

# The vanished victory

Miley was strolling along the school's award gallery at 7 o'clock, with her eyes scanning every corner of detail. Acting like a perceptive detective. Noticing the scattered glass all over the floor, she followed the tracks and strode to the biggest display case, open her mouth as large as a swirling black hole and scream, "No way!!" All the monthly effort and the relentless practise had been stolen from an unusual bandit. Miley's face darkened with a huge frown on her face and clenched her hand into tight fist.

2 hours later at assemble, Mr Cornell, the principal at Miley's school announced proudly, "And now, we are crowned the champions of the Interschool Music Competition, how impressive is that!!" Thunderous applaus and the light-hearted cheers came from all students. Suddenly, a heartbreaking high-pitched squeal came from the gallery, "Help, the trophy, the precious trophy....is gone!"

Whispers and worried murmurs filled in the air from mouth to mouth. The news spread quickly like a wildfire.

"Calm down everyone," Mr Cornell tried to settle everyone down and regained orders. "Do you think it is stolen from another competitive school...or maybe an animal? Let's end this assembly and I'll tried to find the criminal."

Miley pondered and her heart sank. She knew it wasn't a random accident. It was deliberate and precise from that look of the broken glass. She determined to solve the case of the missing trophy.

She returned to the award gallery, inspecting all the shards. Along the debris, a small, oddly footprint caught Miley's attention. "It surely wasn't a human shoeprint," Miley thought to herself, "It is...an adorable paw print?"

Meanwhile, Miley's friend Abby ran towards her and explained thoroughly to her, "Do you know the school had installed a school security camera? They just installed it last week; Mr Cornell told me, and he said he could lend a helping hand to us too."

"Really?" exclaimed Miley, "Then I can use the camera footage to see who did this!"

The two friends raced to the principal office and saw Mr Cornell was watching the video recorded at nighttime. He was eager to see the two girls and thought they could work as a team of three.

"Mr Cornell, can you show me the camera footage at nighttime, please?" Miley asked politely.

"And play it slowly, thank you," Abby added.

"Of course," Mr Cornell replied delightedly, "I can play it as many times as you want." The girls were overjoyed then watched the camera footage closely.

They were astonished.

At first, everything seems normal. Then, a night security guard came out to do his duty for about an hour. Then, he took a nap and then walk away.

When it was almost dawn, a huge creature appeared in a blink of an eye. It used his mighty paw to demolish the glass case and snatched the trophy within a second. It then ran away...

“Is it.....a raccoon?” Questioned Abby, leaning towards the screen.

“Of course not,” answered Miley, “And what kind of raccoon do that. I think it could be a bear.”

“I think you’re right, Miley,” said Mr Cornell, “We could tell that by it’s size and the personality.”

So, the three of them investigated the tracks that the bear made and tried to arrest it.

Unfortunately, it was a big failure.

After hours and hours of searching for the bear, they still can’t seize that creature. But Miley’s emotion had changed from frustration to on cloud nine. She finally learnt a lesson; a trophy is just a simple object that can’t define their incredible journey her school had taken to win the championship. The music, the teamwork, the joy-they couldn’t be stolen.

Miley ran to her classroom and told the fellow classmates, “Hi guys, I just want to explain to you all that this victory belongs to all of us, and we don’t need a golden trophy to prove it. It is okay that the trophy is missing. However, we still have the memory of how delightful we are when we won the competition, do we?”

The rest of them nodded furiously and the laughed and having a huge grin on their faces. Miley knew one thing for sure: some victories like the bonds they shared, could never ever be lost.