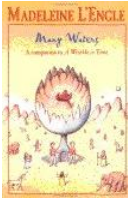


Passages

Reading Level 6



Title: Many Waters

Author: Madeleine L'Engle

Sample From The Book

Sandy looked down at the lab floor, which consisted of large slabs of stone. There was a thick rug by the sink, and another in front of the shabby leather chair and reading lamp. "I don't know how Mother stands this place in winter."

"She dresses like an Eskimo," Dennys shivered, then put out one finger and tapped on the standard keys of the computer: "TAKE ME SOMEPLACE WARM."

"Hey, I don't think we ought to mess with that," Sandy warned.

"What do you expect? A genie to pop up, like the one in Aladdin and the magic lamp? This is just a computer, for heaven's sake. It can't do anything it isn't programmed to do."

"Okay, then," Sandy held his fingers over the keyboard. "A lot of people think computers are alive – I mean, really, sort of like Aladdin's genie." He tapped out on the standard keys: "SOMEPLACE WARM AND SPARSELY POPULATED."

Dennys shouldered him aside, adding: "LOW HUMIDITY."

Sandy turned away from the odd computer. "Let's make the cocoa."

"Sure." Dennys picked up the red tin, which he had set down on the counter. "Since Mother's using the Bunsen burner, we'd better go back to the kitchen to make the cocoa."



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