

Julia and the Purim Disguise



LITTLE
STORY MAGIC



Julia had made a Purim gift for Nana: triangle cookies and a sealed cup of applesauce in a bright paper bag. She drew Nana on the label.

Round red glasses.

Curly silver hair.

A great big smile.

“Hoo-hoo-HUP!” laughed Nana.

“You've drawn all my teeth!”



Then Nana went home to put on her party costume.
Julia put on her lion mane.
John put on his robot box.
“ROAR!” said Julia.
“BEEP,” said John.



His arms went up.
They would not go down.



Mom loosened the armholes.



“Beep,” he said, much more comfortably.



At the Purim party, sunlight filled a room full of costumes.

A penguin carried a trumpet.

A tiny queen wore enormous boots.

And somewhere in the room was Nana.

Julia held up her bag.

“We have a delivery.”



She spotted two round red circles above a silver suit.

“Nana?”

The silver helmet tipped back.

Mr. Moss smiled out.

“Spaceship headlights,” he said.

“Lovely headlights,” said Julia.

“Wrong Nana.”



John pointed to a little purple mouse.
“Red glasses!”
The mouse turned round.
The red circles were its ears.
“Wrong circles,” said Julia.
The mouse wiggled both ears for them.



Julia peered at the label.

Glasses. Hair. Smile.

“Perhaps Nana has dressed up as something with none of those.”



“A potato,” suggested John.
They looked for a potato.
They found a carrot.
“Close,” said John.
“Still wrong,” said Julia.



Behind the carrot stood a large white cloud.
The cloud wore blue paper raindrops.
It had round red glasses, just above the fluffy edge.
Julia was looking the other way.
John's robot box squeaked as he turned.
“Excuse me, weather.”



“Hoo-hoo-HUP!”

Julia knew that laugh.

She turned back.

Round red glasses.

Curly silver hair.

A great big smile above a very fluffy cloud.

“NANA!”



Nana opened her arms.
Julia hugged the cloud.
It was a slightly squashy hug.



“I brought you mishloach manot,” said Julia. “Your Purim food gift.”

She passed Nana the bag.

“A delivery by lion,” said Nana. “How splendid.”



Nana bent to look at the label.

“You found the right smile.”

“I found the right laugh,” said Julia.

“I nearly gave your gift to a potato,” said John.

Nana laughed so hard that her paper raindrops bobbled.



Then Nana lifted another bright bag from the table behind her.

“I have a Purim gift for you, too.”



On its label was a lion.

The lion had Julia's two brown pigtails and a very familiar smile.

Julia opened her mouth.



“Hoo-hoo-HUP!”
Nana opened hers.
“ROAR!”
John raised one arm.



And put it down again.
“Much better,” said the robot.

A little more to share

About this celebration

Purim celebrates the story of Esther. In this story, Julia and Nana exchange mishloach manot: gifts of ready-to-eat food. Their triangle cookies and sealed fruit cups are this family's choices. Families celebrate in different ways.

One more silly turn

What would a potato sound like? Try a whisper, a squeak, or the grandest potato voice you can make. Stop whenever the game is finished.

Made for sharing

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Purim food gifts - Reform Judaism

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