Opening extract from

Felicity Wishes: Summer Sunshine

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Summer Sunshine



Felicity and her best friends, Holly, Polly, Daisy and Winnie, were beside themselves with excitement. Despite being squashed uncomfortably beneath enormous heavy backpacks, their fairy wings quivered with anticipation.

"I've been looking forward to this day for so long!" squealed Felicity as she landed beside her friends in the train station with a fairylike thud.

"I never thought it would actually arrive," said Winnie excitedly. "And now it has, I can hardly believe it!"

Winnie was at school with Felicity, Holly, Polly and Daisy. She wanted to be an Adventure Fairy when she graduated. It had been her idea, one lunchtime, that they all go inter-railing around Fairy World together that summer.

At first Daisy wasn't very keen. She loved her home more than anything and never ventured far from it. The flowers in her garden needed constant care and attention.

Holly had been equally sceptical. She prided herself on being the most fashionable fairy in Little Blossoming but in the big, wide, Fairy World, Holly was worried that she wouldn't stand out.

"I think it will be fun!" said Polly, encouraging her friends. "Just think of all the amazing places that we'll be able to see for real, instead of in a geography textbook."

"A whole month of new experiences and adventures!" cried Winnie, bouncing up and down.

"And memories that will stay with us for ever!" added Felicity dreamily.

* * *

"Has everyone got their tickets?" asked Winnie, taking charge.

"Yes!" chorused Holly, Polly, and Daisy, waggling them in the air.

"I think so!" flapped Felicity, frantically unzipping every pocket on her rucksack. "Oh, no!" she muttered hastily under her breath.

"Um... Felicity!" said Polly, trying to get her friend's attention.

"Hold on a second," said Felicity, getting more flustered by the minute as every pocket she emptied revealed no ticket.

Polly, Holly, Daisy and Winnie stared in amazement as Felicity rummaged through the most bizarre items they had ever seen packed in a suitcase! Four bags of strawberry fizzy laces, a bird bath, two mobile phones (just in case she lost one and couldn't speak to her friends), ten pairs of stripy tights and a dozen sparkle bars!

"Felicity!" said Polly sternly, trying to get her attention. "Look!"

Felicity stopped and looked up at Polly, who was waving two tickets.

"You gave me your ticket to look after... remember!"

Felicity flushed bright pink. She was notorious for forgetting things,

especially when they were important.

* * *

With their tickets stamped and their bags carefully stowed away in the overhead shelves, the five fairy friends settled down for the exciting journey ahead.



"I hope no one else joins us!" said Holly, lounging luxuriously across the spare seat next to her.

Just then the compartment door swung open.

"Hello!" said a little voice. "Is this carriage number 57?"

Holly quickly jumped up. "Um, yes, yes. Is this your seat? I was just, um, keeping it warm for you," she said as she slid over to her own seat, her cheeks a little flushed.

"Hello!" said Felicity, excited to meet a new friend. "I'm Felicity and these are my best friends, Holly, Polly, Daisy and Winnie. We're going on a backpacking holiday around Fairy World. We're going to Bird Island via Dreamland. There are so many places to visit, and so little time. Where are you going?"

To Felicity's amazement, the little fairy said nothing in return. Felicity watched as she started to unpack a book from her bag, kick off her shoes and curl up in her seat. It wasn't

until the little fairy reached into her bag and pulled out Suzi Sparkle's latest CD that Felicity realized she was listening to a CD player and hadn't heard anything Felicity had said!



"Oh, well, there's plenty of time to make friends during the journey," thought Felicity to herself, dying to know more about the fairy in their compartment.

* * *

As the train slowly fluttered out of Little Blossoming, the fairies left behind the billowing green hills and were soon soaring past long golden beaches, magnificent valleys and breathtaking forests.

"The view is incredible!" said Holly, mesmerized by the changing landscape.

"Just amazing," said Felicity, feeling the chug-chug of the train rocking against her tired wings.

"I'm exhausted," yawned Polly, "and we haven't even been anywhere yet!"

The excitement of the trip had drained each of the fairy friends. Ever so slowly, as every mile passed, the fairies grew sleepier and sleepier, until at last the only one who was awake was the little fairy listening to music in the corner.

* * *

"Um, hello! Hello! Wake up! Is this your stop?" said the little fairy, rustling Felicity's hair with her wand. "Hello! Yoooohoooo! If you don't wake up now I'm afraid you're going to miss your stop!" she said more loudly.

Suddenly, thinking she was in bed, Felicity rolled over and fell off her seat.

"Wha...Where am I?" she burst out, noisily enough to wake all the others.

"It's the next stop," said the fairy. "Do you have to get off here?"

Winnie was as muddled as Felicity and had no idea how long they had all been asleep for, or where in Fairy World they were.

"Quickly, everyone!" said Winnie, taking charge. "Pack up your things; we only have a few moments to get out of here before the train pulls away!"

Holly, Polly, Daisy, Felicity and Winnie flew madly about the carriage, gathering their belongings.

"My wand!" burst out Felicity. "I can't find my wand!"

"Leave it!" cried Winnie. "We have

to change trains or we won't make the connection! Any moment now the train is going to pull aw—" And just as Winnie was starting to say "away", the slow roll of the train's wheels began to move underneath them.

Distraught, the five fairy friends pressed their noses up against the glass to watch in desperation as the station platform passed by.

