

## **The Lighthouse of All Time- The Library**

Joel, Brie and two of the closest friends, Juan and Lakayla were in the same high school English class under the direction of Mrs. Hill.

Mrs. Hill was a fun teacher, but she talked in quotes from books many days. One day Mrs. Hill began her rambling clues. “Books are lighthouses erected in the great sea of time” by Edwin Whipple,” she said loudly and continued, “A good book is the best of friends,” and finally a quote by Barbara Tuchman, “Nothing sickens me like the closed doors of a library. Class, the first library was created in a lighthouse. The books were stored in a cabinet and rotated through many. Most of the books were fiction, however there were some pieces of non-fiction,” Mrs. Hill said.

Joel playfully spoke up, “Mrs. Hill, I take it you want our class to go to the library and read history books?”

Mrs. Hill giggled, “Oh, Joel, you make me laugh. However, you are correct in a way. You see, class, I want you to attend the public library and get off of your computers for a weekend. The library is the lighthouse of all time. Go to the library, and research different sections of the library. I will assign you partners and sections of the library. You will go this Saturday, and I do not want to hear an excuse from you or your parents.”

Mrs. Hill was nice, but none of the students, including our parents, wanted to make her mad. She was that good at teaching.

“Joel and Juan will research stories by Shakespeare and Brie and Lakayla will research poetry by poets from the same time period- around the mid to late 1600’s.” Mrs. Hill pared up the rest of the class, while Juan and Joel were already planning a fun date with Brie and Lakayla on Saturday.

After texting the girls after class, Joel and Juan decided to turn homework into a fun date the girls would love.

“Joel, we can do our Shakespeare research, and then I heard there will be Shakespeare in the Park by the pond,” Juan said happily.

“I like the idea,” Joel said. “I think we should do homework first before the play, place our work in my tote bag and then you can bring an ice cooler for soda and water and maybe fruit and cheese.”

The boys were excited about the secret date they planned. Brie and Lakayla had no clue.

Brie texted Joel, “Can you and Juan meet Lakayla and me inside the library? Maybe we can do something afterward. Do not say no. LOL.”

Joel texted back, “Btw, we already had the evening planned for you and Lakayla.”

Before the big date, Joel and Juan went walked to the bank and cashed another check from their yard service they began last summer. Juan used his signature guide and signed off on the check as did Joel, so the four classmates could spend a fun night learning and socializing.

Saturday, Lakayla walked next door to pick up Brie and waited for her to gather her tote bag, cane and cell phone. After she said good-bye to her mother, Brie and Lakayla walked to the library passing the pond.

Lakayla spoke up, “Brie, I see people setting up a state at the pond. I wonder what fun event is going on.”

“I do not know, Lakayla, but Joel said he and Juan had an idea for fun after the library,” Brie smiled.

The boys were already waiting inside of the library when the girls walked through the door.

While the boys went exploring Shakespeare, the girls began reading and listening to great poets of the 1600’s like John Fletcher. There were so many good books Brie could download from sites but she enjoyed holding a Braille book- placing the book into her hands.

After two hours of researching Joel found Brie and Lakayla.

“There is a renaissance festival at the pond tonight, so we can go and hear Shakespeare if you girls would like to go with us,” Joel said.

“Sure, Joel, but where will we keep our work we’ve printed?” Lakayla asked.

“No problem there, I brought my tote bag and Juan brought a small cooler with soda, water, fruit and cheese,” Joel smiled.

The girls and boys were so happy to go to the play. Juan took pictures and posted them on every social network. He knew Mrs. Hill would be proud they did homework and saw the play.

While everyone cheered for the actors, the girls packed the remaining cheese, fruit and soda back into the cooler at the end of the play. However, Joel was using his astronomy kit he secretly packed when Juan was not looking. The stars were incredible tonight.

When the four teens were walking home, Juan and Lakayla saw a lighthouse. Joel took out his monocular and looked at the beautiful lighted tower and described everything he saw to Brie.

Joel turned to Brie and said, “Though your eyes only see dark you will be my lighthouse.”

When Joel said the words, Juan laughed, Lakayla sighed and Brie... well, Brie was speechless and she was in love.