Early Reader

The Magic Music Box

Bella dreams of being a ballerina. When a new ballet school opens up, she is desperate to join but it's too expensive. Then she is given a mysterious box...

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Book Band Gold

The Magic Music Box

Katie Dale

Maverick



'The Magic Music Box'
An original concept by Katie Dale
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Illustrated by Giovana Medeiros

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For Review Only

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Chapter 1

Bella loved to dance. Everywhere she went, she twirled and leaped and skipped.

She waltzed in the woods. She jived past the jewellers. She pirouetted in the park. She did salsa in the supermarket. But Bella's favourite dance of all was ballet.

One day, a new ballet school opened in town. "Can I join, Mum?" she begged. "Please?"

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“I’m sorry, Bella,” said her mum. “Ballet’s too expensive. You’d need ballet shoes and a leotard and a tutu.”

Bella saved up all her pocket money, and every week she did the cha-cha-cha to the charity shop. Finally, she found a second-hand leotard, tutu, and ballet slippers.



“They’re my size!” Bella cried happily, handing over her pocket money.

“I’ve got everything I need, Mum!” she cried, dancing through the doorway. “Now can I join ballet school? Pretty please?”

Bella’s mum sighed. “I’m really sorry, Bella. But we just can’t afford the lessons.”

Bella trudged back to the charity shop.

“I’d like to return my leotard, tutu and slippers please,” she sighed.

“I’m sorry,” said the lady behind the counter. “We don’t do refunds.”

“That’s okay,” Bella shrugged. “You can

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have them anyway. Sell them to someone who can afford ballet lessons. They make me too sad."

"I'm sorry," the lady said, shaking her head. "I can't take them back."

Bella looked up at her, confused.

"You might need them one day," the lady added, winking. "Don't give up on your dreams."



She handed Bella a box. "Take this too. It might help."

Bella opened the box. Inside, there was a tiny ballerina who twirled around as music played. But Bella didn't see how it could help.



"I don't have any money," Bella sighed.

"No need. It's a gift," the lady said, smiling. "Good luck, Bella."

"Thank you," Bella said. She didn't remember telling the lady her name.

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