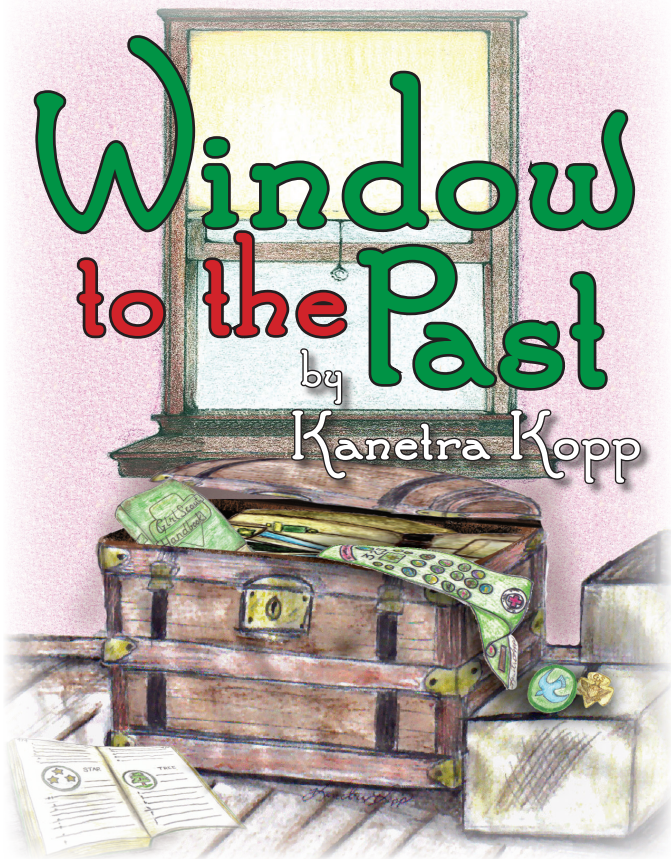


Window to the Past

by Kanela Kopp



Chapter Four: The Diary

"I'll tell you what, Jenny. Let's put everything back in the trunk and take a break from cleaning. We can go downstairs for some lemonade and cookies and you can pick out which activities you'd like to do from the handbook," Grandma said.

Jenny thought that was a wonderful idea. Anything to get out of cleaning the dusty old attic seemed like a good plan to her. She started picking up all the items from the

trunk that they had set on the floor when they were looking for the handbook. When she picked up a leather-covered book, some papers fell out from between the pages. Jenny gathered them up to stuff back inside, but the fancy writing caught her eye. "What is all this stuff, Grandma?" Jenny asked.

Jenny's grandmother took the papers from her and said, "Oh, my, would you look at this. These are newspaper clippings

and letters that my grandmother saved in her diary. She kept a diary, you see, with stories about her family and her closest friends. I just love reading it. It's like a window to the past."

"Oh," Jenny replied. A window to the past? Jenny wasn't really interested in reading about things that happened a long, long time ago. It all sounded pretty boring to her.

"Did I ever tell you about my grandmother's very close friend?" Grandma asked. "You may have heard of her because she became quite famous. You could even say that without her you might not be a Girl Scout today."

"What do you mean I might not be a Girl Scout today? Why is that? Who was your grandmother's friend?" Jenny asked.

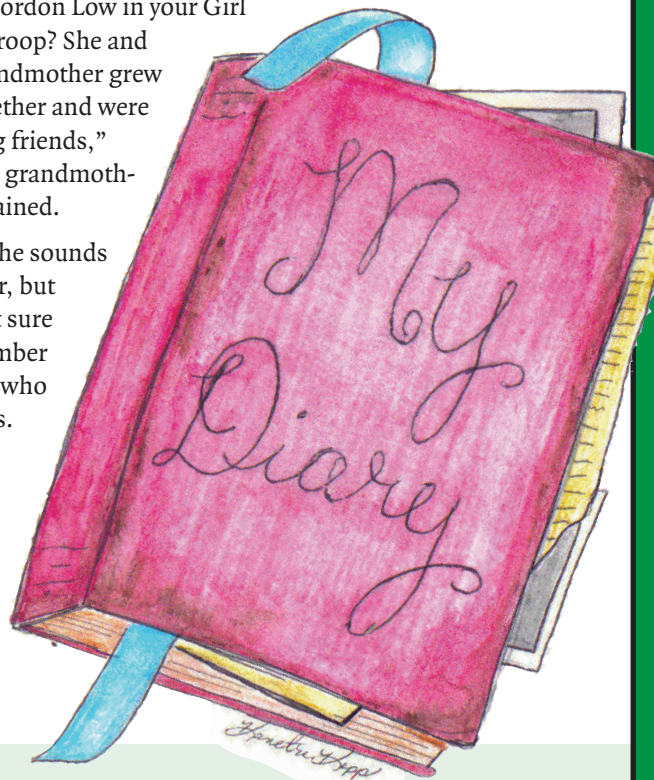
"Have you learned about Juliette Gordon Low in your Girl Scout troop? She and my grandmother grew up together and were lifelong friends," Jenny's grandmother explained.

"Um, she sounds familiar, but I'm not sure I remember exactly who she was. Wasn't she a Girl Scout, too?"

"She was more than just a Girl Scout, Jenny. She was the person who started Girl Scouts in America. Let's take this diary downstairs with the handbook, too. I'll share with you all the stories my grandmother shared with me about her very special friend." Grandma gathered up the diary and all the loose pages and led the way back downstairs to the kitchen.

"We can fix a tray and take it out to the porch. Then we can sit in the porch swing and watch the rain while I tell you my grandmother's stories of Juliette," Grandma said. "Or rather Daisy, as she was known to her family and friends," Grandma added.

"Why did they call her Daisy?" Jenny asked as she followed her grandmother to the kitchen.



Things to Think About and Do

Newspapers publish stories and pictures of people starting new things in the community — clubs, businesses, and more. Look through your newspaper and find stories and pictures about these types of things just getting started. Write a short description of something you would like to start.

GLEs: R1H, R1I

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

Next Week:
Chapter Five:
Daisy