Joy
the Summer Vacation Fairy
For Olivia Cowle

Special thanks to Linda Chapman

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“Have you finished packing yet, Rachel?” Mrs. Walker called up the stairs. “Kirsty and her parents will be here soon.”

“Almost done!” Rachel Walker shouted back. It was the beginning of summer vacation and, in just a few hours, she and her parents would be back
on Rainspell Island! Even better, Kirsty Tate, Rachel’s best friend, was going to be staying there with her parents, too. The two girls had met on that same island the summer before. It had been a magical time!

*Very magical*, Rachel thought with a smile. She and Kirsty shared an amazing secret. They were friends with the fairies! They had first met the fairies when the king and queen of Fairyland asked for their help rescuing the Rainbow Fairies. Since then, Rachel and Kirsty had had many more fairy adventures.

*I wonder if we’ll see any fairies this summer*, Rachel thought. She touched the golden locket she always wore around her neck. Kirsty had one just like it. They had been
gifts from the Fairy Queen, and were filled with magical fairy dust!

Rachel only had two things left to pack — her toothbrush and her favorite T-shirt. She hunted through her drawers. Where was it? Just then, she glimpsed the corner of a sleeve sticking out from under her bed.

“Oh, no!” she groaned, pulling the shirt out. There was a big ketchup stain on the front.
Upset that she hadn’t asked her mom to wash it earlier, Rachel went to the bathroom to get her toothbrush.

When she came back, she gasped. The T-shirt was neatly folded on the bed, and the big stain had nearly disappeared! There was just one little mark on the sleeve. Rachel leaned in to take a closer look. It wasn’t just a mark. It was . . . a tiny, sandy footprint!

A ray of sunshine shone through the window, and the sleeve of her T-shirt glowed.

“Fairy dust!” Rachel breathed.
But the magical moment was interrupted when a car beeped outside.

“Hurry up, Rachel!” Rachel heard her mom’s footsteps on the stairs. “Kirsty’s here.”

Rachel shoved the T-shirt in her suitcase and hurried downstairs.

“Hi, Rachel!” Kirsty cried, running through the front door. Her dark hair was in pigtails, and she was wearing shorts and a pink T-shirt.

“Sorry, we’re a little late!” Mrs. Tate, Kirsty’s mom, said as she and Mr.
Tate walked in, behind Kirsty. “The car had a flat tire when we got up this morning.”

“Or at least I thought it did,” Mr. Tate added. “But by the time I’d gotten my tools out, the tire wasn’t flat anymore. Very strange.” He laughed. “Almost like magic.”
Rachel and Kirsty exchanged looks.
Magic!
Rachel wanted to tell Kirsty about the fairy footprint, but she couldn’t say anything in front of their parents. “Um, Kirsty, do you want to come and see my new comforter before we leave?”
“Sure,” Kirsty replied.
They ran upstairs. Kirsty seemed to realize that the comforter had just been an excuse. She glanced quickly at it. “It’s beautiful,” she said before turning
back to Rachel, her eyes shining. “So, do you think my dad’s tire was fixed by magic? It was really weird. I was with Dad when he went back with his tools and I thought I heard some music — it was like the bells on an ice cream truck.”

Rachel couldn’t hold her news in any longer. “I bet it was magic!” she said. “A fairy’s been here, too.”

“Really?” Kirsty gasped.
Rachel nodded and told Kirsty about her T-shirt. “There was a tiny, sandy footprint on it,” she said. “It must have been made by a fairy.”

“Let’s look around!” Kirsty exclaimed. “Maybe the fairy’s still here!”