

Sophie's Disguises

by Bálint Harcos illustrations by Cristina Quiles ©Pagony Publishing House

Sophie went out shopping with Mom to a big department store. A little boy and his mommy were going in the main door the same time as they were.

Sophie looked around and stared: "Wow, all those glittery dresses! And mirrors! Mom, look!"

Sophie tried on a skirt, and looked at herself in the mirror. Then she spun, and watched the skirt spin with her!

Next, Sophie put on a great big feathered hat. She turned her head one way, then the other. And all at once: there! She saw the little boy, who was wrapping a shawl around his head.

Sophie laughed, then told him, "Hi, my name's Sophie." .e.

"Hi, I'm Tommy."

Sophie took off the hat, and winked,

"You want to play?"

"Play what?" the boy asked back.

"Let's play disguises!"

"Yaah!" Tommy laughed.

And off they ran.

Sophie said, "Let's be clowns!"

"Okay," Tommy agreed.

Sophie ran right, and Tommy ran left.

And as they ran, whoomp, they both grabbed some oversize shoes, pajamas and a red pingpong ball.

Suddenly, there were a pair of clowns in the department store!

The store manager lady ran out, "Ooh la la! What is this? A circus?"

One of the clowns flopped on his belly, and the other dragged him away laughing between the winter clothing aisles.

Tommy whispered, "Let's be trees now!"

"Super!" Sophie snickered.

Tommy ran right, and Sophie ran left. And *swoosh*, they swept up a bunch of green socks and a pair of windbreakers.

A tree and a shrub cropped up right there, *whuff*, in the middle of the store.

The manager looked shocked,

"Whoawhoah! How did these plants take root here? Someone call the garden staff!"

But the tree and the shrub scampered away behind the sports gear.

Sophie chuckled, "Let's be lions this time!"

"Alright," Tommy nodded.

Sophie ran off left, and Tommy ran right. And swish, they both grabbed some shell suits, a ballerina's N Agenci tutu, and a tasseled wool cap, all in orange and yellow.

And *roaaruff*, two lions came leaping along the aisles!

The store manager panicked,

"Ohmygawd! Lions!

Get through to the zoo, right now!"

The lions swished their tales bravely, then pounced behind the wastebaskets.

There Tommy whispered, "You know what we should dress as next? Burglars!"

"Uh-huh," Sophie glowered.

Tommy ran left, and Sophie ran right. Along the way, phut-phut, they lobbed some garbage bags and a couple of torches and a pair of black tights each.

And along the store there crept, woop-woop, two burglars!

The store manager looked ready to faint,

"Holy frijole! We have burglars! Quick, dial 911!"

But the burglars just laughed and snuck in behind the shelves of bedding.

Tommy huffed and snuffled and said, "Now... now let's be a dinosaur!"

"Hahaa!" Sophie snapped her fingers.

Tommy ran up ahead, and Sophie ran down back.

And as they ran, *heaay-hoah*, they heaved out a vacuum cleaner and a great big bedsheet.

Then front and center, into the store there strode, *bomm-boom*, a giant dinosaur!

The manager's hair stood on end: "Suffering safflower! A dinosaur! Everyone run!"

But the dinosaur just giggled and thundered away behind the potted plants.

"Okay, what's our next disguise?" Tommy asked Sophie.

But right then, the loudspeaker squawked an announcement, "Attention, attention! Little Tommy and Sophie have gone missing, they're wanted by their mommies!"

Tommy and Sophie popped up from out of their hiding place.

But something was odd about the pair of them...

"It's me, Tommy!" Sophie lifted her wig high.

"And I'm Sophie," Tommy bowed low.

And both of them were laughing.

Their mommies laughed along, even as they changed the kids back into their original costumes: Sophie dressed as Sophie, and Tommy dressed as Tommy. Then they waved goodbye to the store manager, and made for the exit together.

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