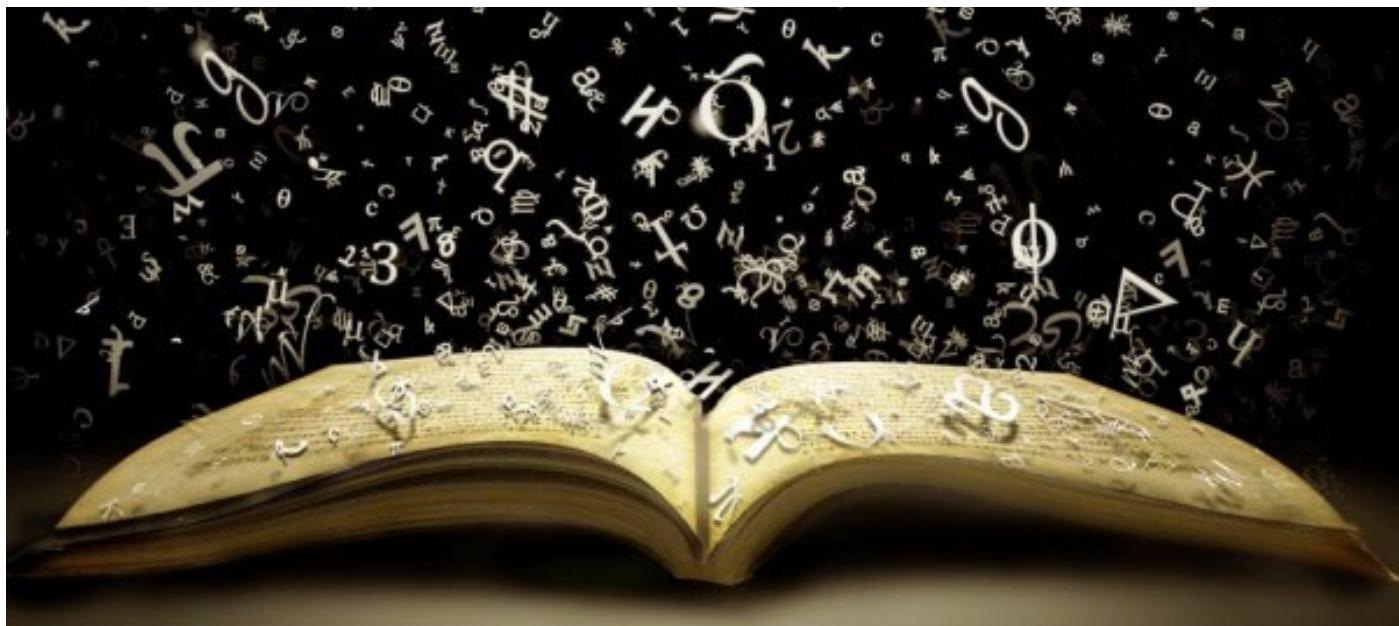


Finding My Way Back Home

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"Wish you a wonderful birthday, my dear cousin!" I grabbed along the present given by my cousin and put it in my room. After a long day of party, I could finally get some sleep. However, when I was about to be in bed, a sparkly thing appeared in the corner of my room. A strong light emitted from the book, the present my cousin gave me, was all I could remember...

I felt painful on my bottom when I opened my eye, then I saw a huge house in front of me. I muttered "where am I?" Meanwhile, an old lady walked by and asked, "What are you doing outside my house? Come in and have a seat, you young lady." I didn't say anything but followed her into the house. Getting seated and I asked, "Where am I? Where are my parents?" The old lady replied, "You are in the land of stories, the book that your cousin gave you." I was shocked! There was no way that I could be inside my book. I had to find my way back home.

"How can I get back home?" I asked.

"Choose one of these roads, each of these will lead you to a different unique adventure before you find your way home," advised by the old lady.

Though feeling what I heard was impossible, I finally picked the blue bumpy way to start my adventure.

On my way, I saw little red riding hood heading toward that huge house, following by three little pigs, who were building their own houses.

Reaching the end of the blue bumpy road stood a castle, on top of which surrounded by a cloud of storm. It seemed creepy and horrible, but there was no other way out. I held my breath, taking tiny steps heading to the castle. "Creak...creak..." the main gate opened. I walked in, with my heart beat pumping fast. Passing through many skeletons on my way to the chamber, there was a baby dragon. When I walked towards it, it seemed afraid of me. I stepped forward, it moved backward. "What a timid baby dragon." I whispered. All of a sudden, it mumbled "H..hello, could you please help me? I want to be as brave as my parents," it continued and pointed to those skeletons. I gasped "Su... ure! But how can I help you to become brave?" It replied, "Follow the red road and you will find the Bravery Forest, take a jar of bravery from there for me." Although I was puzzled, I followed its instructions and got on my second adventure.

Following the red road, many interesting and gorgeous creatures and things attracted me. The candy house was the most attractive one. Its candy cane, marshmallow, lollipop, made me forget to take the jar of bravery to the timid baby dragon. While I was enjoying the candies, a wicked witch suddenly flew in. She screamed, "Don't touch my candies!!!" I immediately dropped them down.

I was frightened by her deafening scream. I intended to get out of this candy house as soon as I could, but no chances, the wicked witch was walking near to me. At that very moment, a man opened the door and shouted "I get you few jars of bravery, my darling!" Upon hearing the news, the wicked witch turned to walk away from me and started to jump happily around the candy house, because she could finally make the 'wicked potion' with those jars of bravery. When I spotted the jars of bravery, I remembered I had to take a jar of bravery for the timid baby dragon. While no one noticed me, fortunately, I sneaked out of the house quietly and quietly.

Before sunset I arrived the Bravery Forest. Loads of jars appeared in front of me. I looked through every jar, and inside each of them, there was a small fire ball labeled 'brave' on it. I grabbed one of them, and ready to go. But when I turned around a giant stood in front of me. He seemed unhappy, I stayed calm and tried to talk to him, "Hey big giant! Are you okay?" He told me he was upset because a man came here and stole five jars of bravery..." he continued, "If you

can tell me a story, I can let you go with a jar of bravery." I promised him, and finished a story of Jack and the Beanstalk. Then I went back to the castle where the timid baby dragon was waiting for my return.

Seeing me with a jar of bravery in my hand, the timid baby dragon was delighted. It removed the cap of the jar, put the fire ball into its mouth and swallowed it whole. In a flashlight, it transformed from a timid baby dragon into a bravery mighty dragon. As a reward to me, the bravery mighty dragon granted me a wish. I immediately requested, "I miss my family and I wish to go back home now!" Then the mighty dragon carried me to the Sea of Memories. There he dropped me down to the sea, deep down to the very bottom of the sea...twirling twirling twirling...

When I opened my eyes, it was ten o'clock in the evening, and my birthday party just ended. I didn't remember where I had been, but the book my cousin gave me, is the most precious, magical and memorable "present" for my birthday!

