

# The Magic Paintbrush

A Fleydo English School Story

A2 Level | Kids (6-10) | Reading | Story

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*In this enchanting storybook, young A2-level readers follow Lily, a kind girl who loves painting, as she discovers a magical golden paintbrush under an old oak tree. Everything she paints becomes real! Lily uses her gift to help her friends, her neighbours, and her whole village.*

## Learning Objectives

- Read and understand a 12-page illustrated story in English
- Learn 15 new A2-level vocabulary words in context
- Practise reading comprehension with multiple-choice questions
- Understand story structure: setting, problem, solution
- Discuss themes of kindness and helping others

## 1 Read the Story

### Chapter 1: The Girl Who Loved Painting

Lily lived in a small village near a big forest. She was nine years old, with long brown hair and a big smile. Lily loved painting more than anything in the world.

Every day after school, she sat under a tall tree and painted pictures of animals, flowers and the blue sky. She had three old paintbrushes and a small box of paints. They were not new, but Lily did not mind. She was happy when she was painting.

Her mother always said, "Lily, you paint the most beautiful pictures I have ever seen!" And Lily always smiled, because painting made her feel free.

One rainy afternoon, Lily was walking home through the forest. The rain was falling softly on the leaves. Suddenly, she saw something shiny under a very old oak tree.

She walked closer and looked down. There, half-hidden in the mud, was a beautiful paintbrush. It was golden and it was glowing with a soft warm light.

"What a beautiful paintbrush!" said Lily. She picked it up carefully. It felt warm in her hand, like holding a cup of hot chocolate on a cold day.

Lily cleaned the paintbrush with her sleeve and put it in her bag. She could not wait to try it at home!

### Chapter 2: Something Amazing Happens!

At home, Lily put a white paper on her desk. She dipped the golden paintbrush in red paint and started to draw a little bird. She painted its wings, its round eyes, and its tiny beak.

When she finished, something amazing happened! The red bird moved on the paper. It opened its beak and sang a little song! Then — whoosh! — it flew right out of the paper and sat on Lily's shoulder!

"Oh my!" Lily shouted. "The paintbrush is magic!"

The little bird looked at Lily with its bright eyes and sang again. Lily laughed with joy. This was the best day of her life!

Lily wanted to try again. She painted a basket of red apples. One by one, the apples became real! They were sweet and delicious. She gave one to her mother, who said, "Where did you get such perfect apples?"

Then Lily painted a small white kitten. The kitten jumped off the paper, landed on the floor, and started playing with a ball of yarn! It had soft white fur and big blue eyes.

"I am going to call you Snowball!" said Lily, picking up the kitten.

Lily could not believe it. Everything she painted became real. This paintbrush was truly magical!

### Chapter 3: Tom's Lost Cat

The next morning, Lily's best friend Tom came to visit. But he was not smiling. He looked very sad.

"What is wrong, Tom?" asked Lily.

"My cat Mimi disappeared yesterday," Tom said. His voice was quiet and shaky. "I looked everywhere — under the bed, in the garden, behind the shop. But I cannot find her anywhere."

Tom loved Mimi very much. She was a small grey cat with green eyes and a long fluffy tail. Tom had had her since she was a baby kitten.

"Do not worry, Tom," said Lily with a big smile. "I think I can help you!"

Lily took her golden paintbrush and a piece of paper. She painted a beautiful map of the forest. When she finished painting, the map started to glow! A golden path appeared on it, leading deep into the trees.

"Follow this map!" said Lily. "It will show us where Mimi is!"

Lily and Tom walked into the forest together. They followed the glowing golden path on the map. They walked past tall trees, crossed a little wooden bridge over a stream, and listened to the birds singing in the branches above them.

The golden path led them deeper and deeper into the forest. Tom held the map tightly, hoping to find his beloved cat.

### Chapter 4: Finding Mimi

After twenty minutes of walking, they heard a soft sound. "Meow!"

Tom's eyes opened wide. "That is Mimi!" he shouted. He ran forward as fast as he could.

There, sitting under a big green bush, was Mimi! She looked a little bit hungry, but she was safe. When she saw Tom, she jumped into his arms and purred happily.

"Mimi! I found you!" Tom said, hugging her. Tears of happiness rolled down his face. "Thank you so much, Lily! You and your magic paintbrush saved Mimi!"

Lily smiled proudly. She was so happy that she could help her friend. Helping others felt wonderful.

### Chapter 5: Helping the Village

News about the magic paintbrush spread through the village very quickly. Soon, people started coming to Lily for help.

Old Mrs. Chen needed new furniture for her house. Her table was broken and her chairs were too old. "Can you help me, Lily?" she asked kindly. Lily painted a beautiful wooden table and four strong chairs. They became real instantly!

"Oh, thank you, dear!" Mrs. Chen said with happy tears.

Mr. Garcia's garden had no water. His flowers were dying and his vegetables could not grow. Lily painted a beautiful stone fountain in the middle of his garden. Cool, clean water started flowing immediately!

"You are a precious gift to our village!" said Mr. Garcia.

## Chapter 6: The Village Garden

One sunny Saturday, all the villagers gathered in the town square. They asked Lily to paint something special for everyone.

Lily thought carefully. What would make the whole village happy? Then she smiled and started painting!

She painted a beautiful garden with flowers of every colour — red roses, yellow sunflowers, purple lavender and blue forget-me-nots. She painted a wooden bench under a cherry tree, a little pond with goldfish, and a path made of colourful stones.

When Lily finished, the most wonderful garden appeared in the square! Butterflies danced around the flowers. Bees buzzed happily. The cherry tree gave cool shade on hot days.

Everyone clapped and cheered! Children ran through the garden laughing. Old people sat on the bench and enjoyed the flowers. It was the most beautiful place in the whole village.

Lily felt very proud. She looked at her golden paintbrush and smiled. "I will always use you to help people," she whispered. The paintbrush glowed warmly in her hand, as if it understood.

From that day on, Lily used her magic paintbrush carefully and wisely. She never painted gold or diamonds. Instead, she painted things that people truly needed: warm scarves and blankets in cold winter, umbrellas when it rained, toys for children who had none, and books for the village school.

## Chapter 7: The Most Important Lesson

Lily learned the most important lesson of all: the best magic is not about what you can GET — it is about what you can GIVE.

And with her magic paintbrush, Lily gave happiness to everyone around her. Every single day.

Her mother was proud. Her friends were grateful. And the little village near the forest became the happiest place in the whole country.

Can you imagine having a magic paintbrush? What would YOU paint? Close your eyes and think about it.

Maybe the real magic is not inside the paintbrush at all. Maybe the real magic is inside YOUR imagination — and inside your kind heart.

Because every time you help someone, every time you are kind, you are doing something truly magical.

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## The End

*And so, if you ever walk through a forest after the rain, look carefully under the old oak trees. You might just find something golden and magical waiting for you.*

*But remember: magic is not about what you paint. It is about WHY you paint.*

## 2 Key Vocabulary

These words from the story will help you improve your English. Study their meanings and examples.

Word	Type	Definition	Example
<b>village</b>	<i>noun</i>	a very small town in the countryside	<i>Lily lived in a small village near a forest.</i>
<b>forest</b>	<i>noun</i>	a large area of land with many trees	<i>She walked through the forest every day.</i>
<b>paintbrush</b>	<i>noun</i>	a tool with soft hairs used for painting	<i>She found a golden paintbrush under a tree.</i>
<b>golden</b>	<i>adj</i>	the bright yellow colour of gold	<i>The paintbrush was shiny and golden.</i>
<b>amazing</b>	<i>adj</i>	very surprising and wonderful	<i>Something amazing happened!</i>
<b>shoulder</b>	<i>noun</i>	the top part of your arm, near your neck	<i>The bird sat on Lily's shoulder.</i>
<b>basket</b>	<i>noun</i>	a container for carrying things	<i>She painted a basket of red apples.</i>
<b>magic</b>	<i>adj</i>	having special powers; not normal	<i>The magic paintbrush made paintings come to life.</i>
<b>disappeared</b>	<i>verb</i>	went away and could not be found	<i>Tom's cat disappeared yesterday.</i>
<b>furniture</b>	<i>noun</i>	tables, chairs, beds in a house	<i>Mrs. Chen needed new furniture.</i>
<b>fountain</b>	<i>noun</i>	a structure that pushes water up	<i>Lily painted a fountain in the garden.</i>
<b>gathered</b>	<i>verb</i>	came together in one place	<i>All the villagers gathered in the square.</i>
<b>precious</b>	<i>adj</i>	very special, valuable and important	<i>You are a precious gift to our village!</i>
<b>proud</b>	<i>adj</i>	happy about something good you did	<i>Lily felt very proud of the garden.</i>
<b>imagine</b>	<i>verb</i>	to make a picture in your mind	<i>Can you imagine having a magic paintbrush?</i>

### 3 Comprehension Quiz

Test your understanding of the story. Choose the correct answer for each question.

**Question 1. Where did Lily find the magic paintbrush?**

- A. In her bedroom
- B. Under an old oak tree in the forest
- C. At the village shop
- D. In her school bag

**Question 2. What was the FIRST thing Lily painted with the magic paintbrush?**

- A. A basket of apples
- B. A white kitten
- C. A red bird
- D. A map

**Question 3. What happened when Lily finished painting the bird?**

- A. Nothing happened
- B. The bird sang a song
- C. The bird flew out of the paper
- D. The paper turned red

**Question 4. Why was Tom sad?**

- A. He lost his school bag
- B. His cat Mimi disappeared
- C. He broke his paintbrush
- D. He failed a test

**Question 5. How did Lily help Tom find his cat?**

- A. She called the police
- B. She asked everyone in the village
- C. She painted a magic map
- D. She painted a new cat

**Question 6. Where did they find Mimi?**

- A. In a tree
- B. Under a bush in the forest
- C. At Mrs. Chen's house
- D. By the river

**Question 7. What did Lily paint for Mrs. Chen?**

- A. A new house
- B. A garden
- C. A table and four chairs
- D. A fountain

**Question 8. What did Lily paint in the town square?**

- A. A playground
- B. A fountain
- C. A beautiful garden with flowers
- D. A library

**Question 9. What important lesson did Lily learn?**

- A. Magic paintbrushes are very rare
- B. The best magic is about what you can give
- C. Cats always come home
- D. Painting is easy

**Question 10. What does the word 'gathered' mean?**

- A. Ran away quickly
- B. Came together in one place
- C. Talked very loudly
- D. Painted pictures

## 4 Answer Key

Q	Correct Answer
1	B. Under an old oak tree in the forest
2	C. A red bird
3	C. The bird flew out of the paper
4	B. His cat Mimi disappeared
5	C. She painted a magic map
6	B. Under a bush in the forest
7	C. A table and four chairs
8	C. A beautiful garden with flowers
9	B. The best magic is about what you can give
10	B. Came together in one place