The Night Walk



Story by Rose Inserra Illustrations by Pat Reynolds

PM LIBRARY

Alice lived in a small apartment
near the city.
Her parents had one bedroom,
and Alice shared the second bedroom
with her grandmother.
Alice's brother slept on the sofa bed
in the living room.



For Review Only

One week before her birthday,
Alice asked her mum
if she could have a slumber party.

"I'm sorry, Alice," her mum said.
"Our place is too small for a slumber party.
We don't have enough room."



For Review Only

"Why don't you have a picnic party at the park?" said Mum.

"The park's **boring**," said Alice. "Everyone in my class has slumber parties."

"What about tenpin bowling?" her brother suggested.

"It would cost too much for everyone to go bowling," said Dad. "We can't afford that."

Alice was very disappointed. She wanted to invite her best friends to her party. They had all invited her to **their** parties.

"So when is your slumber party, Alice?" her friends kept asking.

For Review Only

"Next week," said Alice.
She just couldn't tell them
that she wasn't allowed to have a slumber party.



For Preview Only

That night, Alice couldn't sleep.
She started to cry.
Her grandma woke up and heard her.
"What's the matter, Alice?" she asked.

"I really wish I could have
a slumber party," she sobbed.
"I've told all my friends
that I'm having a slumber party."

"Don't cry, Alice," said Grandma.
"We'll think of something."

The next day, Grandma saw
a special advertisement in the newspaper.
It said:

Group Discount for
Night Walks at the Zoo

For Review Only



Grandma rang the zoo.
Then she rang the parents
of Alice's best friends.
"We are having a birthday party for Alice
at the zoo next Friday," Grandma told them.
"Please meet us at the entrance to the zoo
at half past seven in the evening."

For Review Only

The parents were surprised.
It would be quite dark by half past seven.

"It's a Night Walk party," explained Grandma.
"A zoo keeper takes visitors for a walk
around the zoo in the dark.
The children will be able to see
the nocturnal animals
that sleep during the day."

The parents made a list of things
that Grandma asked them to bring.
They promised to keep the party a secret.

Then Mum and Grandma told Alice
she was going to have
a special kind of party after all.
"Please, Mum," Alice begged.
"Tell me what kind of party I'm having."

"It's Grandma's secret.
It's her birthday present to you," said Mum.

For Review Only