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original artwork by Harriet Muncaster



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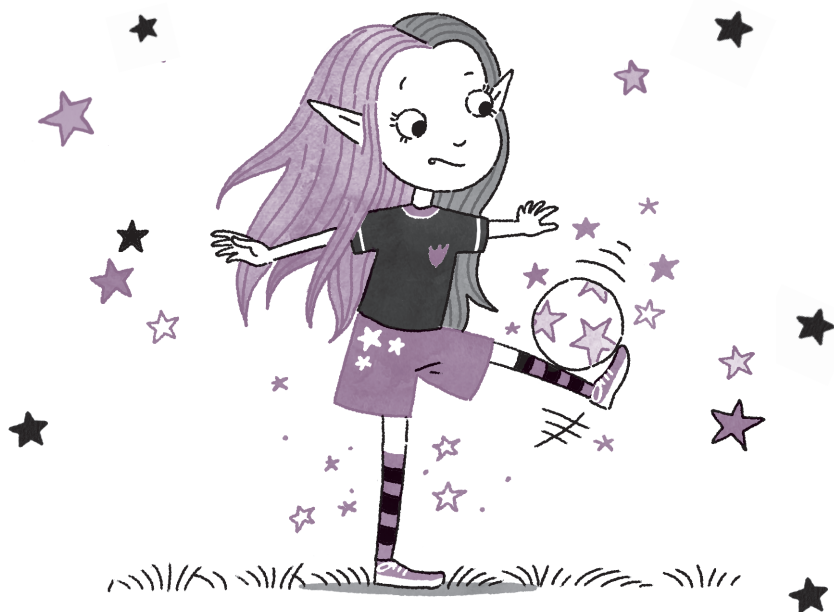


From the world of

ISADORA MOON

MIRABELLE

Wants to Win



Harriet Muncaster

OXFORD
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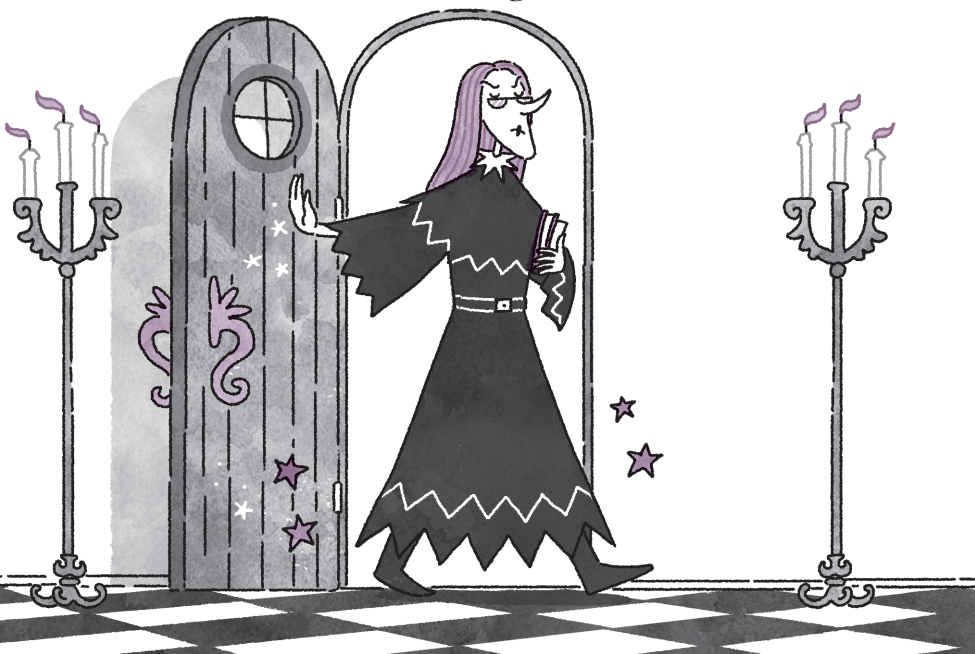
It was a bright, sparkly morning and the sun streamed through the little arched windows of Miss Spindlewick's Witch School for Girls. There was an excited chattering all around the classroom as we sat at our desks waiting for Miss Spindlewick to arrive.

She was unusually late!



‘I heard there’s going to be a surprise today,’ said my best friend Carlotta from beside me. ‘Hazel overheard Miss Spindlewick talking to Miss Toadflax yesterday. She said they were talking about a surprise for the whole class!’

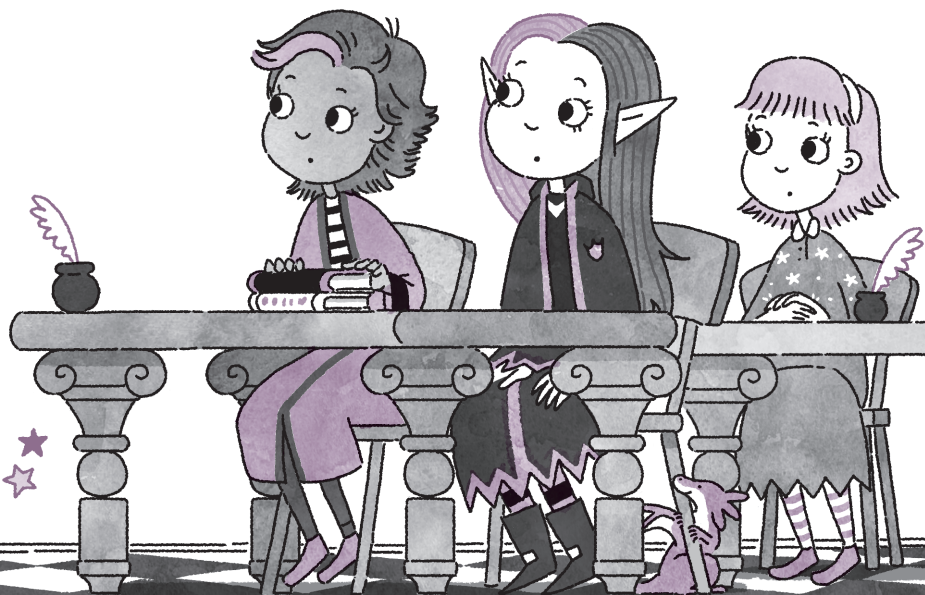
‘Ooh!’ I said. ‘I hope that’s true. I wonder what it will be. We had better make sure we’re extra good, or Miss



Spindlewick might not let us join in!

‘Yes,’ agreed Carlotta. ‘Mischief does *seem* to follow us around. Maybe we shouldn’t even *talk* to each other today!’

Just then there came the sound of spiky boots tip-tapping down the corridor outside the classroom. The door flew open, and Miss Spindlewick marched in.



‘Good morning, witches,’ she said through pursed lips.

‘Good morning, Miss Spindlewick,’ we chorused.

‘*It is* a good morning,’ said Miss Spindlewick, ‘because today, Miss Toadflax and I have an announcement to make!’

She looked behind her and then frowned.

‘Where *is* Miss Toadflax?’ she said. ‘I’m sure she was behind me just a moment ago.’

As if on cue, Miss Toadflax burst into the room, her wispy lilac hair frizzing out behind her. Her cheeks

were flushed and she looked breathless
and excited.



‘Sorry!’ she said. ‘Wasn’t looking where I was going. Walked into the wrong classroom!’

Miss Toadflax teaches PE, and she is the *total* opposite of Miss Spindlewick. We all love her!

‘Hello, my sweet little witches!’ she said, beaming.

I saw Miss Spindlewick roll her eyes before shooting me and Carlotta a disapproving glare. Miss Spindlewick certainly does not think Carlotta and I are sweet little witches.





‘Hello, Miss Toadflax,’ we all chorused enthusiastically.

‘Well, don’t I just have a treat for you all today!’ she continued. ‘We’ve got a very special guest visiting this afternoon.’

‘Who?’ I squeaked out loud, unable to help myself.

Miss Toadflax’s eyes twinkled.

‘Chrissy Gold!’ she announced.

‘**CHRISSY GOLD?!**’ shrieked Hazel, jumping up from her chair.

‘**I LOVE Chrissy Gold!** I’ve even got a poster of her up in my bedroom!’

