



MADIELINE'S MARVELOUS WEEK

CHAPTER SEVEN - by Kay Hively

Maddie's week at the fair passed quickly. Each day she and Mama saw wonderful things. Each night they came back to the hotel very tired. But, even though she was weary at bedtime, Maddie took time to tell Papa about their adventures and to write in her diary.

She filled many pages of her diary, writing what she had seen and done. She wrote about having refreshments at a Japanese tea garden, visiting a Chinese temple, and seeing the log cabin where President Lincoln was born. They even visited a place that was like the North Pole.

One day Maddie and her mother watched a naval battle. Small ships fired their guns at each other. It was very noisy. Since they both loved music, they went to concerts in the great Festival Hall. Maddie liked ragtime music best. She especially liked the music written by a young composer named James Scott.

Papa had to work every day, but one night they all went to the fair together. Maddie thought the fairgrounds lights were very beautiful. She and her parents walked down the Pike together. They saw acrobats, snake charmers, stilt walkers, clowns and people in colorful costumes. Maddie had never been anywhere so wonderful – and neither had Papa and Mama.

Papa said the Pike was a long street filled with strange exhibits and tent shows. Papa wanted see the belly dancers, but Mama said that was no place for her family. Madeline had never heard of belly dancers, but looking in Papa's face, she could tell he was only kidding Mama. They did stop at a tent where there were pictures of women in fancy costumes. Maddie wanted to see those pretty women dance, but again Mama said no. Then Mama took Maddie's hand and pulled her away. Papa just smiled and winked at Maddie. Later Papa bought all of them a big treat. It was called an ice cream cone.

The next morning Maddie and Mama slept late. They were tired from their night out with Papa. In late morning they got dressed. Mama said they would have lunch in the hotel dining room before they left for the fair.

Maddie had not been in the hotel dining room. All her meals had been eaten in their room or on the fairgrounds. She was eager to see the big dining room and she was hungry.

When Maddie and Mama came down the stairs, a big crowd was in the hotel lobby. People were talking loudly and photographers were taking pictures of a nice-looking young man. Maddie and her mother stood quietly on the steps, not sure if they should go down into the lobby.

As they stood waiting, one of the hotel maids came up the stairs. Mama asked what was going on. The hotel maid said the young man having his picture taken had just won the Olympic Marathon. She said his name was Thomas Hicks.

Maddie looked down at the crowd of people again and wondered what an Olympic Marathon was. Maybe it was something to eat.



Author Kay Hively and Illustrator Billie Goforth-Stewart are both of Neosho, Missouri. Copyright 2005, Missouri Press Foundation.

CLASSROOM EXTENSIONS

Things to Think About and Do

- Maddie writes in her diary each night. Do you have a diary? Encourage your friends or school mates to start a diary, writing something in it each night. After two weeks, have everyone share some things in their diaries.
- Find a tape of ragtime music and play it for yourself and your family. Write your feelings about ragtime music. Try to find some music written by James Scott.

Next Week: Chapter Eight – A souvenir