



MADIELINE'S MARVELOUS WEEK

CHAPTER TWO - by Kay Hively

Through her still sleepy eyes, Maddie looked out upon the bright lights. It looked like all the stars in the heavens had fallen to earth and landed in the same place.

The train had stopped so the passengers could see the wonder that lay before them. In the distance, the World's Fair was a gleaming spectacle that was bigger, brighter and more exciting than anything that had ever been seen in all the world. Papa said the fairgrounds were lit with a half million lights. Maddie didn't know how much a half million was, but as she looked through the dark night at the glowing lights she was sure it was a really big number.

Finally, the train moved again. In only a few minutes it pulled into a station in downtown Saint Louis. Quickly Papa, Mama and Maddie picked up their suitcases and bags and got off the train.

Papa said their hotel was very close, so the little family walked down the street until they came to a tall building. Soon, they were taken to a large room with a big bed for Mama and Papa and a small bed for Madeline. A bright light hung down from the ceiling.

Since Maddie had never stayed in a hotel, she wanted to look at everything, but Mama hurried her off to bed. Safe in bed, the last thing Maddie remembered before she fell asleep was Papa pulling on a string and the bright light on the ceiling going dark.

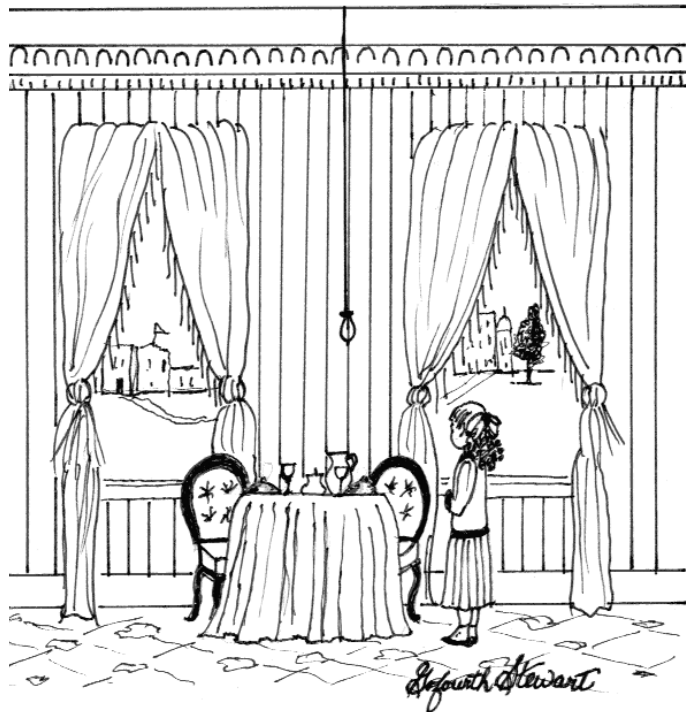
Mama was fixing her hair in front of a big mirror when Maddie awoke the next morning. She sat up in her little bed and looked around the big room. It was a beautiful room with a very high ceiling, and there was red and gold paper on the walls.

Then Maddie remembered that she was going to the World's Fair. On the foot of her bed she saw the new clothes her mother had bought for her to wear. Quickly, she bounced out of bed. After Maddie and her mother were dressed, Papa came into the room. Behind him was a woman in a black dress and a white apron. The lady was carrying a tray filled with food.

Madeline and her parents sat at a little table in their room and ate breakfast. Maddie could hardly eat because she was thinking about going to the fair. Papa encouraged her to eat quickly. He had to report for work at 9 o'clock, and he wanted to be there early.

After breakfast, Maddie and her parents hurried out onto the street. Papa hired a carriage to take them to the fairgrounds. The trip lasted only a few moments. When the carriage stopped, Maddie jumped quickly to the ground.

As she turned to look at the building where Papa would be working, Madeline heard a very loud sound. Looking toward the Agricultural Palace, her eyes got very big, and a look of surprise spread over Maddie's face.



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

CLASSROOM EXTENSIONS

Things to Think About and Do

- This was Maddie's first time to stay in a hotel. Have you ever stayed in a hotel or a motel? Make a list of some things you might find at a hotel or motel. Write the things in alphabetical order.
- Papa said there were a half million lights at the World's Fair. Using your math skills, divide a half million by 10, then by 5 and then by 20.

STANDARDS: CA:1; SS:6; M:1; G2:1; G1:9

Next Week: Chapter Three – What time is it?