
Mystery of the Golden Statue



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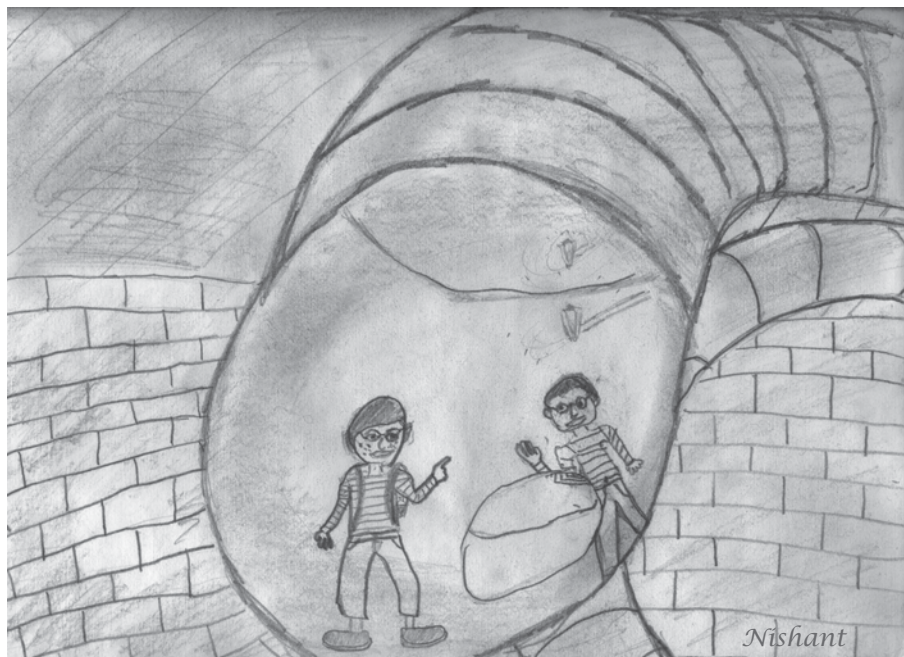
As Robin and Sam were on their morning walk towards the Museum of Golden Artifacts, Robin sipped up the last bit of his orange juice from his bottle; he threw the P.E.T. bottle into a trashcan labeled "plastics". There, he spotted a fresh newspaper titled in bold letters, "**Theft of the Golden Statue**". He picked it up and read it aloud to Sam, who is his detective partner and his brother: "On Sept. 9th, around 9:09 p.m. a thirty-kilogram statue made of gold was stolen from the **Museum of Golden Artifacts**, right after one of the caretakers locked the museum with one of his heavy lock at nighttime. People suspected him for the theft because he was the last person seen in the museum, but "he" has proven that thought wrong..."

Sam and Robin exchanged glances and, scurried back to their house. They packed their bags with all sorts of spy gadgets, and sat on a strong old branch of an oak tree growing beside the museum's corner, waiting until the night of Sept. 10th. As the nine o' clock bell rang on the museum's clock... Sam and Robin jumped off the branch. They pulled down their night vision goggles that were on their forehead and, crept up to the walls surrounding the museum's trash corner. They glued on many one centimeter-sized night vision cameras on the walls around that point, to keep watch if the thieves will pass through that point and will have proof if they do. Then they studied the map of the museum's ventilation shafts with their magnifying glasses.

After that, they ripped the net, covering the entrance of the nearest ventilation pipe and slithered into it. Soon the inside of the pipe got big enough for them to walk in. The children saw footprints on the surface of the pipe and realized the thieves must have used this ventilation pipe for entering the museum. As they noticed it, they heard an evil giggle coming from a corner of the shaft and, heard some wicked voice, "Boss our plan is almost finished. By now, still no one has noticed this area of the museum. Our only challenge now, is to ship

it back to our city." "Good, but hurry up, before anyone knows the golden statue is in this region of the museum, which is not in everybody's daily use. We should move that statue away from this place. Go, and bring that here."

Now the children were sure that the statue was nowhere else, but somewhere inside the museum only. But where was it? They were supposed to face some big bad people who could carry a thirty-kilogram statue easily with maybe one hand. However... as they were thinking, they heard one of the members of that gang was heading towards the exit of this ventilation, where they were standing. Therefore, Sam and Robin ascended some footholds that were right beside them luckily and, walked into another pipe that was above the previous one. First they were stunned, and then they ran straight. While running, Sam who was in front bumped into something and felt it, it was a long rope ladder hanging from nowhere, even with the night vision goggles, they couldn't see the end of it. As they started to climb, they glued another tiny camera on the rope ladder. While ascending, they grew tired and took a break on the ladder. As they regained their strength to climb, they started again. By now, they had climbed for twenty minutes including their break in the middle. They reached the edge from where the ladder hung and hauled themselves up. They saw red carpet with golden lining at the edges of it. They started to walk in another passage and



ran straight until they saw a door.

The door had golden lining in the shape of a rectangle plate on the door. This room seemed as if nobody used it for many years. The door was covered with a layer of dust. For a while, they stood silently and thought if it was better to enter in that room and waited for a while. They opened the door slowly, and they totally froze and shocked to see what was standing there. There was standing the shining thirty kilograms golden statue, which was polished everyday by the caretakers of the museum. Even though the room was lit by only one light bulb that was reflecting on the golden statue, the whole room was glowing brightly. The floor here was just smooth granite. There was a small table, made of rose wood and had a pencil, an eraser on it, a note that had scribbles on it, and a blue vase that has three flowers in it. The smell of dampness and dust tingled their nose. Two pictures hung from the cold wall, one had a yacht and the other one had a picture of a tree standing in snow beside the sidewalk. Both of them were framed above a rocking chair.

As they stood there awestruck, watching the statue. While thinking about the museum's architect and how the thieves brought the statue in that room. Suddenly they heard footsteps coming from the hallway that was leading towards the door to the statue, where they were standing.

They dived in between the two large book racks that had lot of books, standing at the right side of the door to hide themselves behind it. Right at that moment, the door creaked opened. The small clan walked in slowly.... After exactly one day from the time the statue was stolen, they could see who the real culprits were. With the help of their gadgets, they contacted the police and mailed them the pictures that were taken with their

mini cameras. The police were also shocked to see the real culprit's pictures. The gang's boss was the garbage truck driver and the other three were the museum's tour guides who knew the museum inside and out.

As few gangmembers entered the room and pushed the statue towards the door, Sam and Robin instantly yelled "FREEZE" and threw an elastic net on the thieves. They jumped onto them and pushed them on the floor. They caught them and tied them with a rope to the chair. While they were tying them, they spotted another big hole on the wall like the last one. They saw that the ventilation net was already ripped so they must have used this way to steal the statue. "WE SURRENDER", the surprised bandits said to these tiny kids who captured them. By that time the police reached the site. The pitiless thieves were shoved into the police car. Then the police officers said, "Thank you" and they drove off to police station with those thieves.

Next day, their names came in the newspaper "Mystry of golden statue solved by Sam and Robin." The statue was placed back in place in museum. However, this time security was improved, they had put lasers around the ventilation shafts and statues so there will be less chances of big crimes like this one. □

