Carrie
the Snow Cap Fairy
“Brrr!” Shivering, Rachel Walker glanced across the bedroom at her best friend. Kirsty Tate was just waking up, too. “It’s really cold this morning, isn’t it?”

Kirsty yawned and nodded. “It’s freezing,” she agreed. “It’s been getting colder all week.”
“Well, I suppose it is getting late in the year,” said Rachel. She sat up in bed, wrapping the comforter around her shoulders. “It’ll be winter soon—but I didn’t expect the weather to change quite so fast!”

“Haven’t we had a wonderful vacation though, Rachel?” Kirsty sighed happily. “It’s been so special to come back to Rainspell Island, where we first met.”

The Walkers and the Tates were spending the fall break together in a pretty little cottage on beautiful, magical Rainspell Island.

“Yes, it’s been fabulous!” Rachel
smiled. “And we’re even having another fairy adventure, just like the first time we visited Rainspell.”

“Only this time it was our turn to ask the fairies for help,” Kirsty pointed out.

When Kirsty and Rachel had returned to Rainspell Island a week ago, they’d been horrified to see the wide, golden beach covered in litter. So they’d asked the king and queen of Fairyland if their fairy friends could help them clean up the human environment.

The king and queen had explained to the girls that fairy magic could only do so much, and that humans had to help
the environment, too. But they had agreed that the seven fairies who were about to complete their training could become the Earth Fairies for a trial period. They would work together with Rachel and Kirsty to try to make the world a cleaner place. If the fairies completed their training successfully, protecting the environment would become their permanent task.

But just as the Earth Fairies were about to be presented with their new wands, Jack Frost and his goblins had zoomed toward them on an ice bolt. The goblins had snatched all seven wands, and then Jack Frost’s icy magic had sent them tumbling into the human world.

Jack Frost had declared that the world didn’t need any more fairies flitting
around doing good deeds. Rachel and Kirsty had promised the king and queen that they would do their best to get all the wands safely back into the hands of the Earth Fairies.

“Wasn’t it just like Jack Frost and his goblins to steal all the wands?” Kirsty said, shuddering at the memory.

“Thank goodness we’ve been able to find six of them, Rachel.”

“Yes, with the help of Nicole, Isabella, Edie, Coral, Lily, and Milly,” Rachel replied. “But we still have to find Carrie the Snow Cap Fairy’s wand.”

Kirsty looked worried. “If we don’t
find Carrie’s wand, the fairies will fail their final exam, and then they won’t be able to keep helping the environment.”

“But you know what Queen Titania always says,” Rachel reminded Kirsty as she went over to open the curtains. “We have to wait for the magic to come to us.”

“I know,” Kirsty said with a sigh. “But we don’t have much time—we’re going home later today.”

As Rachel opened the curtains wide, she gave a surprised gasp. “Kirsty, come and look!”
Kirsty ran to join Rachel at the window. There had been a heavy frost during the night, and the trees, flowers, and grass in the cottage garden were covered with a thin layer of white ice that glittered in the morning sunshine.

“Doesn’t the garden look beautiful?” Kirsty exclaimed.

“Let’s go out before it all melts,” Rachel suggested.

The girls dressed quickly and ran downstairs. The front door of the cottage
was open. Mr. Walker had just begun sprinkling sand on the path to make the ice less slippery.

“Morning, girls,” he said as Rachel and Kirsty stepped outside. “Be careful you don’t slip.”

“We won’t,” Rachel replied. But as she spoke, her foot slid away from her, and Kirsty had to grab her arm to keep her from falling over.

Rachel’s
dad grinned. “See what I mean?”

“Why do you think it got so cold all of a sudden, Mr. Walker?” Kirsty asked.

“I suppose it’s because of climate change,” Mr. Walker replied, scattering a handful of sand across the path. “Climate change can cause some strange weather—too cold, too hot, too wet. Overall though, the world is getting hotter. Even the polar ice caps are melting,” Mr. Walker explained. “That’s very bad news for the world because it means in years to come the seas will rise, and then there will likely be more floods.” He emptied
out the last grains of sand, then glanced at his watch. “I need to go help with the packing. We’re leaving soon.”

Rachel turned to Kirsty as Mr. Walker hurried into the house.

“We have to find Carrie’s wand before we leave Rainspell Island,” Rachel whispered.

“We need her help to fight climate change!”

“We’ll just have to keep our eyes open,” replied Kirsty,
glancing around. “The garden looks so pretty, doesn’t it, Rachel? The frost is making everything sparkle in the sunshine.”

“Look at the frosty leaves on that plant.” Rachel pointed toward the back of the garden. “They seem to be almost glowing!”

The girls went to take a look. As they got closer, they could see something fluttering around the leaves. At first, they thought it was a
butterfly. But then Kirsty grabbed Rachel’s arm, her face full of excitement.

“I can see a fairy!” Kirsty cried. The fairy was dressed in a green
fake-fur jacket over a cozy wool sweater. She wore mittens, and dark blue jeans tucked into furry boots. She was hovering above a frosty leaf. As Rachel and Kirsty watched, the fairy gently kissed the leaf’s surface. Instantly, the frost melted away, and the leaf glowed a bright green.

At once, the fairy spotted Rachel and Kirsty and waved.

“Girls!” she called. “Do you remember me? I’m Carrie the Snow Cap Fairy!”