackra möbler och stora tavlor på väggarna. I ett rum stod ett stort svart skåp.

- Där kanske kaktusen finns sa Tina.

De frågade guiden om de fick öppna skåpet.

Guiden frågade varför och Tom svarade att de letade efter en sak de tappade här igår.





They looked at Ernestus map and started to look for the cactus. Suddenly they heard music! They followed the tunes and came to Mjölby culture school. There were Ann-Britt, Lukas, Nora and Hanna playing fiddle. Tom asked them if they had seen a catus among the instruments?

- Sorry, said Ann-Britt but we haven't seen any cactus here.

Tom and Tina went on to Vadstena and king Gustav Vasa's beautiful castle.

They went inside and looked into the rooms. They saw beautiful furniture and huge paintings on the walls. There was a big black cabinet in one of the rooms.

- Perhaps the cactus is inside, Tina said.

They asked the guide if they could look inside the cabinet.

- Why? asked the guide.

- Yesterday we lost something said Tom.

- Jag är ledsen svarade guiden men vi hade stängt igår....

Då berättade Tom om kaktusen som Ernestus hade gömt och om förbannelsen som hade drabbat Sverige.

När guide fick höra om det öppnade han genast skåpet och barnen tittade in med fann att skåpet var tomt.

Det var bara en liten svart mus som kilade iväg över golvet!

- Vad gör vi nu? sa Tina förtvivlat.

Tom tittade på Ernestus karta och tyckte att det såg ut som om kaktusen fanns vid något vatten.

- Vatten, sa Tina, vi åker till Motala och Göta Kanal. Den är 100 år gammal och man grävde kanalen för hand. Vilket arbete!

- I'm sorry, said the guide but the castle was closed yesterday....

Then Tom told him the story about Ernestus and the hidden cactus and the curse.

When the guide heard the story he opened the cabinet immediately. Tom and Tina looked inside and found the cabinet empty. A little black mouse ran over the floor!

- What are we going to do now? Tina said. Tom looked at the map and he thought he saw a cactus nearby water.

- Water? Tina said. Let's go to Motala and Göta Canal. The canal is over 100 years old and was built by hand.

Isn't that something?!!

- It was Baltzar von Platen who decided how to build the canal, Tina said. You can see his grave beside the canal. There are many canal boats and one of them is called "King Sverker".

- Perhaps the cactus is there, Tina suddenly said.

- Let's take a look, said Tom.

They took a bus to Motala and found the captain on the boat "King Sverker". He said that he had seen a cactus on the boat!

- Follow me and I will show you the cactus, Olof said to Tom and Tina.

They followed Olof to the engine room and saw a cactus behind the engine!

- But it's plastic, Tina said it's not the cactus we're looking for!

Once again they looked at the map Ernestus has given them and saw a place named Omberg situated on lake Vättern.
- Let's go, Tom said.

Det var Baltzar von Platen som bestämde hur kanalen skulle se ut. Hans grav finns alldeles bredvid kanalen. Så står det här i tidningen. På kanalen går flera turistbåtar och en heter kung Sverker.

Kanske kaktusen finns ombord kung Sverker!

- Bra idé, sa Tom.

De tog bussen till Motala och letade upp kaptenen på kanalbåten. Kaptenen hette Olof och han sa att han visst hade en kaktus ombord på båten!

- Kom ska jag visa er, sa Olof.

Tom och Tina följde med Olof och fick syn på en kaktus nere i maskinrummet.

- Men, sa Tina det är ju en plastkaktus!
Det är inte den vi letar efter!

De tittade på kartan igen och såg att Ernestus hade ritat ut en plats vid Vättern och Omberg.
- Vi åker dit sa Tom.

- Vi åker dit, sa Tom..

Hoppas att den finns där. Omberg är ett stort naturområde med vackra blommor och mycket att titta på. På ena sidan stupar berget rakt ner mot Vättern.

Det finns många berättelser om saker som hänt på Omberg. Tom och Tina hade läst om drottning Omma.

Enligt traditionen är det drottning Omma som gett Omberg dess namn.

En saga berättar att det en gång fanns en jätte som bodde i landskapet Västergötland och han ville gifta sig med drottning Omma som bodde på Omberg. Jätten satte sig på sin stora häst och red över den klara vita isen som hade lagt sig på Vättern. När han kom fram till Ommas berg satte hästen upp ena hoven mot berget och råkade bilda en grotta. Plötsligt bildades sprickor i isen och då föll både jätten och hästen bakåt ner i sjön och drunknade. Drottning Omma blev så

ledsen att hon grät och kom att gråta i evig tid.



- Let's hope it's there! Tom said.
Omberg is a beautiful nature park with a lot of flowers and trees. There are lots of legends about Omberg. Tom and Tina had read about queen Omma.
By ancient tradition it's queen Omma who gave name to Omberg. The legend says that once upon a time there was a giant who lived in a part of Sweden which is called Västergötland. He wanted to marry queen Omma who lived in Omberg. The giant took his horse and rode over lake Vättern. It was cold and it was ice on the lake. When the giant reached Omma's mountain the horse suddenly stopped and made a cave into the mountain by using his hoof.
All of a sudden the ice cracked and the giant and the horse fell deep into the water and drowned.
When Queen Omma heard about what had happened she was devastated and started to cry for ever.



Än idag kan man se hennes tårar i rödgavels grotta, den grotta som bildades av hästens sko. Ibland gråter Omma så mycket att det bildas dimma över Omberg.

- Vad sorgligt, sa Tina när hon hade läst färdigt ur boken.

- Vad spännande det vore att se grottan, sa Tom.

De frågade en guide vid naturrum och de fick en karta att följa. De såg att det var samma karta som Ernestus hade ritat!

Tina blev mycket glad och började springa genom skogen och upp över berget för att snabbt komma till grottan. Tom saade att han hade läst att man bara kunde se grottan från en båt.

De fick tag på en fiskare som körde ut barnen till grottan.

De tittade nyfiket på drottning Ommas tårar som såg ut som ett litet vattenfall.

- Titta Tom ropade Tina plötsligt!

- Ser du, under vattenfallet?

Down to the present you can see her tears in the cave that was made from the giant's horse hoof. Sometimes Omma cries very much and then the whole Omberg mountain is coverd with fog.

- So sad, Tina said when she had finished reading the book.
- It would be exciting to see the cave, Tom said.

They asked a guide and they got a map. It was the same map as Ernestus had given them!

Tina was overhelmed and started to run through the woods up to the mountain to get to the cave. Tom told her that he had read that the cave only could be seen from a boat.

They asked a fisherman if he could take them by boat to the cave.

When they reached the cave they looked with curiosity to the tears from Queen Omma.



Där växer en liten grön kaktus! De bad fiskaren att köra närmare med båten och där minsann växte en liten grön kaktus!

- Det är den kaktusen Ernestus menande, sa Tom.

I samma stund hörde de Ernestus röst:

- Gratulerar, ni har hittat den fjärde kaktusen!

Nu är Sverige befriat från förbannelsen!
Den femte kaktusen är gömd i Slovenien.



Omberg

- Look Tom, Tina suddenly shouted!
- Can you see, under the waterfall?
It's a cactus!!!

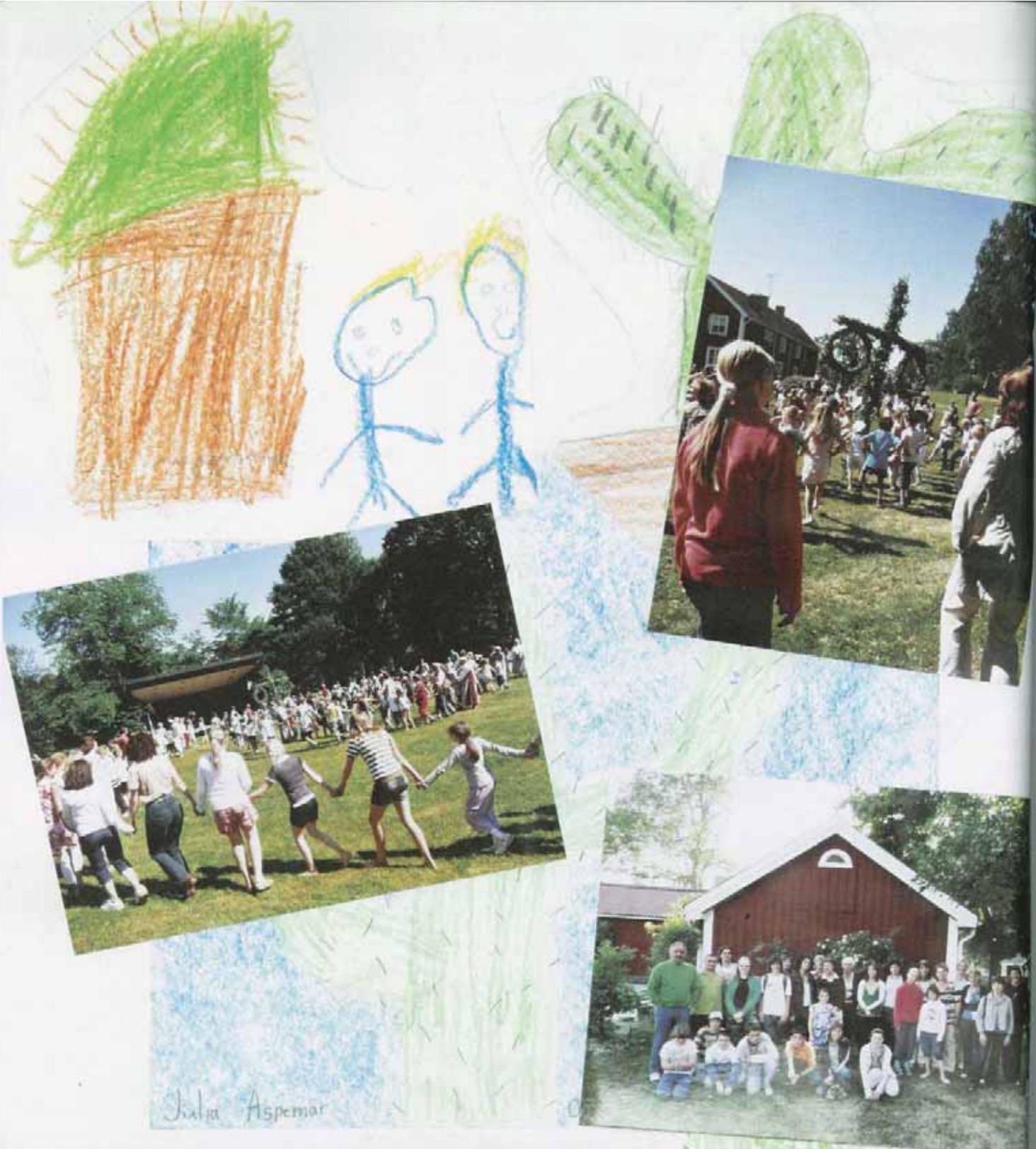
At the same time they heard Ernestus voice:

_ Congratulations, you have found the 4th cactus.

Sweden is now freed from my terrible curse.

The fifth cactus is hidden in Slovenia.





SLOVENIJA

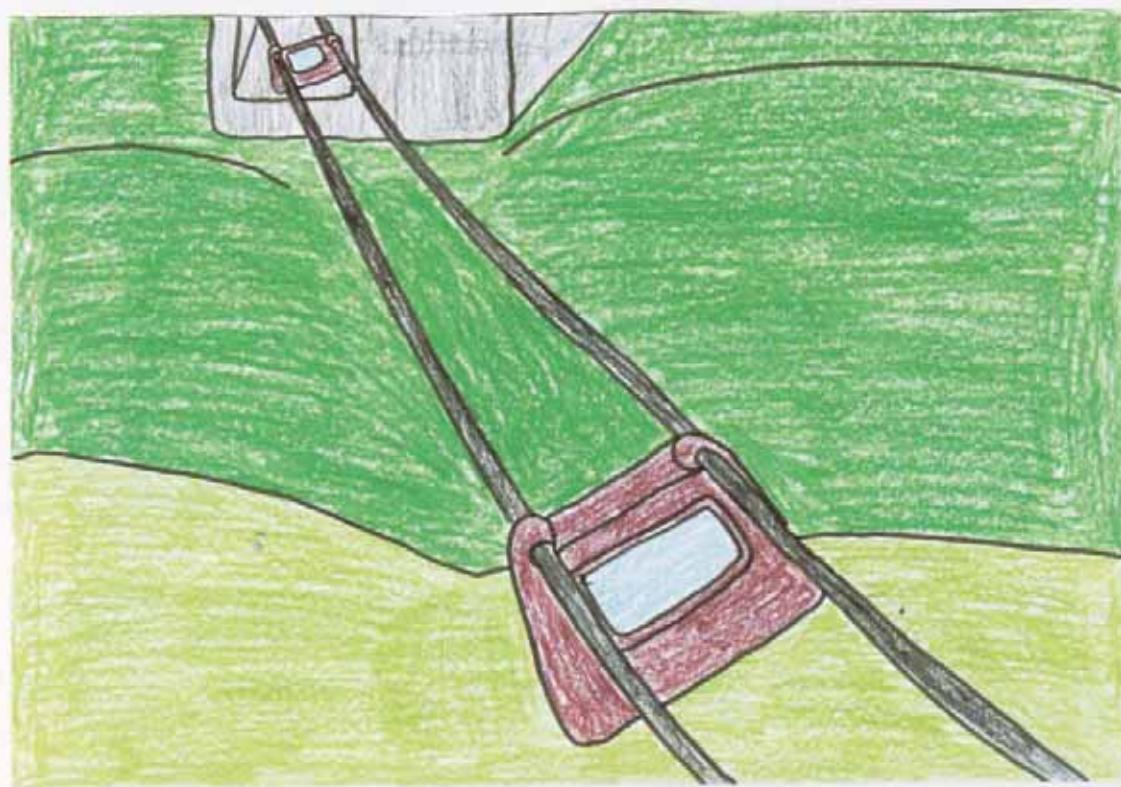


Tina in Tom sta po dolgi in naporni poti iz Švedske končno prispela v Slovenijo na letališče Jožeta Pučnika. Iskat sta prišla prekleti kaktus. Poklicala sta taksi, ki ju je odpeljal v Ljubljano. Hodila sta po Ljubljani in videla branjevke. Spraševala sta jih, kje bi lahko našla prekleti kaktus. Ena izmed branjevk jima je rekla, naj gresta pogledat na Ljubljanski grad.



After a long and tiring journey from Sweden Tina and Tom finally arrived to Slovenia. They came to find the cursed cactus. They took a taxi from the Jože Pučnik airport to Ljubljana. As they were walking around Ljubljana they saw vegetables and fruit sellers. They asked them where they could find the cursed cactus. One of the sellers told them to see the castle in Ljubljana.

Z gondolo sta se odpeljala na Ljubljanski grad. Srečala sta kustosa in ga vprašala, če bi ju hotel popeljati po gradu. Hodili so po različnih sobah. Tom in Ti na sta si ogledovala stare slike, oklepe, orožje Kustos ju je popeljal pod zemljo, kjer so bile nekoč ječe. Opisal jima je tudi zgodovino tega gradu. Nato so šli skozi manjša vrata, ki so vodila na dolg in širok hodnik. Na koncu hodnika so bila vrata, ki so vodila v veliko sobano. Vstopili so. Tina in Tom sta izvedela, da je bila to nekoč arena za bojevanja. Po ogledu sta kustosa vprašala, če je na Ljubljanskem gradu kakšen prekleti kaktus. Čudno ju je pogledal, nekaj časa razmišljal in jima rekel, da tukaj ni nobenega kaktusa in da naj gresta pogledat na Blejski otok.

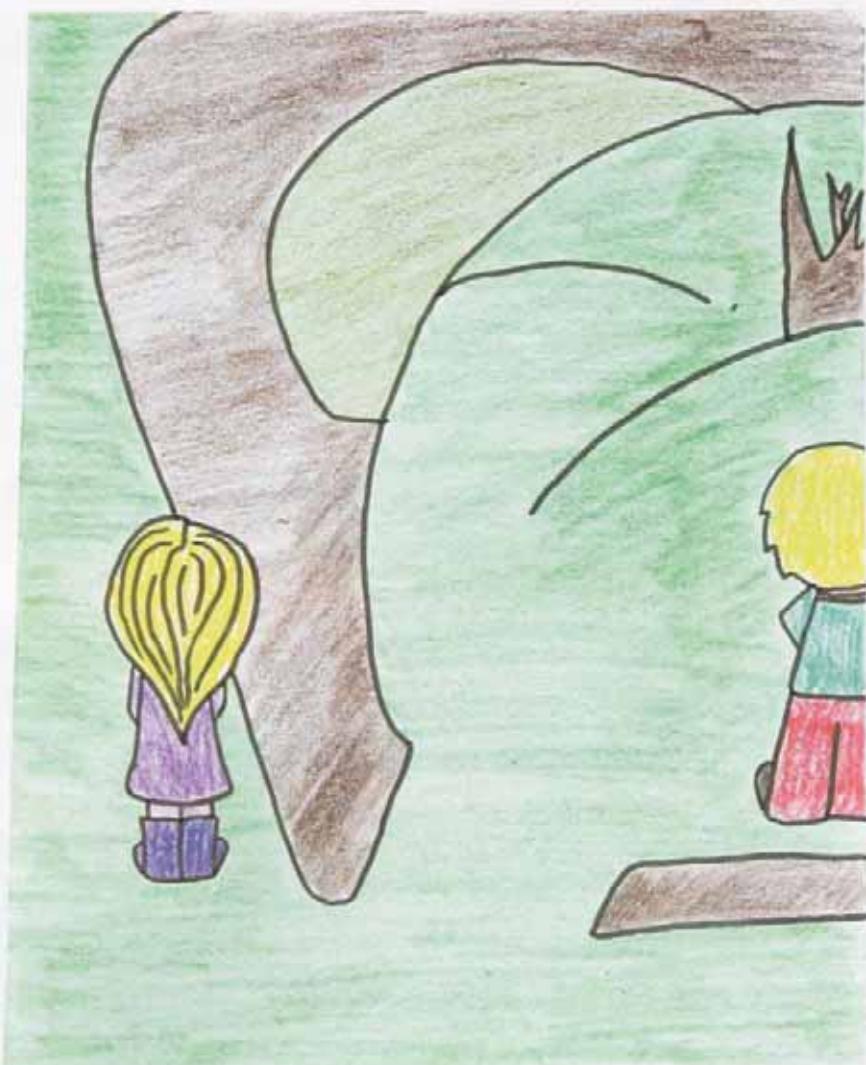


They took a gondola ride to Ljubljana castle. They met a curator and asked him if he wanted to take them round the castle. In different rooms Tina and Tom looked at old paintings, armour, weapons ... The curator took them underground where there used to be prisons. He described the history of the castle. Then they went through a smaller door which led to a long wide hall. At the end of the hall there was a small door, and they led into a large room. They entered. Tina and Tom found out that in old times this was a fighting arena. After the visit they asked the curator if there was any cursed cactus in the castle. He looked at them strangely, thought for a while and said no. He told them to visit the Bled island.

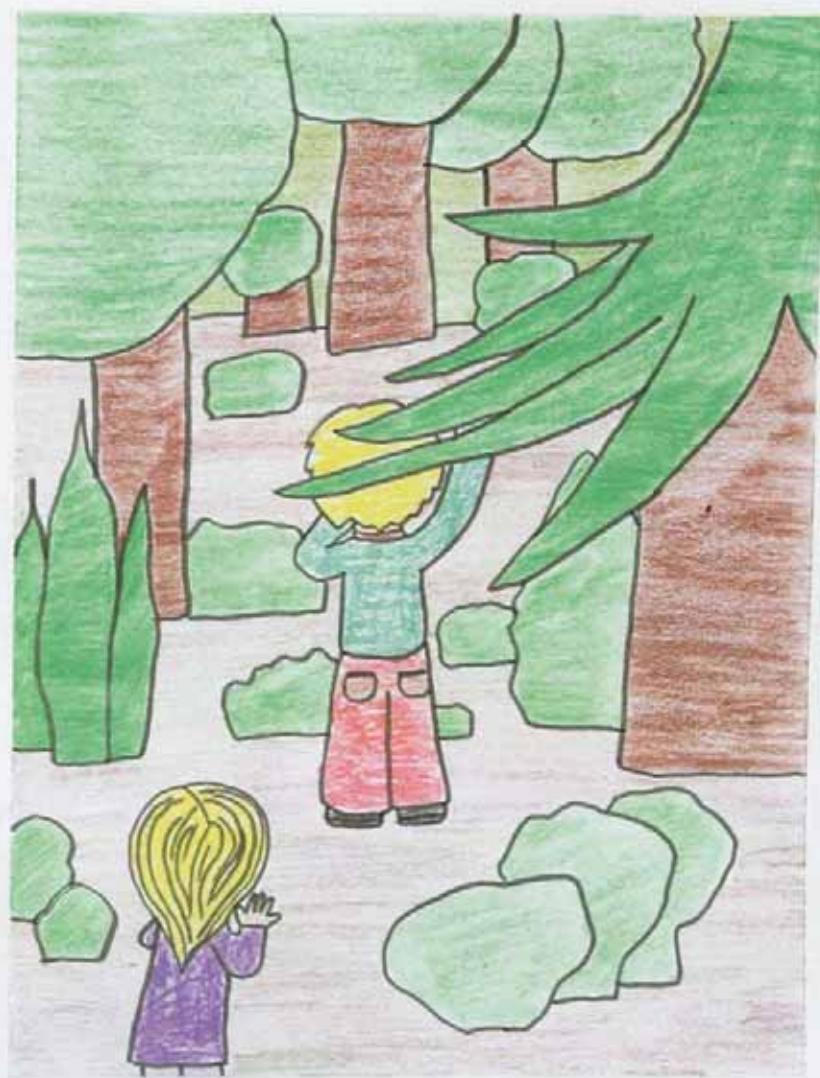
V Ljubljani sta šla na avtobusno postajo in se z avtobusom odpeljala na Bled. S čolnom sta se odpeljala na otok. Hotela sta vstopiti v cerkev, vendar se je ravnokar pričela sveta maša. Po maši sta vprašala župnika, če v bližini raste kaktus. Župnik jima o tem ni vedel povedati prav ničesar, zato sta se sama lotila iskanja prekletega kaktusa. V cerkvi sta preiskala vsak kotiček in ker nista nič našla sta se odpravila v park na otoku. Ker sta bila že zelo lačna, sta iz nahrbtnika vzela malico in se najedla. Nato sta preiskala še vsako drevo in vsako krošnjo. Spet nič. Naenkrat sta zagledala kaktus, vendar sta kmalu ugotovila, da je to le navaden kaktus. Ob kaktusu je stal možakar, ki je bil brez ene noge. Zelo sta se ga prestrašila in zbežala stran. Izkazalo se je, da je to zelo prijazen možakar, ki ju je napotil v kočevski gozd.



Back in Ljubljana they took a bus to Bled. They took a ride by boat to Bled island and wanted to enter the church but holy mass just started. After the mass they asked the priest about the cactus. He didn't know anything so they started to look for it by themselves. They searched every corner of the church and then they headed for the park. They were hungry by then so they had a snack from their rucksacks. Then they searched every tree but there was nothing. Suddenly they saw a cactus, but it wasn't the right one, it was just an ordinary cactus. Next to it there was a one-legged man. Children got frightened and ran away but then it turned out that the man was very friendly and he directed them to Kočevje forest.



Z avtobusom sta se odpeljala do kočevskega gozda. Tam je bilo vse poraščeno z grmovjem. Med iskanjem prekletega kaktusa sta morala paziti, da se nista zapletla v veje. Ko sta prehodila nekaj metrov, sta zaslišala zelo čuden zvok. Sta šla malo naprej in zagledala medveda. Tom in Tina sta se ga zelo prestrašila. Ko sta ugotovila, da ni napadalen, sta se pomirila. Odšla sta naprej in spet zaslišala čuden zvok. Mislila sta, da je spet ta medved, zato sta dalje iskala kaktus. Naenkrat sta zagledala velikega sivega volka. Prestrašila sta se ga še bolj kot medveda. Na srečo tudi volk ni bil napadalen. Kočevski gozd sta prehodila od začetka do konca, a kaktusa nikjer. Nista obupala, kajti vedela sta, da prekleti kaktus nekje raste. Vedela sta tudi, da kaktus morata najti, če ne bo v Sloveniji veliko groznih bolezni.





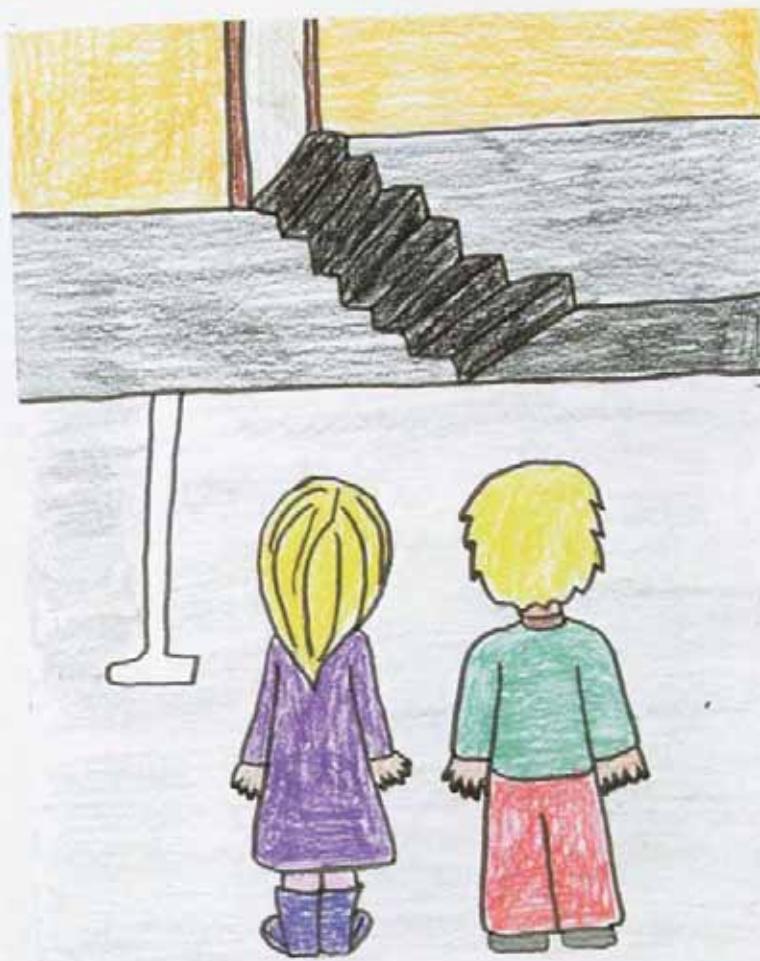
They took a bus to Kočevje forest. Everything there was overgrown with bushes. They had to watch not to get stuck. After a few metres they heard a strange noise. They moved on and saw a bear. It was frightening. It wasn't aggressive, so they calmed down. They moved on and heard a strange noise again.

Thinking it was the bear again they kept searching for the cactus. All of a sudden they saw a big grey wolf. He scared them even more than the bear. Fortunately it wasn't aggressive either. They searched the entire Kočevje forest, but there was no cactus. They did not give up because they knew that it must have been somewhere. They also knew that they had to find the cursed cactus or there would be lots of terrible illnesses in Slovenia.

V Kočevju sta šla na železniško postajo in strojevodjo vprašala, če on ve, kje raste prekleti kaktus. Strojevodja je rekel, naj se z njegovim vlakom odpeljeta do Ptuja in pogledata na Ptujskem gradu.

Šla sta. Na Ptuju sta si najprej malo ogledala cerkev in muzej, nato pa pot nadaljevala na grad. Grajski kustos jima je razkazal velike in lepo urejene sobane. Tomu je bila najbolj všeč sobana z orožjem, Tini pa sobana, v kateri so bili razstavljeni dragoceni kamni, dragulji in nakit. Tudi na ptujskem gradu ni nihče slišal za prekleti kaktus.

Tina in Tom sta razmišljala, kje bi lahko še iskala kaktus. Tina se je spomnila, da je nekoč brala legendu o Atili, Atilovem gozdu in Atilovem gradu, ki naj bi stal v Spodnjem Kocjanu pri Kapelskem Vrhu. Ruševine Atilovega gradu so bile njuno zadnje upanje.



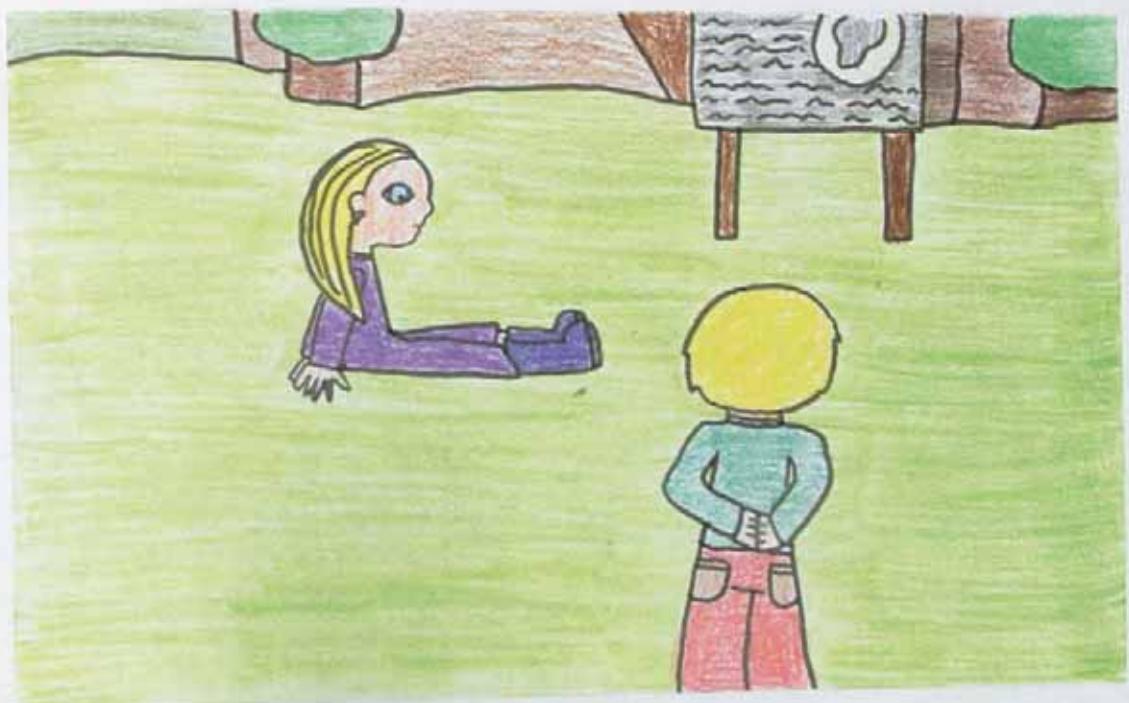
In Kočevje they went to the railway station and asked the engine driver if he knew where the cursed cactus could be. He told them to go to Ptuj by train and visit the castle there. So they went to Ptuj. First they visited the church and the museum and then they headed for the castle. The castle curator showed them beautiful castle rooms. Tom liked the large room with weapons and Tina liked the room with precious stones and jewellery. Nobody at the castle heard anything about the cursed cactus. Tina and Tom wondered where else they could search for the cactus. Tina remembered that she once read a legend about Attila, Attila's forest and Attila's castle, which used to be in Spodnji Kocjan near Kapelski Vrh. The remains of the old castle were their last hope.

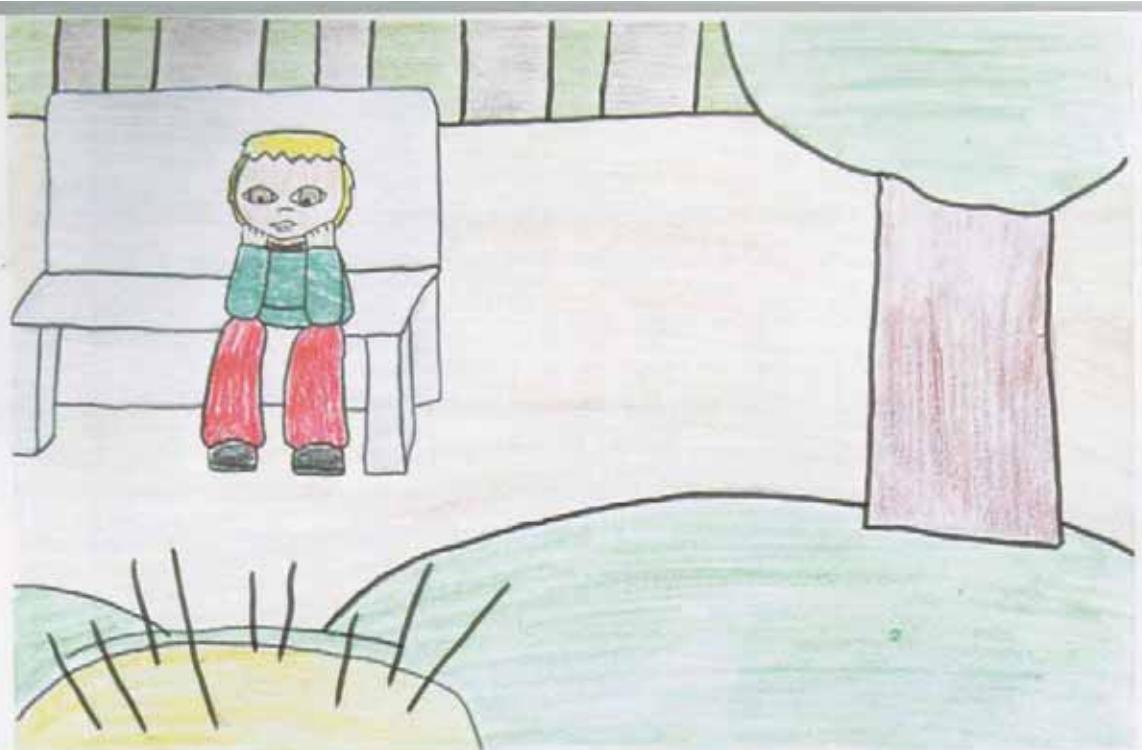




Sposodila sta si kolesi in se odpeljala do Atilovega gozda.

Ko sta prišla do gozda, sta se podala iskat prekleti kaktus. V gozdu je bil hribček, na katerem naj bi nekoč stal grad. Tina in Tom sta se zmenila, da gresta vsak v svojo smer. Po dolgem iskanju kaktusa še vedno nista našla. Tom je obupal in se usedel na bližnjo klop z lepim razgledom. Tina je prišla do njega in ga komaj potolažila. Ko sta se pogovarjala, kaj bosta sedaj, sta gledala v nekaj, kar je bilo podobno lisičjemu brlogu. Iz brloga se je nekaj zableščalo. Na obrazih se jima je pojavit nasmeh, kajti vedela sta, da je to prekleti kaktus. Tom je previdno pobral kaktus in v tistem hipu se je pred njima pojavit Ernestus. Povedal jima je, da sta svojo nalogu dobro opravila. Bila sta zelo srečna. Poklicala sta taksi, ki ju je odpeljal na letališče Jožeta Pučnika na Brniku. Tam sta čakala na letalo za Anglijo, da bosta tam poiskala še en kaktus.

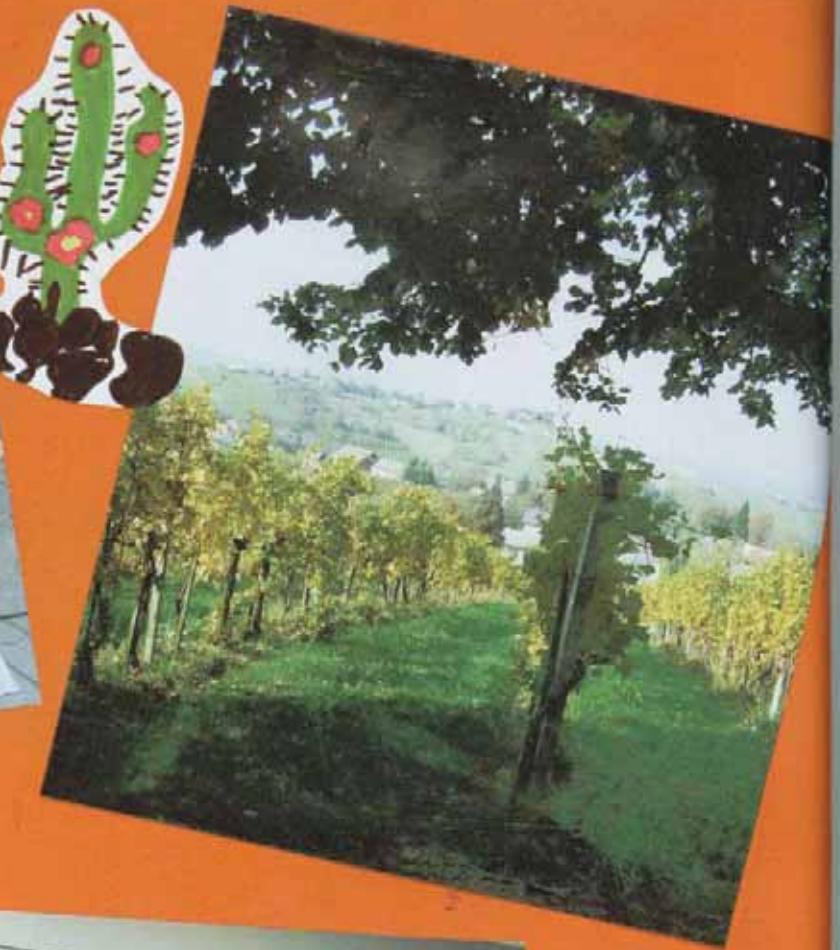
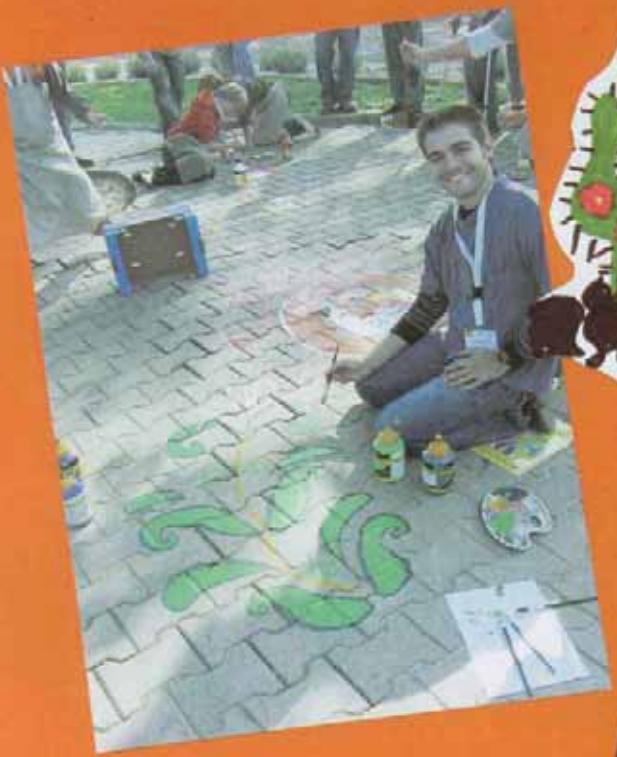




They borrowed bikes and rode to Attila's forest. When they reached the forest they started to look for the cactus. In the forest there was a small hill on which there was a castle a long time ago. Tina and Tom went into different directions. After a long search they still did not find the cactus. Tom gave up and sat on the bench with a beautiful view. Tina tried to comfort him. As they were thinking what to do, they gazed into something that looked like a fox's den. Something glittered in the den. It brought a smile to their faces because they knew that it was the cursed cactus. Tom cautiously picked the cactus and in that moment Ernestus appeared in front of them. He told them that they did their work well.

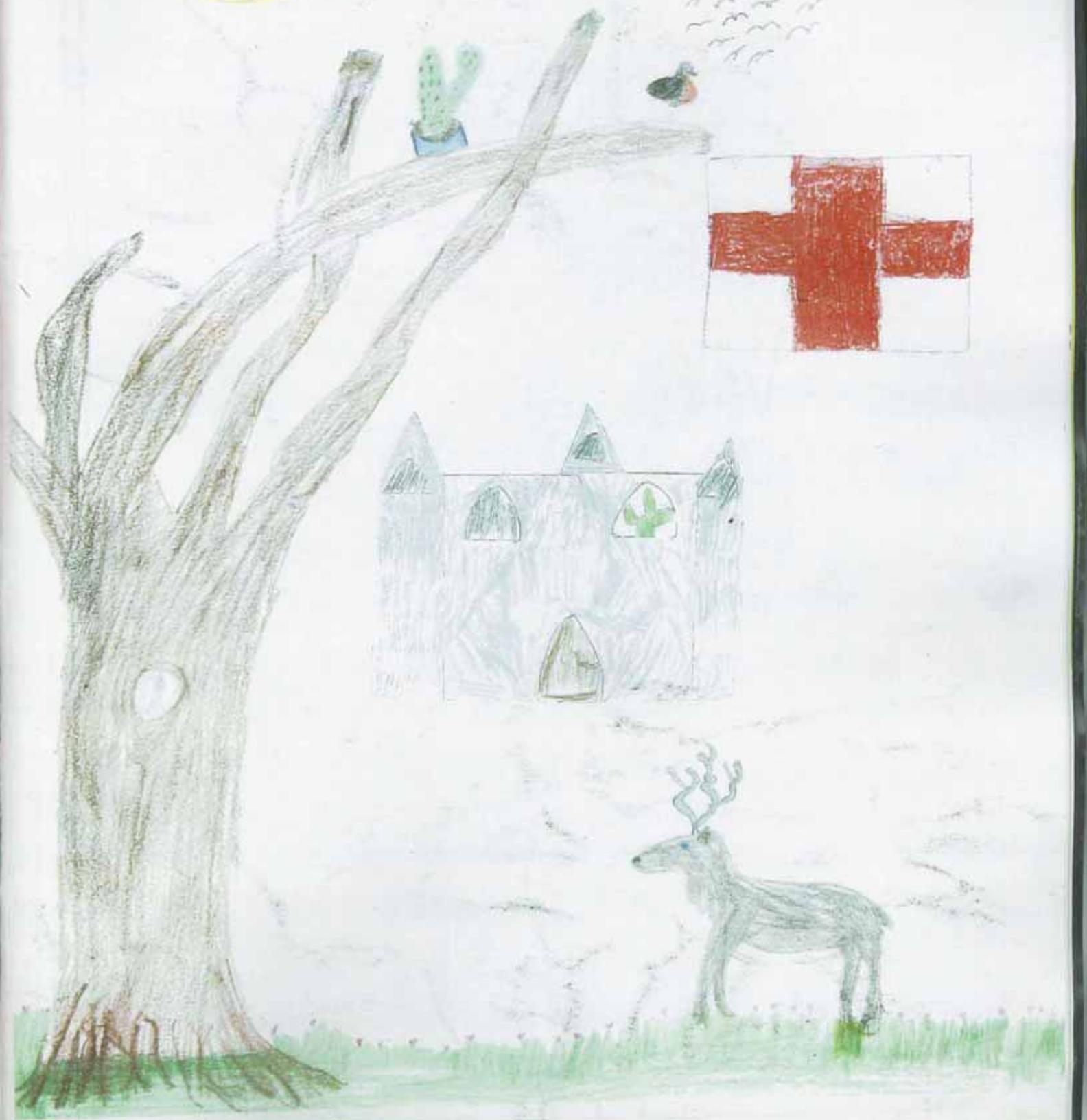


They were very happy. They called a taxi which took them back to Ljubljana Jože Pučnik airport. They waited there for the plane to England to find another cactus.

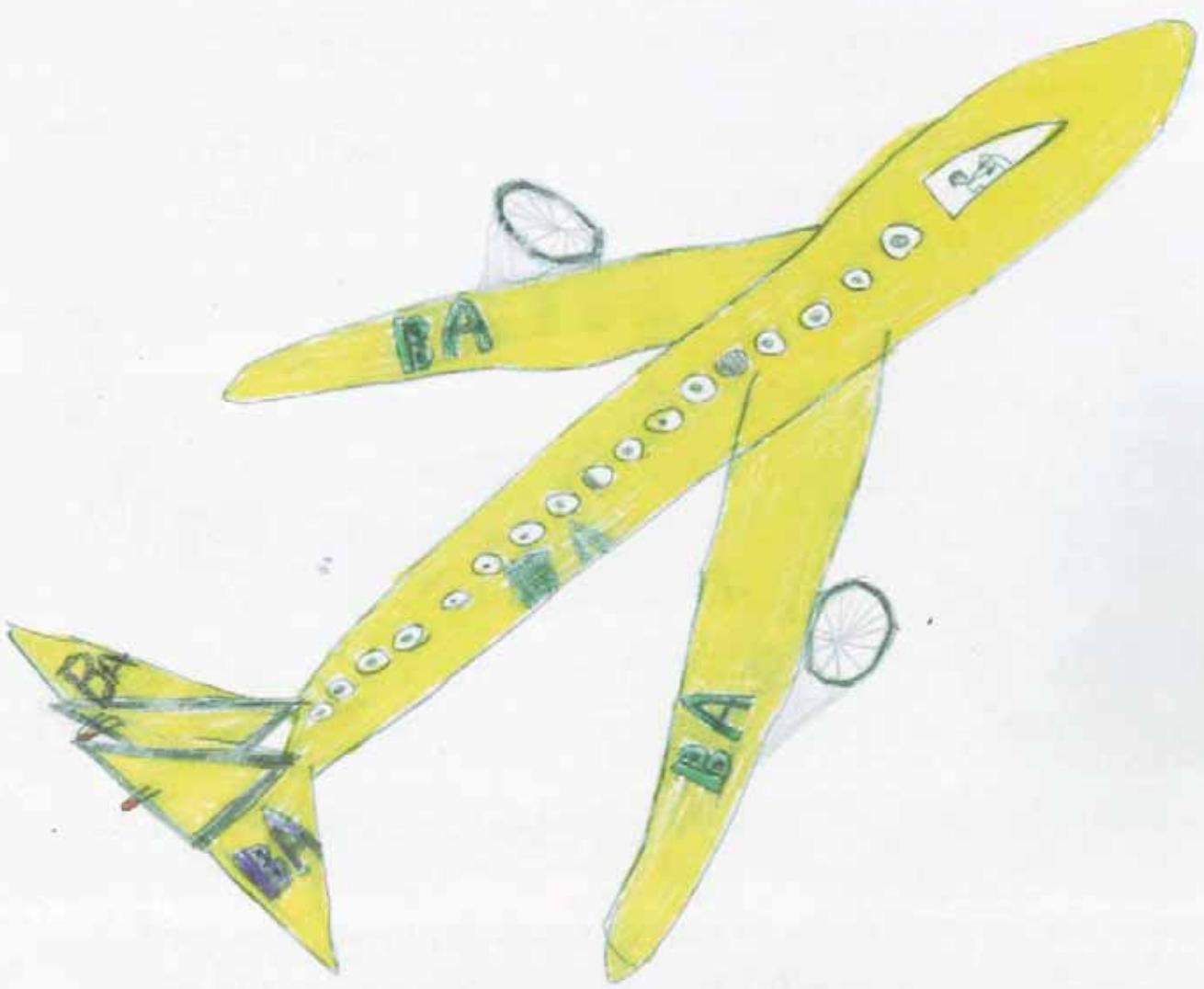




ENGLAND







Tom and Tina arrived at Heathrow Airport. They realised that it was almost dark, so they started to sprint towards the London underground station. Suddenly they came across a huge patch of graffiti on the wall. There was a huge picture of a cactus, underneath the picture, it said London Eye. "HEY!! Do you think that's a clue?" said Tina

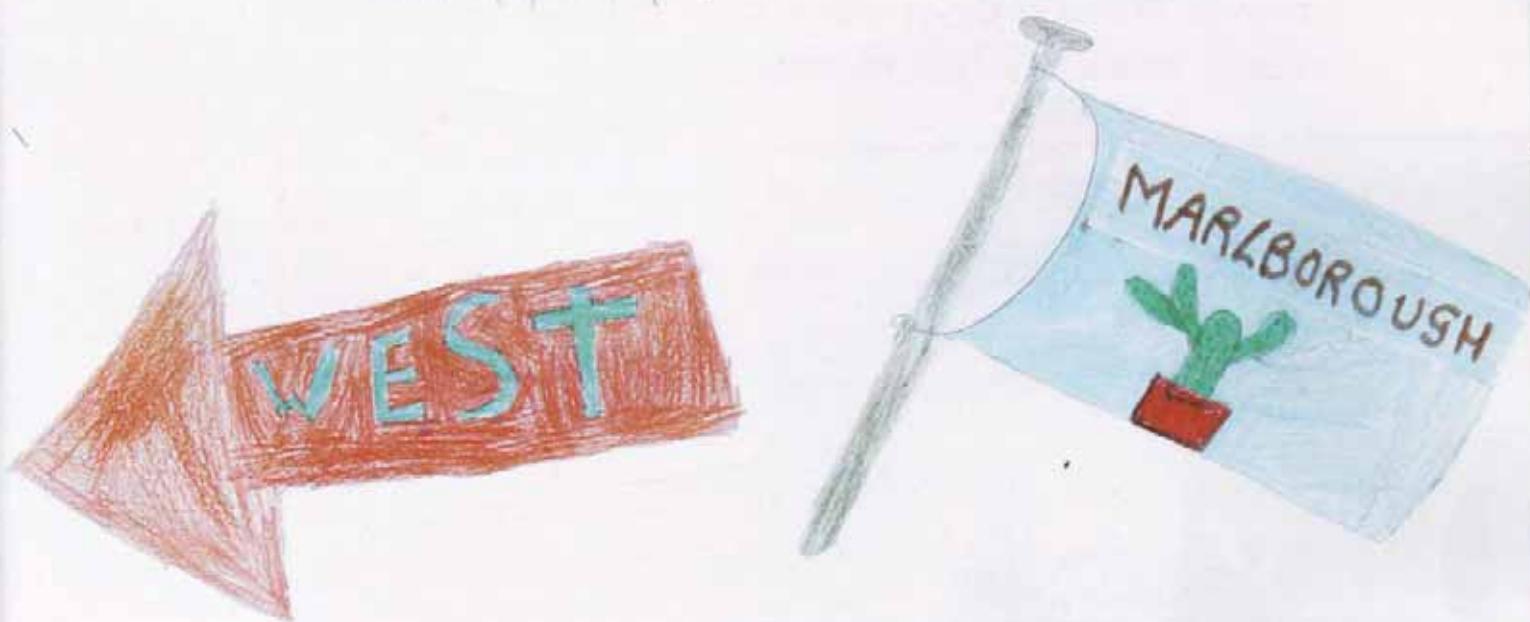
"I don't know," replied Tom.

"Let's go there any way!" said Tina, dragging Tom onto the train.

When they got to the London Eye they bought some tickets, they got into one of the glass pods. They got right to the top.

"Hey look over there."





Tom was pointing at a strange looking man on the other side of the pod. He was looking right at them and he didn't flinch. He was wearing a cloak saying Marlborough with a cactus. "It might be a clue," said Tom.

He looked strangely like a black panther with whiskers and something like a tail moving underneath his cloak. "Look over there Tom, isn't it a flag with Marlborough written on it and a cactus?" They followed the arrow pointing west and took a bus to Marlborough.

Tom and Tina arrived in Marlborough.

'Lets go to a café, I'm thirsty,' said Tom.

On the way to the cafe they saw a man carrying a bag with a picture of a cactus on it! 'Excuse me,' said Tina to the man, 'do you know anything about a cactus?'

'This bag has got prizes in it for the school; you see I'm the Head Teacher. Anyway I've seen a light in the shape of a cactus at the old oak tree in Cadley,' said the Head Teacher.

So Tom and Tina went to Cadley by bus. When they got there they had no trouble finding the old tree, for the strange light was attracting a lot of people, but the strange thing was as soon as Tom touched the tree the people vanished like ghosts!





Finally they climbed into the hollow core of the tree. There was the Bedwyn Beast! He turned around to stare in their faces. He was a strange looking creature. His green panther eyes never left their faces, his tail swishing all the time.

'So, I assume you followed the clues,' said the cat reading them like a book.

'Yes, but where's the cactus?' asked Tom, trying to sound sly, but failing.

'If you don't do as I say everyone in St Katharine's school will turn into oak trees.'

After a chat the Bedwyn beast explained that they needed to make a potion made out of acorns and oak leaves! Then he would tell them where the cactus was hidden. So Tom started to climb the oak tree to get the leaves and the acorns.

He climbed and climbed and climbed, after a while he threw down a clump of leaves and acorns. They mixed the potion up and gave it to the beast. The beast turned his back and drank. Then he turned back around and..... Ernestus stood in his place!

'I turned into the Bedwyn Beast because I was bad and hid the cacti, but now you have saved me. I can tell you where the cactus is. It is in St Katharine's church!'



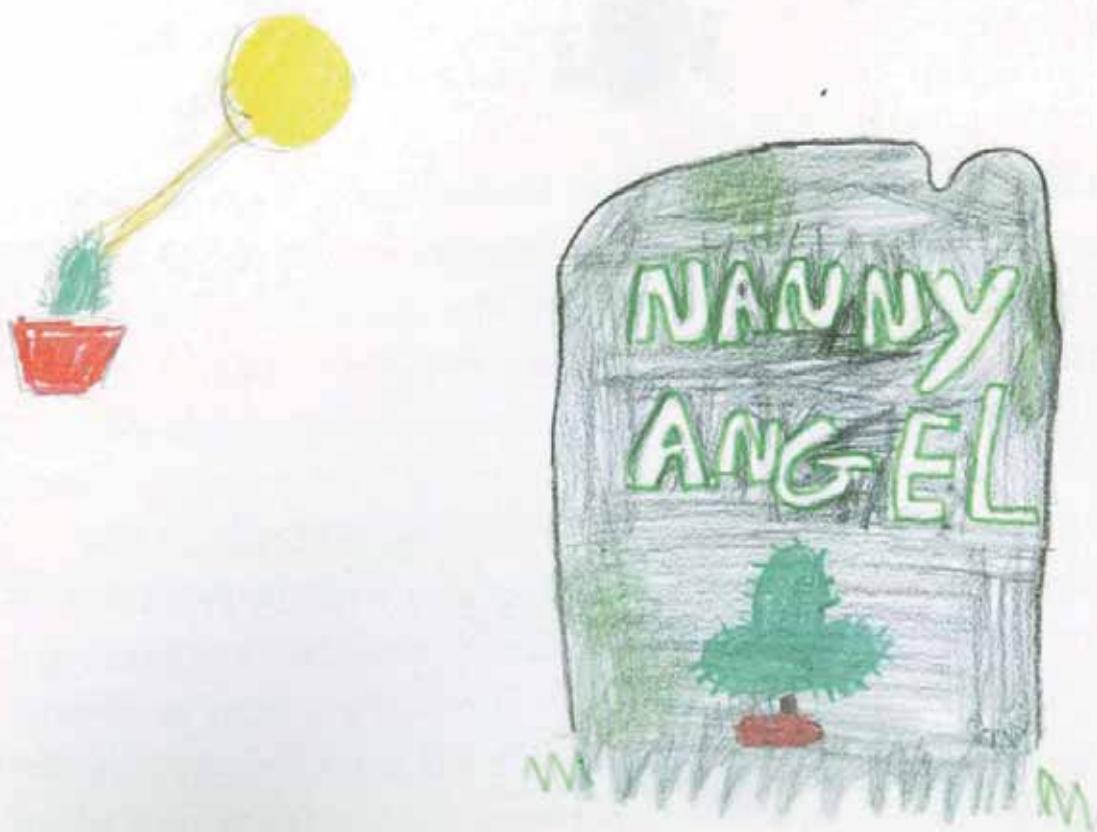


Tina and Tom set off to St. Katharine's. Tom and Tina stared in amazement at the beautiful cactus, at the top of the steeple. They rushed to the church as fast as they could, past the gate and along the path. Then they stepped into the dark and gloomy church, walked to a door and opened it. They saw steep stairs going almost straight up. Tom and Tina gradually walked up the stairs, they found a latch. Carefully they opened it and stepped out into the breezy air. Suddenly, a gleaming cactus shot in and almost hit Tina's eye. Tom grabbed the cactus making sure it didn't hit his skin. Slowly they stepped down the stairs, putting the cactus down often, in order to catch their breath.

Finally they took the cactus outside. Tom found a note inside and pulled it out, it was hard to read because it was so dark and gloomy, but with the full moon they could just about read it.

PLACE THE CACTUS INSIDE THE GRAVE OF "NANNY ANGEL..." THEN STEP 25 PACES AWAY.

Tom and Tina placed the cactus in the grave of "Nanny Angel ..." Then stepped 25 paces away. The green light got bigger and bigger, brighter and brighter it shone over the whole of England and there was a big sign saying the curse was broken. The whole of England found that Tom and Tina had broken the curse. It was only printed in the local newspaper, so the fact they saved England was England's little Secret.



THE CURSE IS
BROKEN

ENLAND IS FREE!



GAZETTE & HERALD

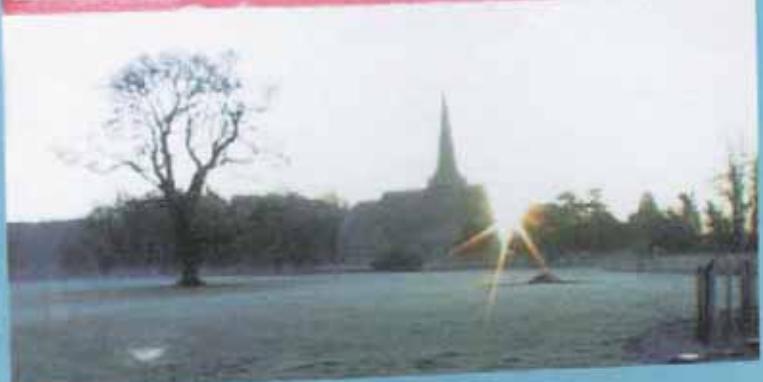
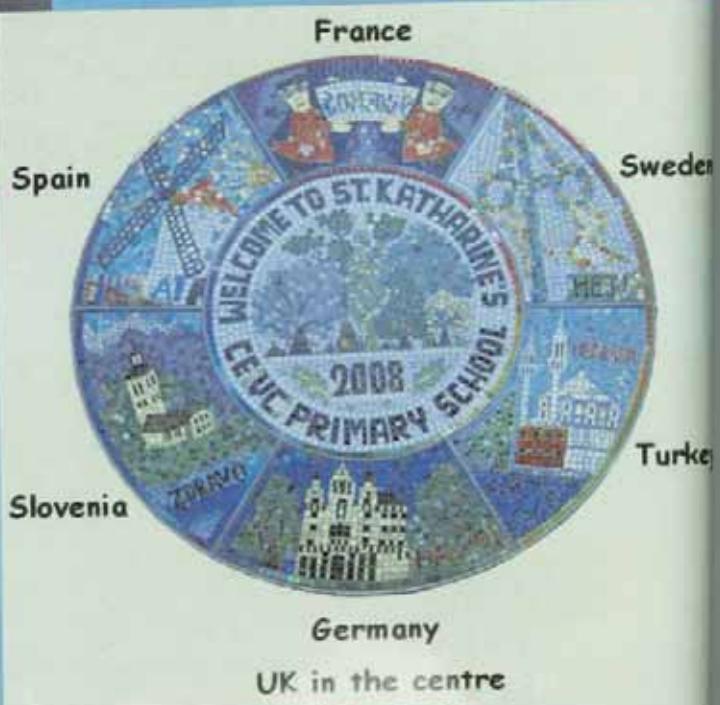
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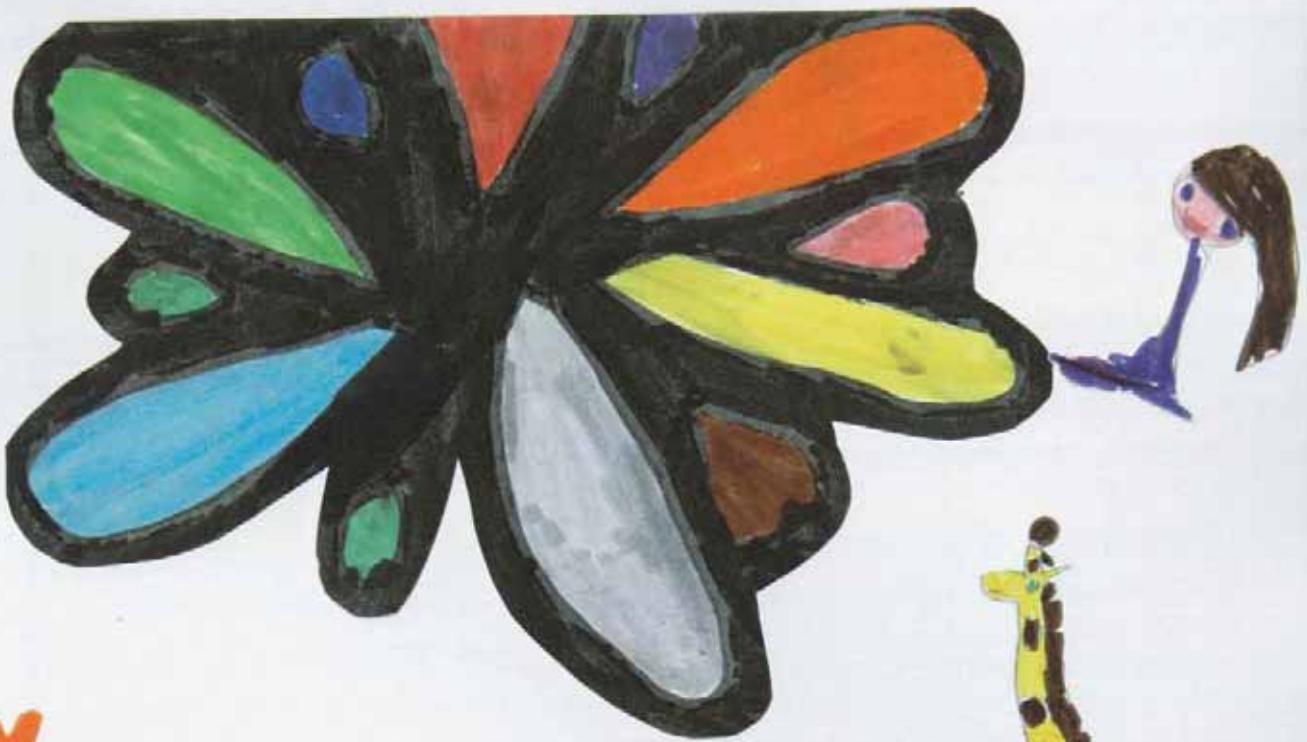
LOCAL
CHILDREN
BROKE
CURSE

Tom and Timmy Emily
a curse b

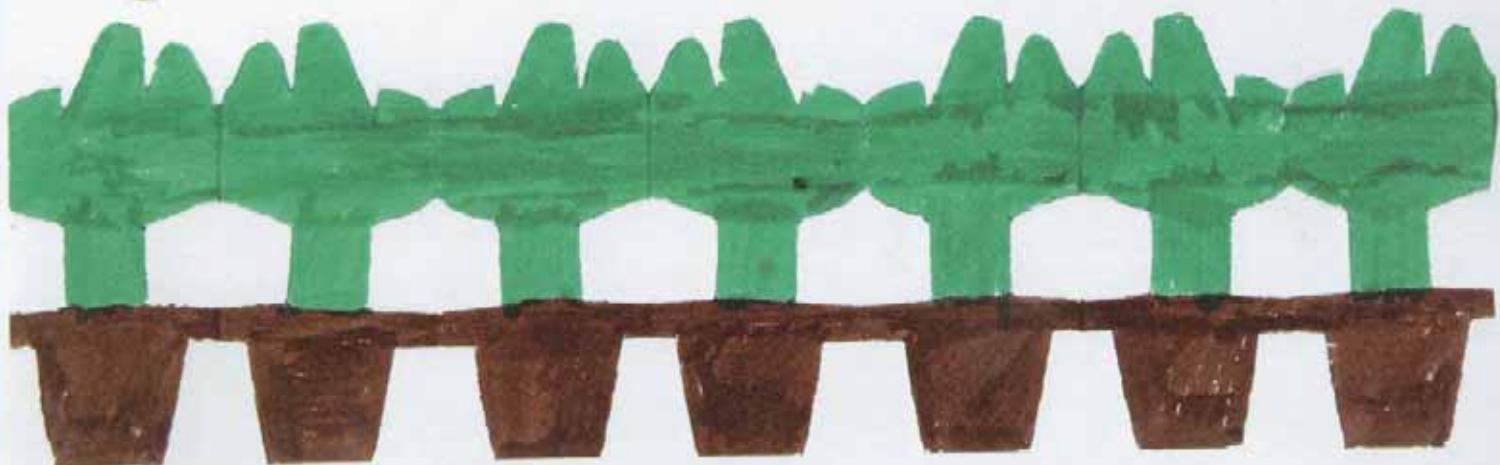


Ianals





FRANCE





« Nous avons déjà trouvé six cactus, dit Tina, il nous en reste donc un à chercher en France pour lever la malédiction. » Tina et Tom consultèrent la vieille carte laissée par Ernestus. Ils apercevaient difficilement les mots effacés par le temps. Ils crurent lire : « Capitale de...? » « Il s'agit sûrement de Paris, la capitale de la France! » dit Tom. Les enfants prirent donc un billet pour l'Eurostar, le train qui relie la France en passant sous la Manche.

En arrivant à Paris, ils se dirigèrent vers la tour Eiffel. Ils rencontrèrent beaucoup de touristes à qui ils demandèrent s'ils n'avaient pas vu de cactus. Comme personne ne savait où le trouver, les enfants questionnèrent un guide touristique qui s'appelait Marcel Pagnol. Marcel regarda leur carte et leur dit : « La ville que vous cherchez est la capitale de la soie. C'est à Lyon que vous devez aller. »

Tina et Tom se rendirent donc à Lyon en TGV (Train à Grande Vitesse). Sur leur carte, un cours d'eau était brièvement dessiné. C'était le fleuve Rhône qui traverse la ville. Ils montèrent dans un bateau-mouche et longèrent les berges du Rhône à la recherche du cactus. Ils virent des castors, des silures, des saules ... mais aucun cactus! Ils décidèrent de poursuivre leur recherche à terre et ils débarquèrent sur le quai.





« We've already found six cactuses », said Tina, « we have still one more to look for in France to remove the curse. » Tina and Tom consulted the old map which Ernestus left. They could hardly see the words that had been washed out with time. They seemed to read: "Capital of...?". "It must be Paris, the capital of France!" exclaimed Tom.

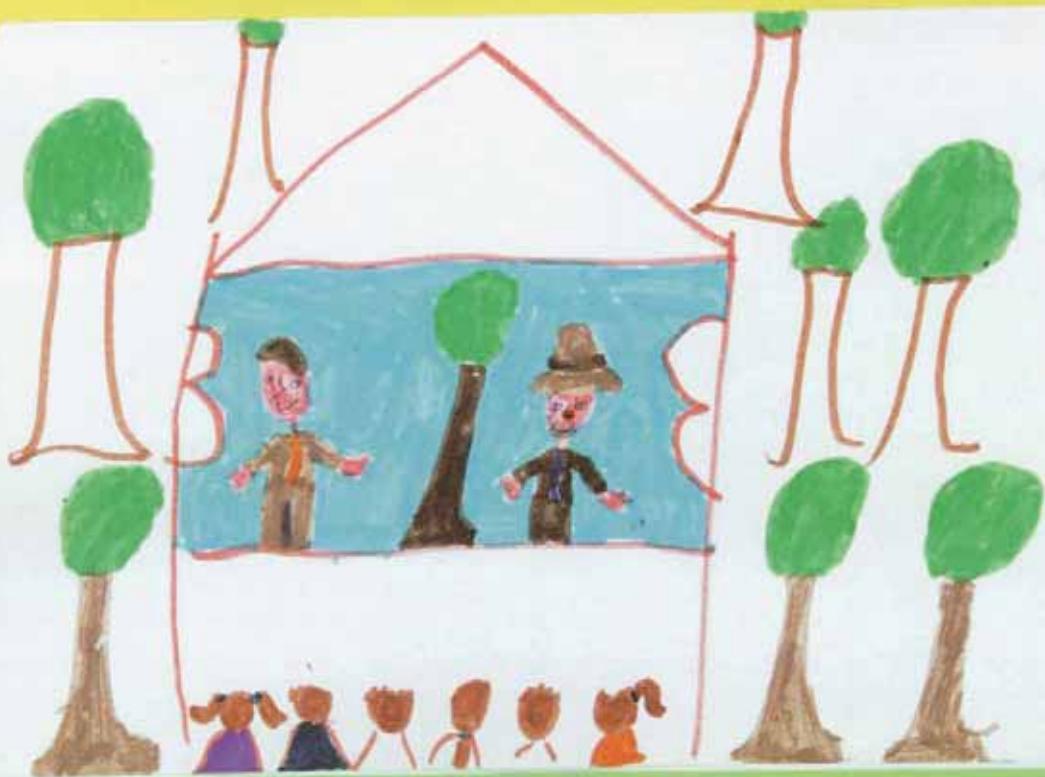
So, the children bought a ticket to get on board the Eurostar, the train that links England to France across the Channel.

Once they arrived in Paris, they made their way to the Eiffel Tower. They met a lot of tourists and asked them whether they had seen any cactuses. As nobody knew where to find them, the children questioned a tourist guide named Marcel Pagnol. Marcel had a look at the map and said: "The town you're looking for is the City of Silk. Lyon is the place where you should go."

Tina and Tom took the TGV (high speed train) to Lyon. A small part of a stream was drawn on their map. It was the Rhône river that runs across the town. They got on the river-boat and sailed along the Rhône on the look-out for the cactus. They saw beavers, silicids, willows...but no cactus. They decided to continue their search on land and disembarked.



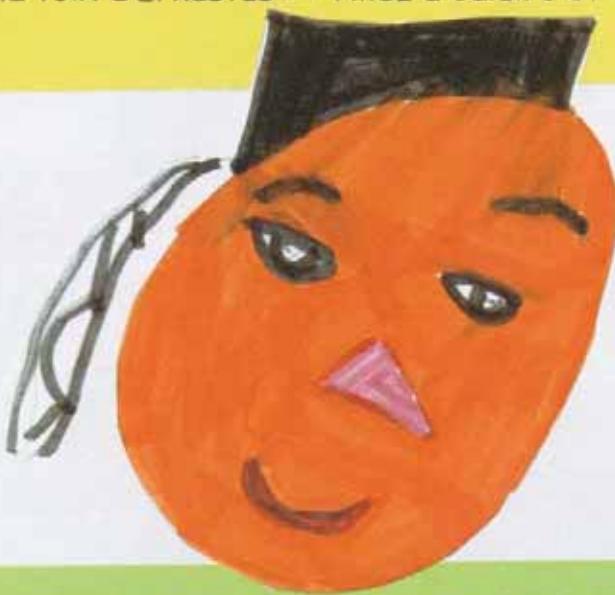
Pour aller plus vite Tina et Tom louèrent un vélo'v devant la grille de l'entrée du Parc de la tête d'or. On leur indiqua que des cactus étaient plantés dans les serres. Ils ne trouvèrent pas le bon cactus. Par contre, sur les panneaux explicatifs de plantes, il y avait un message : « Rendez-vous au théâtre de Guignol ».



To go faster, Tina and Tom rented a city bike, called "vélo'V", in front of the main gate of the Parc de la Tête d'Or.

They were told that cactuses were grown in greenhouses. They did not find the right cactus there. However, on the plant information boards, they could read the following message: "See you at the Guignol Theatre".

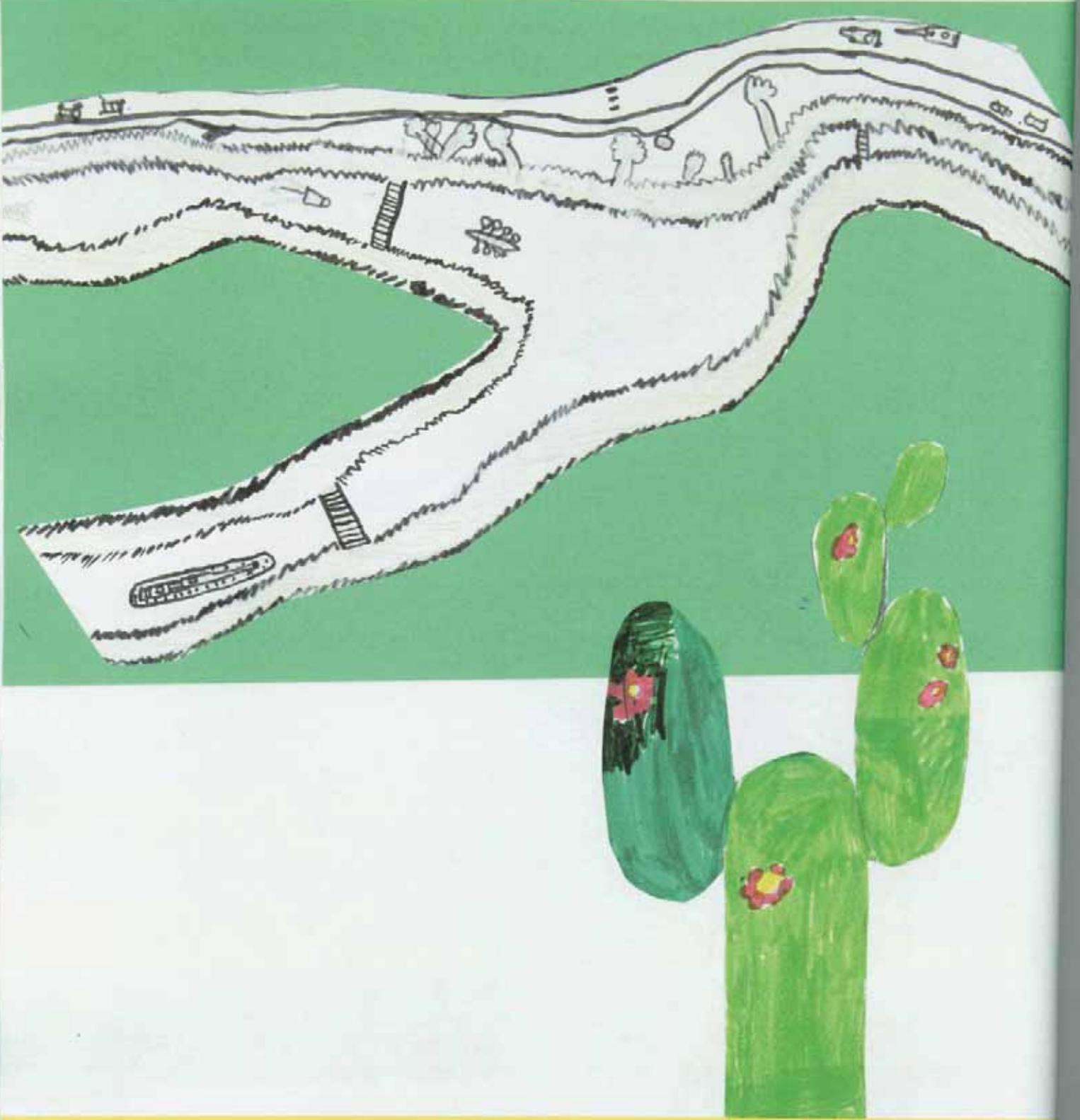
Le théâtre était au milieu du parc, ils y allèrent rapidement. La représentation avait débuté, les marionnettes Guignol et Gnafron donnaient des coups de triques aux gendarmes. Ils les interrompirent pour leur demander des renseignements. Gnafron répondit qu'ils devraient pénétrer dans les cages des animaux. Dans le zoo, Tina évita de justesse la gueule du crocodile pour s'apercevoir qu'il n'y avait rien dans leur enclos. Tom profita de la sieste des lions pour explorer leur territoire. Par contre dans l'enclos réservé aux girafes ils trouvèrent une trappe ornée d'une gravure de cactus. Dans la cachette, il y avait un magnétophone. Ils reconnurent la voix d'Ernestus : « Allez à Caluire et Cuire », vous y trouverez le cactus...



The theatre was located in the middle of the park and they got there fairly quickly. The show had already started, the puppets, Guignol and Gnafron were thrashing the policemen. Tom and Tina interrupted them to ask for some information. Gnafron answered that they had to go into the animal cages.

In the zoo, Tina avoided the crocodile's mouth by a hair's breadth only to find out that there was nothing in their enclosure. Tom took advantage of the lions' nap to explore their territory. However, in the giraffes' enclosure, they came across a trapdoor decorated with a cactus reproduction. They found a tape-recorder in the hiding-place. They recognized Ernestus's voice: "Go to Caluire and Cuire, you'll find the cactus there...".





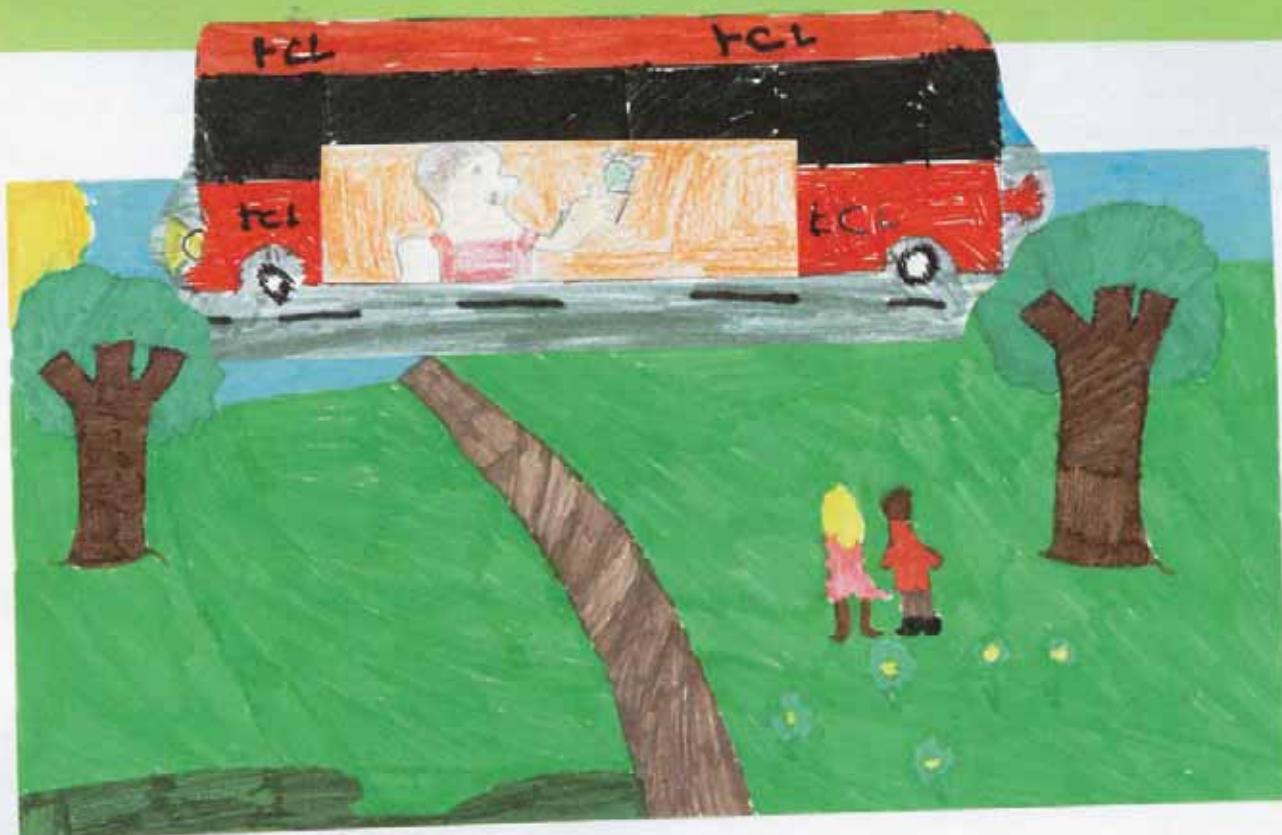
Tina et Tom regardèrent de nouveau la carte que leur avait donnée Ernestus. Ils décidèrent de regarder un plan de Caluire près d'un arrêt de bus. Ils découvrirent alors, qu'à Caluire passent deux cours d'eau : un fleuve, le Rhône et une rivière, la Saône.

Quelques minutes plus tard, ils virent un bus s'arrêter avec une énorme publicité qui attira leur attention. Sur cette affiche, il y avait un homme qui mangeait une glace aux fleurs de cactus et qui disait : « Mmm, que c'est bon les fleurs de cactus de la Rivette ! ». A l'arrière du bus, défilaient les mots « Terminus - Caluire - La Rivette ». Ils s'empressèrent d'y monter.



Tina and Tom had another look at the map which Ernestus gave them. They decided to read a map of Caluire near a bus station. They then found out that there are two streams that run across Caluire: a stream, the Rhône and a river, the Saône.

A few minutes later, they saw a bus stopping with a huge advertising poster that caught their attention. That poster showed a man eating an ice-cream with cactus flower and exclaiming "Mmm, how tasty the Rivette cactus flowers are". On the back of the bus, the words "Terminal - Caluire - La Rivette" kept scrolling by. They jumped into the bus.



Quand ils entendirent « Terminus - Caluire - La Rivette, tout le monde descend ! », ils sortirent en courant. L'immense grille verte, donnant sur la Saône, était grande ouverte et il y avait beaucoup de monde dans les jardins, près du grand jet d'eau et des fontaines. En effet, ce jour-là, c'était la journée porte ouverte, la journée du patrimoine.

Ils demandèrent à de nombreuses personnes si elles avaient vu un cactus. Tous les gens répondirent : « Non, désolé ! ». Ils explorèrent alors les moindres coins de la propriété et sur un des murs de la glacière, ils trouvèrent un message codé :

16.12.1.3.5.26 12.5.19
3.1.3.20.21.19 4.5.18.18.9.5.18.5
12.5.19 19.20.1.20.21.5.19

Ils s'empressèrent de déchiffrer le mystérieux message. Après plusieurs tentatives, ils finirent par trouver le code : a=1, b=2, c=3, etc. Ils lurent alors la phrase : « Placez les cactus derrière les statues. »





As they heard "Terminal - Caluire - La Rivette, everybody off!, they ran out of the bus. The huge green gate overlooking the Saône was wide open and there were lots of people in the gardens, near the big fountain and the springs. Indeed, that day was the Open House, the Heritage Open Day.

They asked many people whether they had seen a cactus. Everybody replied: "No, sorry!". They explored each and every corner of the property and found on one of the ice-houses a coded message:

16.12.1.3.5.26	12.5.19
3.1.1.20.21.19	4.5.18.18.9.5.18.5
12.5.19	19.20.1.20.21.5.19

They started to puzzle out the mysterious message right away. After several attempts, they finally figured out the code: a=1, b=2, c=3, etc. They could therefore read: "Place the cactus behind the statues".



Dans les jardins, se trouvaient sept statues : cinq dans le nymphée (les 4 saisons et un dragon) et 2 dans les escaliers (le poisson et la porteuse d'eau). Ils décidèrent de mettre les cactus derrière les quatre saisons, derrière le poisson et derrière la porteuse d'eau car ils pensaient que le dernier cactus était caché dans le dragon.

Dès que les six cactus furent en place, le dragon cracha le dernier cactus comme l'avaient imaginé Tina et Tom. Mais, du cactus, sortit Ernestus en criant : « Félicitations, vous avez réussi, vous avez délivré la France de ma terrible malédiction ! ».



There were seven statues in the gardens: five were in the nymphaeum (the 4 seasons and a dragon) and 2 on the stairs (the fish and the water-carrier). They decided to put the cactus behind the four seasons, the fish and the water-carrier as they believed that the cactus was hidden inside the dragon.

As soon as the six cactuses were in place, the dragon spit out the cactus just as Tina and Tom had imagined. But, out the cactus, came Ernestus shouting: "Congratulations, you have made it, you've freed France from my terrible curse!".



A ces mots, un feu d'artifices éclata. Dans le ciel, apparurent les sept drapeaux de chacun des pays avec au milieu un gigantesque cactus. Au même moment, les statues se fendirent et toutes les personnes touchées par la malédiction réapparurent.

Tina et Tom étaient heureux. Ils firent une grande fête à l'école élémentaire Montessuy, réunissant toutes les personnes les ayant aidé pendant leurs différents voyages. Ils devinrent dans tous ces pays des héros légendaires grâce à cette fabuleuse histoire.

At these words, fireworks went off. In the sky, appeared the flags of each of the seven countries with a gigantic cactus right in the middle. At this very moment, the statues started splitting apart and all the people afflicted with that curse came out.

Tina and Tom were happy. They had a big party at Montessuy Primary School, gathering all the people who helped them all through their different trips. In all these countries, they became legendary heroes thanks to their fabulous story.





Colegio Salesiano, Puertollano - Spain

St Katharine's Primary, Marlborough
United Kingdom

Egeby Skola, Mjölby - Sweden

Çaydüzü İlköğretim Okulu - Turkey

École Élémentaire Montessuy,
Caluire et Cuire - France

Pädagogium Schwerin, Schwerin - Germany

Osnovna Šola Kapela, Radenci - Slovenia

