




Kate

The story of a leaf, Kate, who embarks on an adventure like no other.

Once upon a time, there was a tree in a city called Brussel. It bared many leaves, but the one she loved most was a lovely green leaf named Kate. Since the day she sprouted, Kate prayed every autumn that one day, The Wind (the ultimate source of transportation for a leaf) would come and take her on a journey outside Brussel. But not until her 13th birthday it didn't. When Kate turned 13, The Wind immediately swooped and told Kate, "Because it is your 13th birthday, I will take you on a ride." She grabbed on tight, said bye to her mother and flew to another city! Kate was also worried about her mother because maintenance was thinking of cutting her mother down, but she had to be strong.

Kate landed to a city called Polo. Here, she jumped off and landed in the drain. She knew it smelled bad, so she had to get out fast. Unfortunately, she could not do it herself, but she could do it with help from The Air, The Wind's best friend. The Air pushed her inside and made her go. Next, she sat until she ended up in McDonald's, 'that restaurant she always heard about'. The Air pushed her up and led her towards the window. Kate was feeling tired and luckily, the right thing was just next to her. A man brought a glass of water and put it next to the window so that he could get it back easily after coming from the bathroom. Kate waited until he was out of sight because if the man saw a leaf in his glass, he would freak out. Then, The Air lifted her up and dropped her in the glass so that she could clean herself off after traveling in a drain and also so that she would get plenty of water along with sunlight. After 30 minutes, The Air swooped and pushed Kate through a gap in the window which was perfect timing, as the man was just coming back. Kate fell onto a car's windshield, dried herself and the wipers pushed her into another man's pocket, in which she played games on his phone.

When the man took out his phone, his hand pushed her out of the pocket, and a quarter also fell out of the pocket. She wanted it to make a noise so the man would grab the coin. But unfortunately, the coin landed right on top of her, and it didn't make a noise because of that. And to make matters worse, The Air didn't give her a lift because The Air thought that she would play with the coin. Kate said, "Oh, darn it! Well, I'll keep this inquisitive object." Then she noticed due to lack of sun, she was beginning to turn a little orange. But she didn't fuss over it.




But then, she saw a man who was holding up a sign that said, "Anything Helps!" And then a bird came, flew over and grabbed Kate. Kate rolled up so she could protect the coin, but when the bird tilted over, Kate unrolled and dropped the coin over the sign. Kate was glad the coin could be used by him. Then, The Wind came so it could take Kate somewhere else. It said, "Kate, I am taking you to another city. But, you must be careful there." And so, Kate grabbed on tight and flew to a city called Daffy. In Daffy, there were so many animals. The first task that Kate had was to not get chewed by the cows, which was very hard. They at one point almost got her, but only a teeny-weeny portion of Kate's stem was being cud-chewed. Still, the horses were even harder to avoid. They ran so fast! She needed to jump into a badger's burrow to avoid being seen. She thought, "Now I understand why The Wind told me to be careful."

After that fiasco, she met two dollar notes on the floor. Kate wanted to see if there were any men who were holding up signs like the one she saw in Polo, but there wasn't anybody who was, and it was starting to get cold as night approached. A motorcycle whizzed by and Kate stuck to it, and when the motorcycle stopped, she ducked into a woman's shoe. Fortunately, she crouched herself between the head of it, so the woman didn't notice. Kate heard the man say: "Yes, and that will be \$5.00, please." Then the woman said, "Oh, man. I'm two dollars short!" Kate then heard a chicken slip the two dollars that was hers out of the shoe and onto the woman's shoe along with Kate. The woman then felt something on her shoe, and she saw that it was two dollars. She thought the money was hers and said, "OK. It appears that I have two dollars!" Kate silently thanked the chicken and rolled towards a water fountain.

A small wave from the water fountain carried her towards a mall. It was a big mall with lots of people. Because she was here, she thought that she needed to explore a little. Firstly, she saw a nice shoe that she wanted so she could be safe from this cold weather, so she rode the escalator and went in the shop where she saw the shoe. But then she saw that everyone was paying a note just like the one she found to people wearing yellow or in another words, employees. So, she needed some of those. Luckily, a man wanted the exact same shoes as she did.

Unfortunately, he forgot to pay for the shoes. The shoplifting alarm sounded and one of the employees checked the man for the shoes. When the employee saw




Kate, she tossed her out a window. Kate saw three floors before falling on some boy's ice cream. He flicked her off, and she soared through the air before falling on the road full of moving cars that came at her left and right, and she didn't know what to do. By that time, The Wind came. It took Kate and said: "Now is the time to visit your mother so we know that she is OK. But before going home, I want you to see a circus, the place where you can have fun and be jolly." Now Kate noticed that she had gone from a little orange to a little red, so she needed sunlight! Also she was beginning to wither, so she needed water. And The Wind just flew her over to the circus, while Kate took a nap.

Kate then opened her eyes to see a big clown hovering over her. He kicked her like a soccer ball into one of the booths. This was the objective: If you could smack a moving domino with one ball in a single shot, you would win a coupon for a free hot dog. Kate noticed that the booth owner looked really depressed because all the kids kept on smacking the domino and she didn't have many coupons left to give out. To help her out, Kate had an idea. The stand on which the domino was placed was set to low, and that was why so many kids could smack it with a ball. Kate's plan was to make somebody hit the switch. Kate took help from the A/C and used it to fly towards a walking man who was close to the switch, and in his hand there was a pen. The pen fell right in front of the switch, which was exactly Kate's plan. The man bended over to pick up his pen, and he didn't even see that his arm had bumped the switch, making it go towards the high setting and Kate succeeded in her plan.

When a boy decide to try out hitting the domino, it went completely crazy and started moving fast in all these different directions. And just like the boy, nobody, not even the smartest kids could hit the domino. The booth owner didn't know what happened, so she guessed that maybe it was an accident. Kate decided that she should maybe go out because no one would suspect her if she left, so the A/C lifted her out of there and carried her over to the other side of the circus.

Kate saw a leaf show performance right in front of her and they were recruiting leaves that were colored. She was pure red in color from lack of water and sunlight, so she hopped by and the booth owner grabbed her. He put her for display along with some other leaves that were in green, pink, purple, orange and yellow. Kate watched as the booth owner performed a couple of magic tricks with



the leaves like: “Where’s that leaf?” and “Which cup is it in?” and even “How did the color change?” Finally, for the grand finale, the booth owner put on a dance show and a fan. Leaves were blown in different directions by the fan as they ‘danced’ to the music. Kate helped a young leaf dance to the tunes.

Now that the leaf show was over, Kate saw two leaves from the show crossing over to the other side where the domino booth was and she decided to talk to them. The three leaves went on for hours talking about the circus, Kate explaining about Brussel, Polo and Daffy, one of the leaves in the group telling about her home and all of the leaves discussing heavy wind. The Wind finally arrived at what looked about midday. It told Kate that the adventure was over, but that they could still get a glimpse of all the cities during the trip back. And after seeing her mother for a short time, they could get back to new places.

Kate said bye to all her leaf friends and soared on The Wind. On the return trip, Kate saw Daffy, with all of its great animals and shops. She saw Polo, with all the restaurants and people holding up the signs. And then the sign for Brussel appeared, and Kate felt hopeful. There it was! Her home. But she didn’t see her mother, and instead she saw a tree stump, and thought that was all that remained of her after the maintenance workers cut her mother.

She felt like crying and she looked everywhere for her mother, trying to convince herself that her mother was somewhere there. That’s when she looked behind herself, and saw her mom. The owners had not cut her mom down! Her mom waved with joy and thanked The Wind for taking her on such a journey. A small drizzle made Kate feel refreshed and stronger. But Kate knew that she could not stay much longer because she wanted to explore, and her mother knew that too. Kate’s mom gave her a big hug and said, “Kate, never stop exploring.” And when The Wind came, it took Kate again on a new journey.

THE END!