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THE LOTTERY WINNER

ROSEMARY BORDER



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THE LOTTERY WINNER

Just think. You win five million pounds in the lottery – suddenly you are rich! What are you going to do with all that money? You can buy clothes, cars, houses; you can go to New York, London, Moscow, Paris, Madrid . . .

Jason Williams is a very happy young man. He has a winning lottery ticket – and a cheque for five million pounds. But other people want his money too. His mother, his father, his wife, and his lawyer. Jason is in trouble with the police. He needs a lawyer's help, and lawyers are expensive. And then there's Emma Carter.

Emma Carter is very angry and unhappy. She says that it is *her* ticket, and that *she* won the lottery, not Jason Williams. Emma Carter has a lawyer too, because she wants her five million pounds, and she wants it now.

So who's going to get the money? Where did Jason get the winning lottery ticket from? Who is telling the truth – and who is telling lies?





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Human Interest

The Lottery Winner

Stage 1 (400 headwords)

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The Lottery Winner



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Chapter 1

The bag-snatcher

One Saturday afternoon in a small town, Emma Carter came out of a shoe shop with some new shoes. They were cheap shoes, but Emma was very pleased with them. She was seventy-three years old and did not have much money. She began to walk home. 'A nice cup of tea,' she thought, 'and then I can go for a walk in my new shoes.'

It was a quiet town and there was nobody in the street. Suddenly, Emma heard something behind her. She did not have time to look, because just then somebody ran up behind her, hit her on the head, and snatched her bag out of her hands. Emma fell down on her back. Then she looked up, and saw a tall young man with long, dirty brown hair. He stood and looked down at her for a second; then he ran away with Emma's bag under his arm.

'Help! Help!' Emma cried.

But nobody came, and after two or three minutes Emma slowly got up and went to the nearest house. The people there were very kind. They gave Emma a cup of tea, and soon an ambulance came and took her to hospital.

At the hospital a doctor looked at Emma's head and back. 'You're going to be OK,' he said. 'Just take it easy

for a day or two. Can your husband help you at home?’

‘My husband died eight years ago,’ said Emma. ‘There’s only me at home.’

‘Well,’ the doctor said, ‘we don’t want you to feel ill and fall downstairs at home. So I think you must stay in



He ran away with Emma's bag under his arm.

hospital for tonight, and perhaps tomorrow night, too.' Later, a policeman came to the hospital and Emma told him about the bag-snatcher.

'Did anybody see this young man?' he asked.

'I don't know,' said Emma. 'But there was nobody in the street when I called for help.'

'Oh dear,' the policeman said. 'What was in your bag?'

'A little money – and a lottery ticket,' said Emma. 'I buy a ticket every Saturday. Then on Saturday evening I watch the lottery on television. I always have the same numbers – 5, 12, 23, 24, 38, 41. All those numbers are important to me. I was born on 5th December, 1923. I lived at number 24 Sandwich Road for 38 years . . .'

'Yes, yes,' said the policeman. 'I understand.' He wrote everything down in a little black book. 'Did you see the man's face?' he asked.

'Yes,' said Emma. 'I did. I fell on my back, and he looked down at me for a second. So I saw his face.'

The policeman opened a small bag. In it there were a lot of pictures of eyes and ears, hair and mouths. 'I need a picture of the man's face. Can you help me?' he said.

'Yes,' said Emma. 'He was tall and he had long, dirty brown hair. He wore blue trousers and a white shirt with a picture of a footballer. He had brown eyes . . .'

Carefully she took the small pictures and made a big picture of the young man's face. She checked the picture carefully.

Under the Moon

ROWENA AKINYEMI

It is the year 2522, and the planet Earth is dying. The Artificial Ozone Layer is only 300 years old, but it is breaking up fast. Now the sun is burning down on Earth with a white fire. There is no water. Without water, nothing can live. Trees die, plants die, animals die, people die . . .

In a colony under the moon, people wait for news – news from home, news from the planet Earth. And in a spaceship high above Earth, a young man watches numbers on a computer screen. The numbers tell a story, and the young man is afraid.

The planet Earth is burning, burning, burning . . .

New Yorkers

O. HENRY

Retold by Diane Mowat

A housewife, a tramp, a lawyer, a waitress, an actress – ordinary people living ordinary lives in New York at the beginning of this century. The city has changed greatly since that time, but its people are much the same. Some are rich, some are poor, some are happy, some are sad, some have found love, some are looking for love.

O. Henry's famous short stories – sensitive, funny, sympathetic – give us vivid pictures of the everyday lives of these New Yorkers.