

December 2021

HEGGAN HAPPENINGS

FOR TEENS AND TWEENS

WINTER WRITING CHALLENGE FOR TEENS AND TWEENS

Sometimes the setting of a story becomes larger than life. It even becomes a character in the story. For our winter writing contest, we want you to imagine all the wonder of the first real snow of the season. Write your story about a snow day adventure – the wintry wonderland becoming as much a character as the people you put in the story.

This story has a maximum word limit of 750 words, should be typed double-spaced, and emailed to the teen librarian at bpilling@hegganlibrary.org.

All stories are due by
February 15, 2022.

Register online via the event calendar at www.hegganlibrary.org under **PROGRAMS** for all events.

Please contact Librarian Barb at bpilling@hegganlibrary.org for more information.

Masks are required inside the library.

TEEN & TWEEN BOOK CLUB



Join us in the library for a discussion of Avi's
Gold Rush Girl.

Thursday, December 2

6:00 pm

TAB TEEN GAME TIME!

Monday, December 20

6 – 8 pm in the library



Join us for this TAB Teen Gaming event! Teen Game Time is for Heggan teen cardholders.

Come play Jackbox Party Pack 3 with Deadly Murder Trivia!

Use your smart phone or tablet to play! Register online.

WRITING CLUB FOR TEENS & TWEENS

Come join our conversation about writing!

The Writing Club gives young writers support in their quest to become the next great American writer!

Thursday, December 9

6:00 pm in the library

TAB Chapter Chat Mysteries!



Stalking Jack the Ripper
By Kerri Maniscalco



TAB Chapter Chat is a book club run by and for teens. This reading group meets monthly in the library to discuss popular YA Fiction.

**Thursday, December 16 at
6:00 pm**

MARGARET E. HEGGAN FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY

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MYSTERY WRITING CHALLENGE WINNER!

A Missing Identity by Abigail M.

My name is Reagan Johnson. I am 14 years old from Richmond, Virginia. I live with my mom, my stepdad (I call him Mike), my two younger stepsisters, and my younger brother, James. We are a relatively close family, but we were a lot closer before my biological dad disappeared. I was about six years old, and my family and I were getting ready for “Pizza Friday” (we would always have pizza for dinner every Friday) when my dad remembered he had to run to the store. He said goodbye but never came back. I haven’t seen him since, and I still miss him terribly. Whether he is dead, missing, or maybe on a vacation, I will always keep him close to my heart.

I woke up around 9:30 a.m. and decided to make myself some toast and scrambled eggs for breakfast. My sisters were both asleep, James was playing Minecraft in his bedroom, mom was at work, and Mike was watching **The Hunger Games** in the living room. “So, what are your plans for the day?” Mike asked.

“I don’t know, maybe I’ll go to the library.”

“Want me to take you there?”

“That’s okay, I’ll just ride my bike.”

Mike sighed.

I went back in my room, ate my breakfast, and started scrolling through my phone because, well, I was bored. I literally had nothing to do with myself. Then out of nowhere I heard a loud bang! I assumed that it was the TV until I heard Mike screaming! “Mike, are you okay!?”

No response. I ran to the living room to see a shattered window, a wrecked living room, and Mike was gone! By now my stepsisters were awake and they were both crying. James was holding on to me for dear life, and I was in total shock! What just happened? I started looking around to see if any clues were left behind. Broken glass, a knocked over plant, nothing of significance. But then I noticed a random sticky note on the TV remote. It said:

385 Montico Blvd, 5 p.m. Friday night or else...



I was puzzled. Where was this address? Why do I have it? Why is there a pizza on it? Why did Mike disappear? ...WHY DO I HAVE SO MANY QUESTIONS?!

I had one choice – follow the orders of the sticky note. I mean, I couldn’t just let Mike vanish like my dad did. I don’t want to see my mom’s heart crushed again. My siblings watched my every move because they were just as clueless as I was. “Listen up everyone. Let’s clean up the living room before Mom gets home. I’ll explain everything to her.”

Friday came and I wasn’t nervous at all. Mom was jittery; but, she trusted me with the situation. She was making tacos for Taco Tuesday even though it was Friday because eating tacos somehow always makes her happy. I had pulled up the address on my phone and it was just three blocks away from my school, which is about 10 minutes away from home. I left with one goal only in mind: Find Mike.

I arrived at exactly 5 p.m. at a massive house, almost like a mansion. It was older and gave off a Victorian vibe. “I hope you’re in there, Mike...” I thought to myself. I walked up to the door and rang the doorbell. I waited for two minutes or so, but no one came to the door. I rang it again. This time I heard yelling coming from inside. Still, no one answered the door. Then out of nowhere, I felt a sharp pain in the back of my head and heard a constant ringing. Suddenly, everything was black.

I opened my eyes and found myself tied to the back of a chair. I must have passed out or been knocked unconscious. I was in a darkened room lit by a single light right above me. I was terrified. “Hello?” I called. “Is anyone here?” Then I heard a creaking door coming from the left side of me.

“I see you’ve woken.”

Someone walked in, but I couldn’t see who it was. “Who are you? Who’s there?” I asked.

“I see you received my note!” a male voice responded. “I have a gift for you. But you can only keep it if you bring me my money within five days or you return the gift to me. Deal?” I nodded slightly, then the light went out. “Good choice,” the voice said. “A reward will follow.”

The ties mysteriously slackened; it seemed lighter. I stood up with even more questions now. Then, I heard two voices calling from somewhere behind me. “Reagan! Over here!” they called. I turned around to see Mike with a man following behind him. “Mike! I’m glad you’re okay! And... DAD?!”

The next thing I remember was laying on our couch regaining consciousness. I must have passed out! Needing a break from all the drama at home, I took a walk in the park. I sat on a bench calming down. As I relaxed, an elderly man came up to me. He had on a suit and tie with a pizza pin on it. He said, “Excuse me young lady, do you know where I could find the nearest pizzeria?”

“Sure, it’s right down the...” My voice trailed off. The voice was familiar. Pizza pin? Pizzeria? Then the man started running down the street. It was the same man from the mansion! I whipped out my phone and took his picture before I lost sight of him. I ran home as fast as I could and showed the picture to my parents. We called the police. Turns out that the man had been kidnapping people to get ransom money to open his own pizza shop! Yes, I know it sounds crazy; but, hey, the truth is the truth! All things aside, I was happy to have my family back together, old and new.