## **Cara's Imagination**

Cara knew that there was something special at the bottom of the garden - a mystery both magical and wonderful. But what she didn't know was that in the same place was something quite sinister, even dangerous. Did she dare find out?

Cara ran out of her old house and sprinted through her colourful garden. Her dark, brown hair was flying behind her. Cara stopped near the vines, wondering if she was going to finally enter the strange vine room. She crept through a tiny gap. Cara's eyes glistened, she couldn't believe what was in there!

Cara stretched her arm out to touch the thread, she put her fingers around it and lightly pulled them down. Cara sat down on the grass, staring at the magical, golden thread around her.

"I wonder what weaved this beautiful thread?" She asked herself quietly.

Suddenly, Cara jumped! Crawling around the vines was a dark spider with a sparkly diamond on its back. The spider started growing until it was as big as it could grow. Cara couldn't believe her eyes! She moved the vines out of her way and raced through the garden. Was Cara going to tell someone?

She sprinted through the veggie patch and past the trees. Cara ran to the door, twisted the handle and pushed it open. She screamed to her Dad.

"Behind the vines there is a massive spider and..." Cara felt really horrible, she wasn't allowed to go behind the vines.

Cara's dad yelled "Cara! Why on earth did you go in there?! It's ridiculous that my sensible Cara would do such a thing!" Cara knew her dad was disappointed. Cara's dad changed his thinking when he saw her worried face crumple.

"Cara, I will take a look," he calmly assured her.

Walking towards the forbidden garden, Cara explained everything she had seen.

"Look under here!" Cara told her dad.

Cara's dad crawled under the vines and peeked at the big spider. He knew Cara HATED spiders.

"It looks incredible, doesn't it?" Cara asked.

Then her dad answered, "No, not really. All I can see is the vines... You know your stories are wonderful but.."

"It wasn't a story!" Cara yelled, cutting her dad off.

Cara ran away from her dad. She whispered to herself, "I'm going to prove that place isn't normal! My dad is going to see that I didn't make up a thing, he'll be shocked!"

Stepping through the door, Cara grabbed a sheet of paper and started to plan.

"How can I get my dad to see that I'm not lying?"

She spent hours trying to figure something out, then it hit her. Cara bolted out of her room and down the stairs. Cara opened all the cupboards, and found what she needed: a plastic tube.

She sprinted out to the vines and slid under, into the vine weaved room. Sure enough, the spider was still there, admiring some of its remarkable thread. Cara had noticed a fluorescent, green puddle to her right. She reached for a stick and dipped it into the puddle. Surprisingly it just burnt away.

"We could be in big danger!" yelled Cara. The huge, black spider's head twisted around and gave Cara a dirty look. It twitched menacingly, causing her to flee from the room.

"Now I really need to prove to Dad that there's a huge spider, or we could all be in great danger!" Cara shuddered. Cara sat down on her cozy bed. Placing her head onto the feather pillow, Cara shut her eyes, and she drifted off to sleep, as slowly as a snail.

Cara opened each eye, and stared out the window. She glanced down towards the vines, and noticed there was a fluorescent, goo oozing out.

Cara raced down the stairs and bolted into her dad's room.

"DAD!" Cara shrieked. Startled, Cara's dad opened his eyes and sat up.

"What's up Cara?" he yawned, trying to stay awake.

"The vine cave area!" Cara yelled. "It's flooded with a bright goo!"

"What?" her Dad asked.

"Follow me!" Cara instructed.

Reluctantly her dad followed her downstairs. As Cara ran through the lounge, she noticed the goo had come closer.

"Oh Cara!" her dad shouted, looking out the window. "Did you know it was this bad?" he asked.

"Maybe..." She confessed.

"Well, what are we going to do?" her dad inquired.

"I have an idea." Cara shouted over her shoulder as she ran to the back door.

Cara flung the door open and ran to the old pile of sand in the garden. She grabbed a bag and quickly filled it with sand. Cara dragged the bag towards the goo and threw piles of sand across the acid. Eight bags of sand later, all the goo had cleared up!

Now it was time to look at the vine cave, but it was gone! It had burnt away with all the grass. The sun hit the ground and there was a sparkle of light behind where the vines used to be.

"LOOK!" Cara yelled, running up to the sparkle. "A piece of the golden thread."

"What thread?" her dad questioned.

"Don't worry." Cara replied, quickly. Cara wondered why her dad couldn't see the thread. It was right in front of his eyes, but it didn't matter now. Cara closed her eyes, and just relaxed after the hectic morning.

Finally, Cara dared to open her eyes. She appeared to be in her bedroom. The golden thread was on her bedside table but everything else appeared to be normal. She peered out her window and saw the vine cave was still there and the sand had disappeared.

Puzzled, Cara ran downstairs to see her dad.

"Dad, What happened yesterday?" Cara asked.

"We went to the park," her dad explained. "Did you forget?"

"No, but what about the goo?" Cara asked.

"You have the wildest imagination," her dad laughed, putting his arm around her. Cara relaxed her head against his shoulder, feeling safe but still not sure it had just been in her head.

"Maybe, I'll go check the cave later... Just in case." Cara laughed to herself.

Mia McKinley, Year Five, Trinity Lutheran College