

LAURA AND THE MAGIC SHOES

Once upon a time there was a little girl named Laura. Every day when Laura woke up, she would put on her plain old blue shoes and go out and play. But one morning when she woke up, her old shoes were gone. In their place was a pair of shiny black shoes with gold tips. "My, my," she said, "I wonder where these new shoes came from." She just had to try them on. When she put them on her feet, the gold tips began to glow, and her feet began to tingle. "Oh boy," Laura said out loud, "my feet feel so good, I just feel like dancing!" Suddenly the walls of her room faded away. And ... there Laura was in the middle of a Broadway stage! The music began to play and Laura began to dance. She danced and danced and danced. When she finished dancing, everybody stood up and cheered. Laura was the star of the show!

Laura was so happy that she jumped up and down. Every time she jumped, she went higher and higher. She jumped so high, that she jumped straight out of the theater and was flying through the air. She flew out over the ocean to a mysterious island. When she landed on the island she saw the most amazing thing. This was the island of the Pound-Puppies. All of the Pound-Puppies on this island were alive. They could walk and talk just like real people. When the king of the Pound-Puppies saw Laura's beautiful shoes, he thought she must be a real princess. So the king of the puppies, who was named John, took Laura all over the island in his golden carriage. Most of the island was covered with parks. In the parks were swings, and rides, and climbing toys of all kinds. Laura played and played and played until it was time for the Pound-Puppy races. "Please Miss Laura, do us the honor of being in our race." asked John. "Yes, I will," said Laura, "I love to run."

And so the race started. Laura ran faster than the wind. She ran faster than all the Pound-Puppies. She ran so fast she won the race. But ... she couldn't stop running. She ran until the Island of the Pound-Puppies was far behind. She ran until she came to a strange land. She finally stopped next to a rainbow waterfall. This waterfall had water of all different colors flowing over it. Next to the waterfall was a log cabin. Laura went inside. Inside was a tall lady in a white gown. "Are you hungry?" asked the lady. "Oh yes," said Laura. "I've done so much today, and I haven't even had my breakfast yet." "Well, you can have anything you want." said the lady. So Laura had bacon and eggs and pancakes, and McDonald's chicken, and spaghetti, and cottage cheese. And after she ate all she could, the lady said "Come here, I want to show you something." So Laura went with the lady and saw a beautiful Barbie Doll with a dress that flashed and glowed in many colors. "You are the first little girl to come here in many years." the lady said. "I want you to have this special doll." Laura picked up the doll, and it began to sing a beautiful song. The song was so pretty and Laura was so tired that she fell asleep. While she was sleeping, Laura thought she could hear someone whispering to her. The voice seemed to be saying, "I am the magic shoes, Laura. I must go visit some other little girl now, but I hope you had fun today." Laura jumped up. She was back in her own room, and there on the floor were her old blue shoes. The black shoes with the gold toes were gone. "Oh dear," she thought, "the whole thing must have been a dream." But there on the chair next to her bed was the Barbie Doll.

The End