

THE ADVENTURES OF DREW AND ELLIE

The Magical Dress

by Charles Noland



Illustrated by Sherri Baker

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Second Edition

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Table of Contents

Chapter 1 – Saturday Morning Surprise	1
Chapter 2 – A Magical Discovery	10
Chapter 3 – Back to the Beach	20
Chapter 4 – It’s Looking Hopeless.....	27
Chapter 5 – Figuring it Out.....	36
Chapter 6 – Drying Out.....	42
Chapter 7 – Going Home.....	50
Chapter 8 – Home—The Best Place to Be.....	56



Saturday Morning Surprise

Andrew was playing with his action hero toys on the floor in the living room while his sister Ellen watched a movie. It was a Saturday morning in the early fall, and it was right after breakfast.

Occasionally, they would both glance toward the window watching the weather outside. They were hoping it wouldn't rain so that they could go to the playground later in the day. They loved going to the playground—it was where all their friends were, and they could play all kinds of adventurous games with them.

Together, they lived with their mother in a very nice apartment in a very nice neighborhood. As brother and sister, they always did everything together, and most people referred to them as Drew and Ellie—unless of course, you were mad at them, and then it was Andrew and Ellen.

Suddenly, Drew and Ellie’s mom came into the room. “I have a surprise for the two of you,” she said.

Drew and Ellie swung around from where they were sitting to face their mom. She was holding a very large shopping bag.

She sat down on the couch and asked, “Do you remember my friend Mrs. Williams?”

They both nodded.

“Well, the other day she told me she had some clothes to give me that her kids had outgrown, and here they are.”

“Cool!” said Drew. “Let’s see them.”



So, their mom began to unpack the clothes from the bag. Since Mrs. Williams had two boys and only one girl, most of the clothes were for Drew. However, there were a few pairs of pants and a couple of dresses for Ellie.

As she got to the bottom of the bag, she seemed surprised to find another bag. She pulled it out, and in it was a beautiful, white dress with a sparkly look to it. Ellie's eyes lit up.

"Momma, I want to try that dress on. Can I?"

Ellie's mom looked the dress over and said, "This looks almost brand new. I wonder how this got in here?"

Ellie persisted. "Can I try that dress on now, *please?*"

"Okay," said Ellie's mom. "Come over here, and let's see how it looks."



Ellie raced over to the couch and immediately started putting the dress on.

“Hold on a minute,” her mom said. “Let’s get these other clothes off first.”

After Ellie got the dress on, she went upstairs to her bedroom to find a pair of white stockings from her dresser. Then she went into the closet to find her black shoes to complete the outfit. She waltzed back downstairs and into the living room.

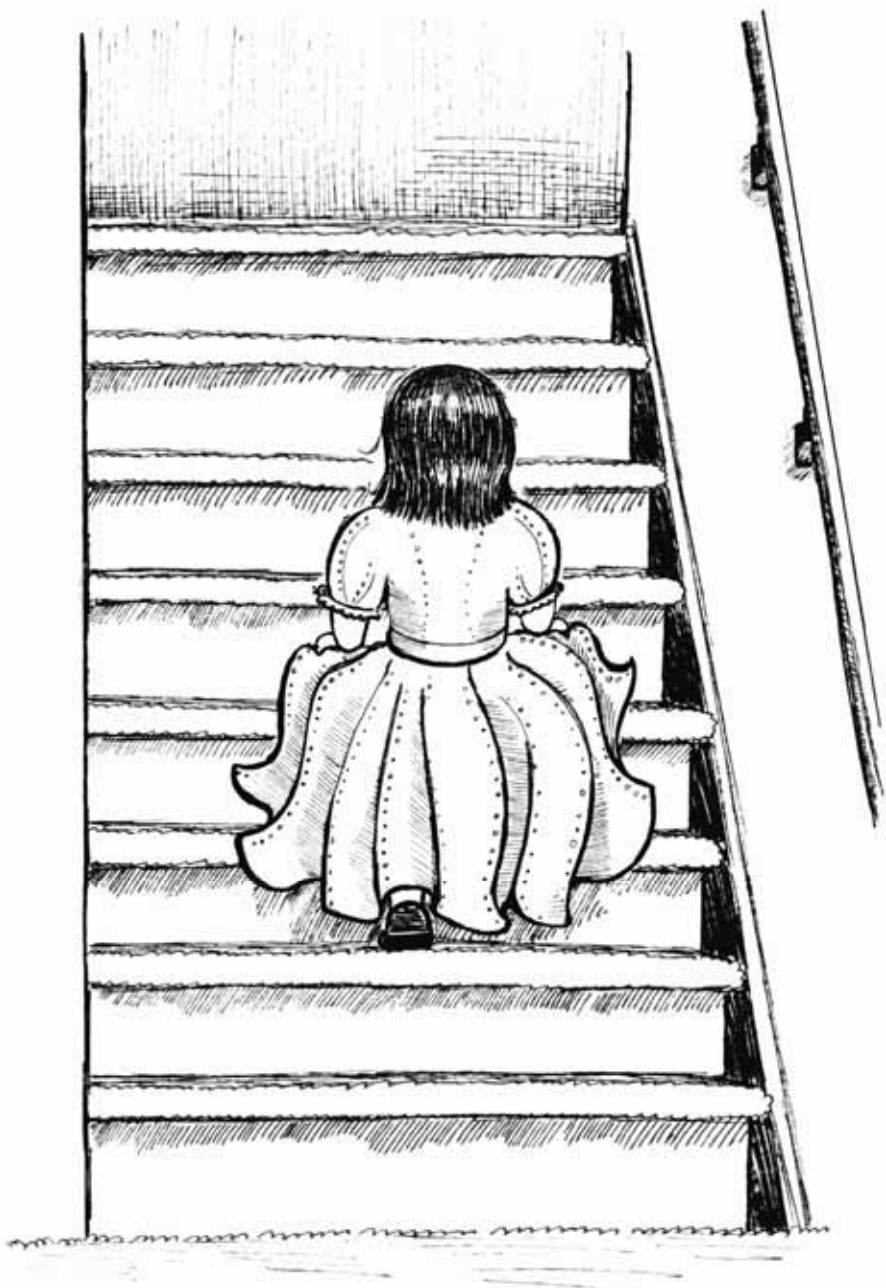
“Wow, don’t you look fashionable!” exclaimed her mother.

Ellie loved the dress and the white, sparkly fabric. She was only four, but already she loved getting dressed up with fancy clothes. She danced around the room a few times, twirling and pretending she was at a beautiful ball.



As she was dancing, the phone rang, and their mom got up and left the room. Drew, who was seven and less interested in dressing up, watched her twirl a few more times and then went back to playing with his action hero toys.

When Ellie grew bored with twirling, she decided that she was going to have a party with some of her dolls, so she went upstairs to her bedroom to find all of her guests.





On a rainy Saturday morning, Drew and Ellie discover the magic of a beautiful hand-me-down dress that they receive from a family friend. It takes them on a wonderful adventure, but will they uncover the secret of the magical dress in time to get back home?

