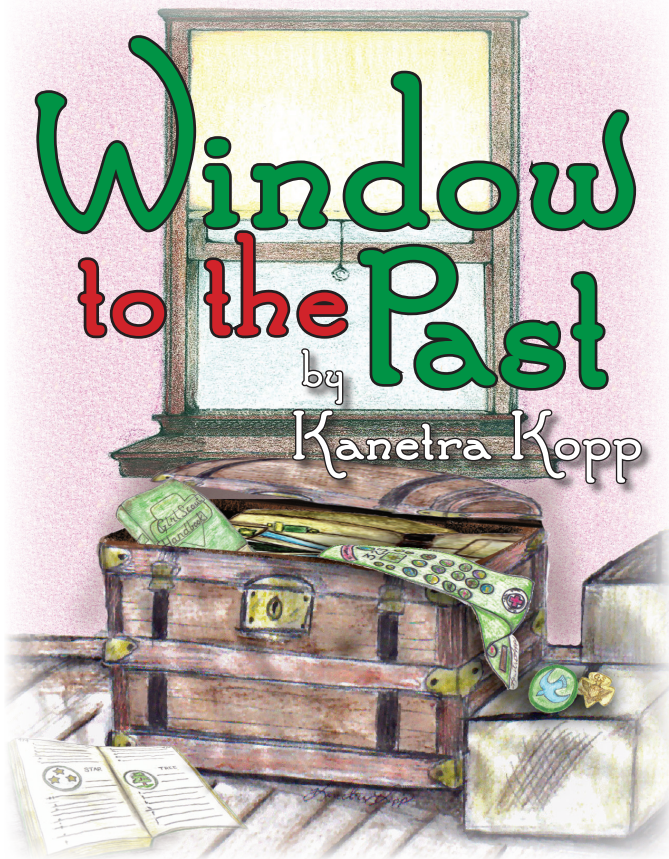


Window to the Past

by
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Chapter One: The Attic Discovery

Jenny was sitting in the window seat watching the rain trickle down the windowpanes. Being at Grandma's house was usually lots of fun, but since it had been raining all week she was very bored. Jenny and her friend Emily, who lived down the road from Grandma, always looked forward to getting together and exploring down by the creek, but with all the rain the past week they hadn't been able to go. Jenny had called Emily to see if she could come over and play inside, but Emily had

gone to visit her cousins in the city today. She wished it would stop raining.

Jenny's thoughts were interrupted when her grandmother called from the hallway. "Jenny, can you come help me, please?"

"Sure, Grandma," she yelled back. "I'll be right there." Jenny jumped up and ran out into the hall. Grandma was standing by the attic door with her hands full of paper sacks. "What are you doing, Grandma?" Jenny asked.

"I think today would be a good day to start sorting some of the old junk out of the attic. Why don't you come upstairs and help me?" Grandma said.

"Okay, sure," she replied. Jenny had been up there once or twice before so she knew it was full of all sorts of cardboard boxes and furniture and lots of old dusty things. Jenny loved helping her grandmother, but spending the afternoon in Grandma's attic didn't sound like much fun.

Once they were upstairs Grandma said, "Let's start over in this corner, Jenny. I know I don't need all these old magazines anymore. We can sack them up for the recycling bin. Would you go see if there are any more magazines behind those boxes by the window?"

Jenny walked over and moved the boxes aside. She didn't see anything except a big wooden trunk. It looked just like the one in the old movie she had watched with Grandma last night. "There's just an old trunk over here," she told her.

"Do you think it's full of magazines?" Jenny asked.

"Oh, no. You won't find any old magazines in there," Grandma answered. "What's in it, Grandma?" Jenny asked.

"Well, this trunk is full of my most cherished belongings. Would you like to see what's inside?" Grandma asked, as she pulled over a chair and sat down by the trunk.

"Sure," Jenny said, without much enthusiasm. She could only imagine how boring the afternoon was going to be if they had to look at old dusty pictures, newspaper clippings and clothes.

Grandma lifted up the big metal latch and raised the lid. Jenny saw the trunk was full of all sorts of old things. There were pictures and clothes, but there were also books and something covered in lace and an old doll in a long white dress.

Jenny started to reach for the old doll and was going to ask Grandma about it when something familiar caught her eye. "Hey, Grandma, what's this?"



Things to Think About and Do

Newspaper stories and photographs are common keepsakes. Look through your newspaper to find different types of stories and photographs that readers might find important to save in their own treasure trunk. Cut out examples and explain why each would be important.

GLEs: R1H, R3A

Learn more about the Girl Scouts of the USA by visiting www.girlscouts.org

Next Week:
Chapter Two:
Grandma was a Girl Scout?