

The Bronze Shoe



Hi, I'm Bob Hesp. I'm 12 years old and I like to play baseball. It's the start of my new season in baseball and I'm looking for a new glove and bat in the storage room.

I see a box that says "old stuff" I look through it and see something sort of shiny. It's a shiny shoe! "Oh, it's a bronze shoe." I started wondering where it came from, why I have never been told about it and who owned it.

I ran up the stairs full of curiosity and asked Mom, she said "your great, great, great Aunt Velma owned it." but that was all she knew about the shoe, that wasn't much help.

"I have to solve this mystery." I said to myself.

“Maybe Dad will have more information. If not, I’ll phone Grandma.”

I walked to the garden out back and Dad was there. I asked him everything I wondered, and he said the same thing “ it belongs to your great, great, great Aunt Velma.”

I felt the shoe start to vibrate, get warmer, and start to glow. I put it down and everything stopped.

It stopped the vibrating, glowing, and getting warmer, thank goodness. “Dad, can I use your phone to call Grandma please?” I asked. “Ok, just remember to return it to me” Dad said. “Yup” I replied.

Come on Grandma, click the button and answer the phone, I thought. She never hears her phone. She finally answered and I asked her everything I wondered about the bronze shoe. She gave me a very detailed story that answered all my questions and more. She told me “Your great, great, great Aunt Velma went missing a long time ago and all that was left was her shoe so they bronzed it to show that it was special.”

I still wanted to know more about what happened to great, great, great Aunt Velma so I decided to go see a wizard tomorrow. The next day, I went to a wizard. The wizard said “Good day to you.” “Good day to you too,” I replied, "I need some information on this magical shoe I found in my basement storage room, it glows, vibrates, and gets warm when I hold it.”

“Let me see the shoe. Hmm, I see,” said the wizard. “So can you give me answers?” I asked. “Yes, I can give you answers about why it is glowing and where your great-great-great Aunt Velma is, but it’ll cost about fifty dollars” said the wizard. “Ok, see you tomorrow then” I said. How am I supposed to get fifty dollars by tomorrow, I thought to myself, I only have forty dollars. I had to ask for ten dollars from Mom and Dad, just to see the wizard. I had to explain

everything about the wizard and how the wizard could tell me where great-great-great aunt Velma was when she went missing in order to get Mom and Dad to lend me the extra ten dollars. I had to agree to clean the bathrooms for three weeks to get the money! When they finally agreed to give me the money, I was late for the meeting with the wizard. The wizard said the shoe reacts only to my family.

“Where is Velma?” I asked.

“She went on a secret magical quest” said the wizard.

“Where?” I said excitedly.

“In the mysterious forest on Marlon road,” he replied.

“How do you know that and how far is that from here?” I asked.

“Down the road for 2 kilometers. I saw her but she didn’t make it out. She got trapped by a mystical mist” the wizard replied.

“Is she still there?” I asked.

“Yes, she can’t leave. She’s trapped!”

“How?” I said. “She’s probably one hundred-thirty five years old!”

“Actually, she’s thirty. In that forest you don’t age, strangely” he replied.

“So she got there when she was thirty years old?” I said.

Now that the wizard told me where she was, it was time to go find her. I gathered Mom, Dad and even the wizard came along. I brought the bronze shoe, hoping it could lead us to her. We went to the mysterious forest on Marlon Road and started to search. The forest was creepy going in

then there was this purple mist. We could walk through the mist. Inside, all the plants were sparkling, the sky was dark with lots of stars, the trees were drooping and sparkly too. We had driven on Marlon Road lots of times before but it never looked like this. The bronze shoe was shining very brightly, like it was connected to the forest. It was shaking in my hands. It was getting so hot I could barely hold it.

We saw a shadow of a woman with short hair. We walked closer to her and asked, "Is your name Velma?" "Yes," she replied.

We all asked together, "Do you want to come with us, out of this forest?"

She was very excited and said, "Yes, please take me out of this place. I have been trapped here for so long. It is so lonely in here. I miss my family."

"We are your family! It's now the year 2026. You are our great, great, great Aunt! Our family never knew what happened to you. All we had was this bronze shoe to remember you by" I said.

We all went back to my house and invited Velma to live with us. We had to teach her about electricity, cars, the internet and all the fun things that we have! She didn't even know rollercoasters existed! It was so fun to have Velma living with us.