

**Elizabeth Marie is Missing**

**UPDATED APRIL 18**

**April 3,10,17; May 1,8,15, 22 Perform May 22 5:00pm**

Avi = Harley the Smart Cat

Elodie =Elizabeth Marie a solemn young girl

Penelope(PK) = Mom Karen

Cooper = Technical Set, Sound, Light design& running crew

Lukah= Forest Sprite (Fairy) Pick one: Flora, Anwin, Lara, Aurora, Elva

Lydia= Grandpa Montgomery

**SND Q 1 -1a Info safety acknowledge Music 1 min 48 sec**

**Narration: Once Upon a time in a land far far away there was a family who really needed help. The mother named Karen was not your typical mother. she ran numerous parent groups, volunteered at the local SPCA, sent regular donations to all manner of collections, and participated in community fundraising for just about any and all campaigns. In fact she was so busy feeling superior of her good works and critical of others, that she rarely had time for her daughter Elizabeth Marie. Liz, or Lizzy as her father calls her, was a lonely child. Living on an acreage meant she was dependent on her mother for transportation. Her father worked overseas most of the year and as time moved on Elizabeth became a very solemn child.... Her mother insisted on a series of chores and homework regardless if any was assigned by teachers. (weird music)**

**Grandpa M: (walks in with a cane -crosses in front of audience) Bah kids these days.**

**Karen: Well Harley. I think you'll like it here.**

**Harley: Meow Lots of room to run around. Is there food?**

**Karen: Of course there will be food. You are so adorable. (comes in house) Elizabeth....Have you finished the sweeping?**

**Elizabeth: Yes mother. Oh is ...**

**Karen: Have you done the laundry?**

**Elizabeth: Yes maam.**

**Karen: What about the floor?**

**Elizabeth: Yes maam. But you got a cat.**

**Karen: Never mind that. Is your homework done?**

**Elizabeth: Yes maam. Can I pet the cat?**

Karen: Go ahead.

Harley: Meow. (Liz and Harley start playing)

Karen: I have a meeting tonight so put yourself to bed.

Elizabeth: Yes maam.

Karen: Look after Harley. (talks to cat) You are so adorable. (exit Karen)

Elizabeth: Harley. That's a nice name. You're very soft. I wish mummy was more...umm willing to play with me.

Harley: Meow That's sad

Elizabeth: I try to be a good girl-but she doesn't love me no matter what I do.

Harley: Meow Poor girl.

Elizabeth: It's scary when I'm alone. Well there's Mrs. Bell. She's nice but always working...It's better with you here. (*Cat explores house and plays with Liz-KAREN COMES BACK IN*)

SND Q 2 42 secs

Narration: As days pass Karen heaps her praise on Harley. She pets and spoils the cat insistently, totally ignoring Elizabeth- except with the occasional look of longing. Almost as if she wants to say something to Elizabeth. (weird music)

Grandpa M: (*walks in with cane crosses stage*): I tell ya.... Being a single parent is no picnic. There's bills, broken pipes, and shopping! I hate shopping!

Elizabeth: Mommy I'd like to.....

Karen: Not now dear. I'm expecting a call.

Elizabeth: But I'd really like to join Sparks. My friend Michelle invited me.

Karen: No Michelle's parents are bad. Raina's parents are good.

Elizabeth: Raina's not very nice.

SND Q 3 phone rings 3 sec

Karen: (on phone) Yes I'll be there right away!

Harley: Bye mom... I mean Meow

Karen: See even Harley is better.

Elizabeth: Darn. She just won't listen Harley:

Harley: Awe.....

Elizabeth: Yeah she wasn't always like this.

**SND Q 4 7 secs**

Narration: As Elizabeth plays and talks her problems out to Harley the phone rings. (RINGING OF PHONE -Elizabeth picks it up (*When Elizabeth is on phone with her dad -Harley knocks computer off table- so Liz doesn't see it*)

Elizabeth: Bishop residence how may I help you?.... Oh daddy it is so good to hear your voice..... no mommy's not here. Mrs. Bell is in the kitchen. I have so much to tell you....

**SND Q 5 31 secs**

Narration: Lizzy talks with her father and becomes more animated than in the past few weeks. She tells her father all about Harley and her new friend Michelle. Her father says he'll be coming home soon and they can go to the zoo with Michelle. (*MUSIC so Karen can come home and grab phone*) Karen comes home in the middle of Elizabeth's conversation and grabs the phone from her and disconnects the call without even asking who might be on the other end.

Karen: I told you not to answer the phone when I'm away.

Elizabeth: But but it was.....

Karen: I don't care who it was.

Elizabeth: But mummy it.....

Karen: Stop making excuses Elizabeth. Get to your homework.

Harley: Bye for the 50<sup>th</sup> time.

**SND Q 6 Music of time passing. Phone rings and Karen answers.**

Karen: Hello

As KAREN talks she gets more and more visibly upset to eventually hang up. Arguments were very constant these days. It seemed as if everyone was against her, and if she just worked harder people would see. (MUSIC ) As Harley comes up to her Karen talks about how difficult her life has become.

Karen: Why couldn't Elizabeth be sweet like you. (*goes into dining room see's laptop on the floor*) Elizabeth Marie what have you done!

Elizabeth: I didn't... I mean I.....

Karen: I've told you to stay away from my computer!

Elizabeth: But it wasn't me!

Karen: You will stay in your room and think about what you have done.

Elizabeth: But I didn't.....

Karen: March young lady. I will tell Mrs. Bell you will be going without dinner this evening.

Elizabeth: That's not fair! I didn't.....

Karen: Life's not fair! If my computer is broken you will get.....

Elizabeth: Fine! I hate you! (*stomps Away*)

Karen: There are days I wish I didn't have a child. It's so hard.

Harley: MEEEEOW!

SND Q 7 40 secs

Voice: Very well Mrs. Bishop. I'll see to young Elizabeth. Have a good trip.

Narration: Throughout the week her mother was gone, Elizabeth became more & more unhappy. She turned her mother's words around and around in her head. As a young one she understood things from one point of view. She didn't quite get the meaning of 'feeling empty' or the stress of 'being a single parent.' She didn't know why her mother was so cross all of the time. She did however get that her mummy didn't want her anymore.

Elizabeth: Mummy wishes I wasn't here Harley. So I'll give her that wish. I'll pack a bag and move somewhere else.

### FOREST SCENE ADDED

Grandpa M: *(walks in with cane)* " Bye mom never wanted me, so suck it up...." That girl needs a friend.... *(thinks about his own friends and what happened and gets mad)* Bah friends...such nonsense. They'll leave you in a tick and never come back. Humbug! I 'm gonna go get some pie. Pie makes things better!

**SND Q 8** Music as Elizabeth paks then goes into forest (*Forest Sprite watches Lizzy. We do a little every time Liz looks Forest Sprite hides 3 times*)

FS: Hullo

Elizabeth: Oh... hello.

FS: What are you doing here?

Elizabeth: I left my home. Mummy doesn't want me.

FS: Welcome to the whispering wood. Wan't to have some fun?

### **SND Q 9**

Narration: The Forest Sprite and Elizabeth play throughout the woods. Time passes as it is does and the two become fast friends.

Elizabeth: Your turn.

Forest Sprite: Let's see... I know let's do a dance.

Elizabeth: Okay!

### **SND Q 10**

Dance music 30 secs

Elizabeth: That was fun. But I miss... well maybe not mommy, but daddy Yeah!

Forest Sprite: Do not worry yourself little one. All works as it is supposed to.

Elizabeth: If you say so! *(yawns)*

Forest Sprite: Time for rest I think. *(they both lay down to sleep)*

**Grandpa M:** *(walks in with cane)* Sleeping the day away... What a waste of time! Ya know Mom's & Dad's were tough when I was a kid. Once I got in heck for taking a piece of pie that was for dinner. Hmmmm pie.....*(exits)*

**SND Q 11** *Music of Elizabeth & Sprite sleeping in the forest.*

**Narration:** It is said that we experience our whole lives in one moment when faced with a life changing event. Never was this more true than when Karen got a phone call from Mrs. Bell explaining Elizabeth's disappearance. The police could not find her and everyone feared the worst. As Karen flew home to join the search she thought about her treatment of Liz the last months and was horrified. Add *(Elizabeth in diff voices)* **1 min**

**Karen:** Elizabeth *(calls out)* Elizabeth. Liiiiiiz/Elizabeth...*(Goes back into the house)* Where could she be? What if she is hurt?

**Grandpa M:** A little late to think of that now girly? Parents these days!*(shakes his head as he exits)*

**SND Q 12** 32 sec

**Narration:** Now as it happens everyone was looking totally in the wrong direction. It was assumed that Lizzy went towards town. But she was not a city girl. Elizabeth knew the woods like she knew her own house. She knew enough to bring warm clothes and food, and of course something to keep the weather off. Back at home Harley had been acting strange ever since Karen had come home. Not sitting still... meowing plaintively, and especially pacing back and forth.

**Karen:** We have to find her. I 've been so angry! If anything happens to her I'll never forgive myself.

**Harley:** MEWWWWOW! *(Claws Karen)*

**Karen:** Owe! What? *(Harley goes to door as if asking Karen to follow)* You want to go out? Okay okay!

**Grandpa M:** Trusting a cat! Gotta be crazy! When I was a youngster cats were for catching mice, not children.

**SND Q 13** (*Karen follows Harley to music*) 34 secs

**Karen:** Elizabeth....Lizzy... Beth.....Liiiiiiz..... Oh where can she be? Are you sure?

**Harley:** Yup! I mean.....Meeow

**SND Q 14** dramatic music 5 secs fanfare

**Elizabeth:** Harley

**Karen:** Elizabeth Marie... What on earth?? Why?

**Elizabeth:** Because you don't love me anymore.

**Karen:** Oh dear! I've been so wrong Lizzy. I love you very much.

**Elizabeth:** Really? Good cause Can I have a puppy?

**Karen:** We'll see! Let's go. Dad's coming home tomorrow!

**Elizabeth:** Uhuh!

**SND Q 15** 37 sec

**Narration:** And so it came to pass that Lizzy's dad came home and stayed home and was home for dinner with his family every night. Lizzie joined Sparks and her dad and mom took the entire pak to the zoo as a treat. (*Music to give Lukah time to change ... can Lydia help her*) Harley was joined by a little poodle name Parker and both slept on Lizzies bed. Elizabeth would occasionally go into the forest to see if she could find her friend but she never did find her again. She came to the conclusion that friends are there when you need them, and that is what was most important. Every once in a while Lizzy would leave a flower as a thank you.... Grandpa Montgomery stood watch over the forest, shaking his head whenever a youngster would run away and find themselves befriended by a friendly sprite. Things are not always perfectly smooth, but then life does not have to perfect, to be absolutely wonderful!

**SND Q 16** Curtain Call 31 secs