

It was Monday morning. I woke up and went to the bathroom to brush my teeth. As I grabbed the mirror to open the medicine cabinet, I looked at my reflection in horror. I looked exactly like my brother! I ran to his room and pushed open the door. There he was, or rather there I was, lying in his bed.

“Jordan! What happened?” I yelled. He sleepily opened his eyes. He opened them wider when he saw me, or rather him, staring back.

“What? What’s going on?” He looked down at himself. “Charlie, why did you steal my body?”

“Hey! Why do you think this is my fault?” Then I had an idea. Just the evening before, I had been thinking with a bit of jealousy about Jordan’s ability to play goalie on the soccer team. I was rubbing a metal pan in the sink and wishing I could be him for just one day. I never thought it would actually happen.

“Jordan,” I said. “It sounds silly, but last night while I was doing dishes, I was washing this new pan that Mom bought. While I was rubbing it, I was wishing I could be you. It must have worked. It must be a magic pan, like in that story about rubbing a magic lamp and a genie granting you wishes.”

“I guess so.” He looked skeptical. “That’s really strange. Do you remember what the pan looked like?”

“Sure. It’s big and shiny with a blue metal lid.”

“If that’s the case, I am going to volunteer to wash dishes before we go to school and see if I can get myself back again.” With that, he hurried downstairs to the kitchen.

STORY QUESTIONS



- 1 What event had caused the boys to change bodies?
- a. Charlie made a wish as he rubbed a pan while doing dishes.
 - b. Jordan paid a magician to do a trick.
 - c. Charlie practiced soccer until he was as good as Jordan.
 - d. Jordan made a wish with a genie.

- 2 *Skeptical* probably means . . .
- a. absolutely sure.
 - b. certain.
 - c. doubtful.
 - d. convinced.

- 3 Why was Charlie jealous of Jordan?
- a. Jordan plays quarterback for the football team.
 - b. Jordan can throw a football farther than he can.
 - c. Jordan plays goalie for the soccer team.
 - d. Jordan can kick a soccer ball farther than he can.

- 4 What does Jordan say he will do to try to fix the situation?
- a. volunteer to call his grandmother and ask for help
 - b. volunteer to wash the car
 - c. volunteer to sweep the floor
 - d. volunteer to wash dishes



"It's the lady with the lamp," breathed the soldier as he lay on his bed in the dirty hospital in Turkey.

"I can see her," whispered the soldier next to him.

"I hope she gets to us very soon. My leg hurts so badly."

"They say she was born on May 12, 1820, to British parents as they were traveling in Italy. They were very rich, you know. I think they named her after the city of Florence, because she is so beautiful. Just like that city."

"Yeah, I heard that, too. Did you know that her parents told her she couldn't be a nurse? She chose to do it anyway. She gathered up a bunch of nursing friends and came over here to Turkey to help us in the Crimean War."

"They say she is amazing. She hasn't married so far. I think she never will. The hospitals have gotten cleaner since she arrived, but the male doctors seem to be pretty upset that she is here to help."

"Well, I don't know about you, but I am glad she is here. Florence is beautiful. Look! She's headed this way."

"I'm tired, I'll just rest my eyes and wait for her to arrive. Although it is late, she'll make it to us tonight."

STORY QUESTIONS



1 Even though her family was British, why was Florence born in Italy?

- a. Her parents didn't want her to be born in Britain.
- b. Her parents were traveling in Italy.
- c. Her parents were away on business.
- d. Her parents were angry with the British government.

2 What did Florence want to do when she grew up?

- a. be a travel agent and see the world
- b. be a doctor and build hospitals
- c. be a pilot and fly planes
- d. be a nurse and help others

3 Which is **NOT** something Florence did?

- a. She became a nurse to help soldiers fighting in Turkey.
- b. She brought a lot of her nursing friends to Turkey with her.
- c. She made hospitals cleaner and safer.
- d. She got married.

4 In the passage, Florence Nightingale is called . . .

- a. "the lady with the scissors."
- b. "the lady with the lamp."
- c. "the lady with clean bandages."
- d. "the lady with buried treasure."

