

To that dreamy Stacy, and those heavenly boys, Landry and Luke

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## Glen Graves

Illustrated by Gary DiGiovanni & Joey Burns

Once upon a time, Jonathan, the toy expert, was winding down his day. Cars and trucks filled his room. Bedtime seemed to interrupt playtime every night!





Tonight, just like every other night, his mommy and daddy tucked him into bed. After prayers and kisses, he drifted off to sleep. Soon darkness gave way to brightness.





t was dazzling blue! Though fuzzy at first (after all, it was a dream), it began to take the shape of a spectacular race car. He was drawn to the light as it glimmered off the hood. Seeing the car door standing open, Jonathan ran to it. He had faith it could take him places.

Before he knew it, his body jumped into the car. Knobs, buttons and gauges filled his view. Which one would he check out first? Even his lost model race car never had such cool stuff! Only one thing was missing – the key. But much to his surprise, the car began to move when he put his foot on the gas pedal. He expected a great roar from the engine. However, it was more like a gentle whisper.

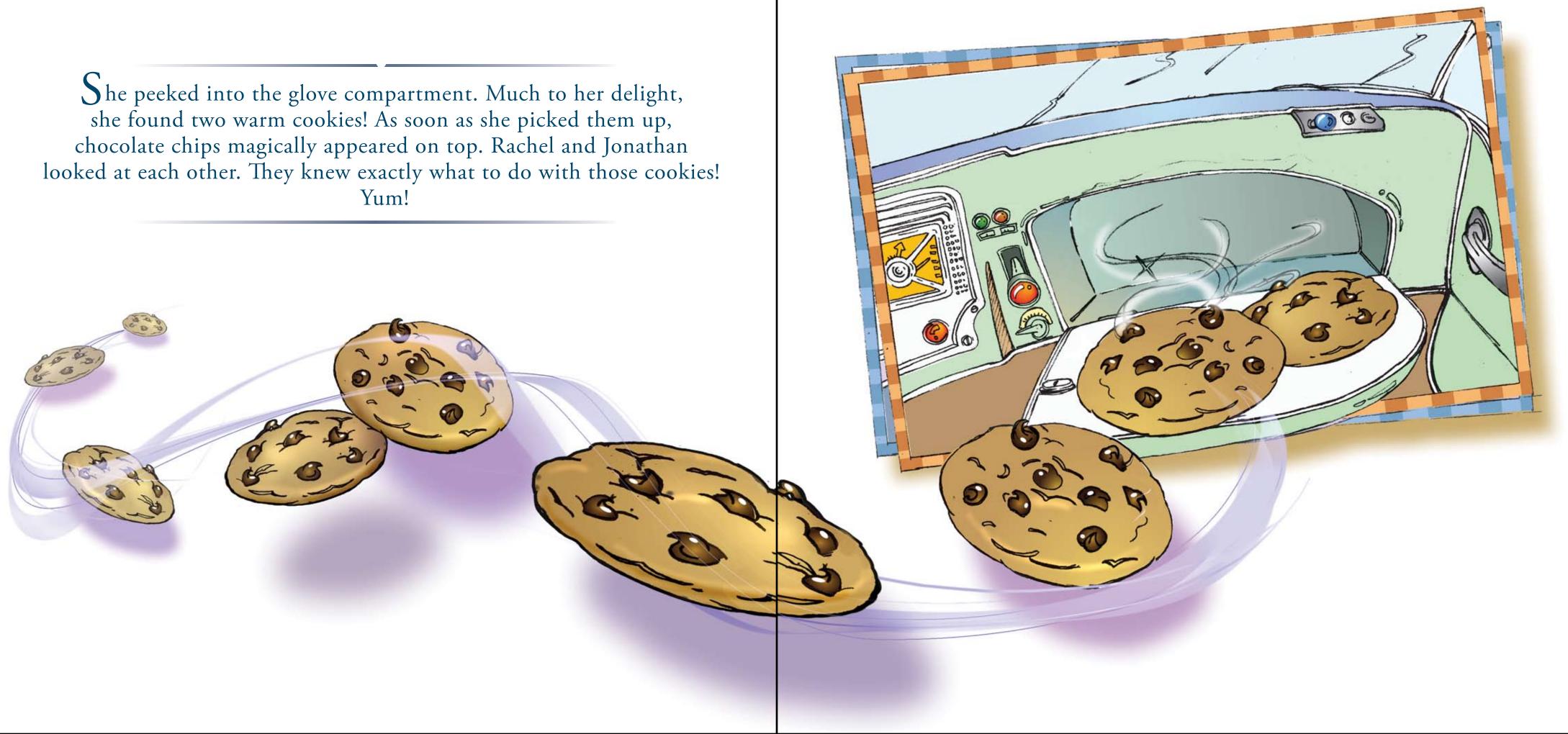
The trees seemed to be moving! However, it was really his race car accelerating. Fast. Very fast. First, he could see green and blue – then more blue. Even though he had won races on the school playground, none could match this.

He felt like he was flying – and he was! Near him, an eagle floated in midair. The trees, meadows and a great river seemed to go on forever.

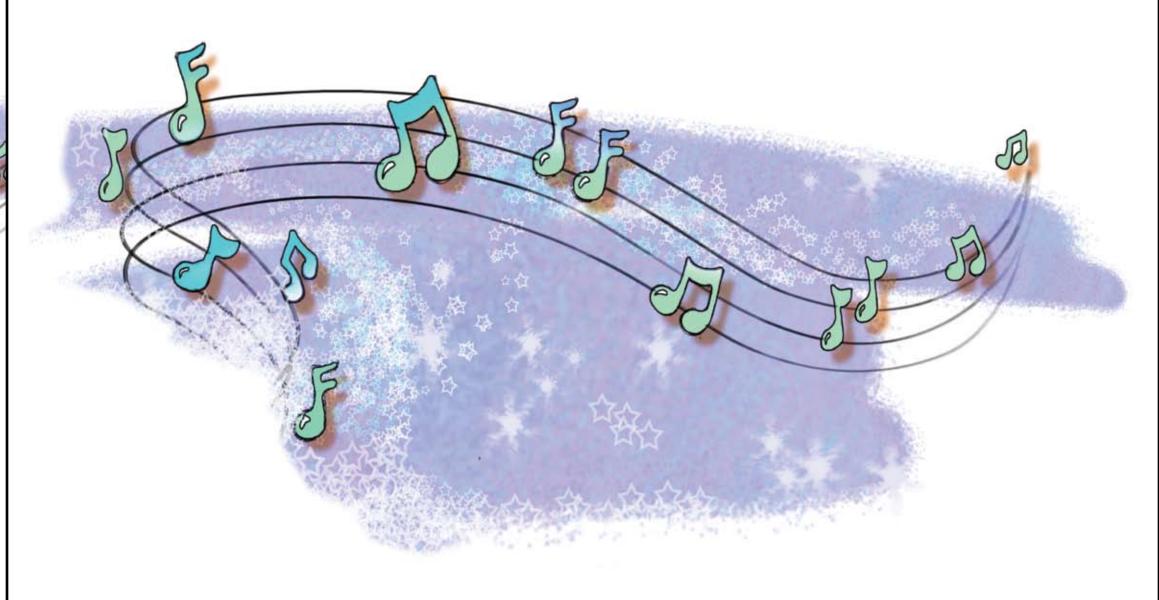
When Jonathan looked down again, he saw something familiar. Could it really be his house? Something was moving in the yard. His little sister, Rachel, was waving to him! He knew he had to go and see her. Down, down, down. Softly, he landed his race car. His big smile met her big hug. They both knew this day held many great adventures.



They hopped in the car. Rachel settled into her cozy seat and did not even mind that Jonathan was driving. She could not believe all the knobs, switches and compartments. What would she check out first? Yum!



After a refreshing drink of water, Rachel saw a shiny gold button with a smile on it. She pushed it and nothing happened. Or so she thought. But the next thing they noticed was a sound beyond imagination.



An enchanting and peaceful sound surrounded them. One like their ears had never heard before. Was it a voice? Was it a million voices? They thought things could not get any better—but they were mistaken!

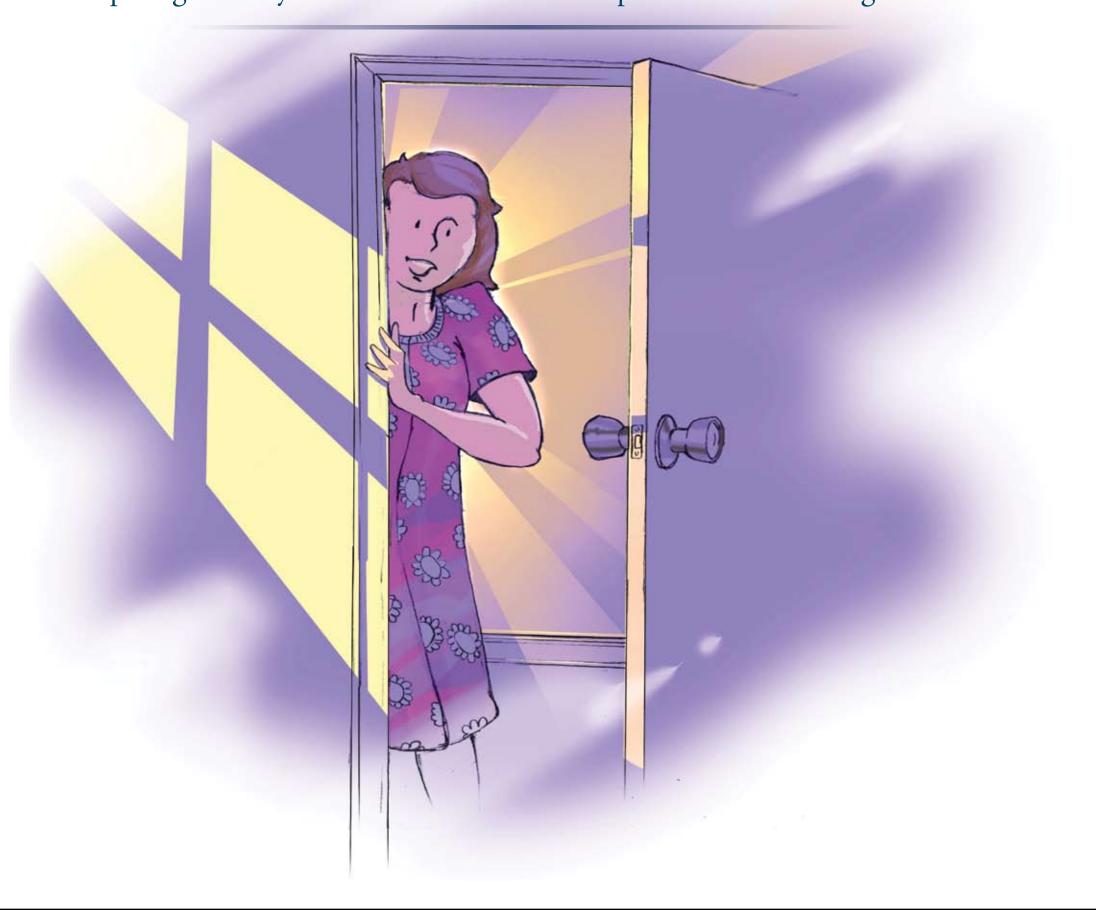
Jonathan and Rachel saw something incredible in the distance. Though very far away, its huge size made it seem closer. They decided it must be a king's castle. So full of light, it shined like a star. The closer they got to the palace, the bigger it appeared. They quickly overcame fear as they neared. They were surprised to see no guards, only a majestic white horse standing near an open gate. Their hearts pounded with excitement.

They could not wait to go inside. Everything was new, yet this place seemed familiar. Jonathan and Rachel wanted to stay here forever. They could not understand how peaceful things were.



Suddenly, Jonathan started to feel very sleepy.

Next, he heard a familiar sound. "Son, son." His eyes were opened from the dream and he saw his mom. "Jonathan, time to get up for school," she said. He jumped up to get ready. His mom could not help but notice his big smile.





"Why are you so happy?" she asked.

He answered, "I am home!"





## Written by Glen Graves

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