

SECRET

By Ariana Williams

I opened the front door and there was a mysterious box on my doorstep. Intrigued, I decided to bring it into my house. While carrying the quite heavy box, I noticed there was a green light beaming through the cracks of the box. While turning the box, I found the letter “S” on the bottom. I am not an investigator, but I wanted to figure out who left this box as soon as possible.

The very next day, I was sitting on my couch thinking of different ways I could investigate who had left the box on my porch. Just at that moment, my doorbell rang. There it was, another box. But this time, it was beaming the color orange and had the letter “E” on it. I wondered if this would keep happening and if someone was trying to send a message. And sure enough, for the third straight day, my doorbell rang and there was another box. I ended up getting a box for six days, each with a different letter and color beaming through the cracks.

On the seventh day I noticed that I had not gotten another box. So, I decided to flip all the different colored boxes on the back and put them together. Suddenly I realized, all the letters spelled out “SECRET.” Who could have put the boxes there? Was it a human, alien, or possibly a very smart animal?

Regardless of who or what had put all the boxes on my porch, I decided to open just one. I knew it was a bad idea, but it was surely going to give me a few clues. I opened the bright green box—it was amazingly weird. Inside of the box there was a black hole; maybe a portal of some sort? First, I stuck my hand in the box, then my head. I looked around. It was another world! I will admit I was sweating a bit because I was nervous; it felt like a dream. Being so amazed by the first box I decided to open the others. After going into all six boxes, I realized that they were all different ecosystems of magic. It went from deserts, to oceans, to mountains. It was so fantastic that I started a routine...

A year had gone by, and it was a typical Monday morning in April. I was about to jump into one of the boxes when I found my dog, Kiki, in it. Kiki was talking and jumping around. I wondered if I was daydreaming, but this was real. She was able to speak and had some magic powers. That afternoon, I thought about the boxes on my front door that had come last year and wondered if Kiki had secretly put them there. Before I went to bed, I asked her about the boxes and if she

had done it. She squinted her eyes, mumbled, whined, and then lastly howled saying “fine, I put all the boxes.”

I had to go to school, so I did not have time to “interview” Kiki about this mystery. During school hours, I could not focus on classroom subjects because of all the questions I had for Kiki. After getting out of school, I ran home to talk to her. Before we finished our long conversation, I asked a question that had suddenly popped into my head.

“Are you working for a secret agent?” I asked. Kiki quietly said that she is a secretary for a dog school named *Zooidal Dog School*. She told me that the principal of the school said I was the only human the school trusts. She said the boxes were a gift so I could come into the magical world of their school. Shocked, I sat for a moment in pure surprise. I had the feeling that this was definitely a “SECRET” I would have to keep.