

The Enchanter's Ring

By Lauryn Pahulu

"WAKE UP!" "Who's there?" April asked in a fast surprised voice. "It's me, Abby. Your older sister. You've lived with me all your life. You should have seen your face when I woke you up. You were so surprised." "Good morning to you, too," April grumbled under her breath. April absolutely hated when Abby talked like that. She would start talking slowly then abruptly speed up, somehow still putting dramatic emphasis on each hurried syllable. Finally after what seemed like an hour, Abby left April alone to get ready for school.

After one million hours of looking for clothes to wear April found an outfit that she felt was a reasonable choice. She had yanked open her drawer and pulled out all the pants that were not tattered or ripped. After that she took out all the pants that seemed too small or too big. Finally she pulled out all the clothes that made her look like a kindergartener. She was left with two options, a new pair of jeans and a new pair of plain black leggings. She chose the leggings. Then realizing she had no time to be picky she grabbed a tie-dye t-shirt. She rapidly changed and practically fell down the stairs so she wouldn't miss breakfast.

When April got to the bottom step of the stairs she stepped on something sharp. When she looked down to see what she stepped on she found an expensive looking ring. Engraved in fancy font into the fine silver on one side it said *The Enchanter's Ring*. On the other side there was another engraving. It said *One wish to the wearer I may provide. When taken off no wishes can survive. Although it may be strange. The one wish that can change. Beware of the wish for it may ruin your life*. After picking it up and slipping it on, April ran to the table for breakfast. After a quick breakfast of Cheerios and milk April got onto bus number 114.

"Hey April." April peered up from inspecting her ring. "Oh, hi Anna." "What were you looking at?" Anna asked.

"Just a ring. It doesn't matter," April said quickly trying to push away the subject. Luckily, Anna didn't look too interested in the ring. When they got off the bus and into their classroom Anna started talking about how she was so busy with gymnastics and acting and volleyball and cheer and everything else in her perfect life. Even though

Anna was snobby and at times very mean, all the adults and kids admired her. April, like others, wanted to be just like her. Then April remembered her ring and she said, "I wish I was better than Anna."

April blinked. She looked down at herself and realized her outfit had changed. It looked as though someone had spent one hundred and fifty dollars on just her outfit. She ran to the girl's bathroom. When she glanced into the mirror she saw something that she never thought she would see. She had really expensive makeup on. It looked like it was done by a professional. Her earrings were diamond. Not fake diamond, real expensive diamond. Her thin, long, uneven, brown hair had been perfectly done and didn't look very thin or uneven. The ring really did grant wishes. April smiled. She was going to be amazing. She was going to be flawless. She was going to be better than Anna Smith.

When April got out of the bathroom she was instantly surrounded by people. She heard a lot of "Hi, April!" "Where did you get that shirt?" "Where did you get your hair and makeup done?" "Wow you look amazing!" Smiling a picture perfect smile, April made way to her classroom.

That day at in the cafeteria, April was about to buy her lunch when she was called to the office. The lady in the office gave her an expensive looking lunch box and told her that her mom had dropped it off. When she got back to the cafeteria her best friends Olivia and Grace came up to her to show her where they were sitting. Right then a group of Anna's friends came up to bring April to their table. Instantly choosing Anna's friend Penelope over her old friends April started walking towards them. Penelope said, "Get out of the way Olivia. Why would she sit by you?" Laughing, April and her new friends left a confused and hurt Olivia and Grace to sit alone.

At the end of the day a limousine came to pick up April and her group of friends and take them home. On the way to their houses the girls talked about how a lot of people in their school had ugly clothes and laughed when they remembered Olivia and Grace's faces when April abandoned them.

As the days passed, April started to become meaner and meaner. She treated her old friends like dirt. April and her new friends would go around judging people and telling them their imperfections. April's old clothes were kept in a pile in the back of her closet because only her new designer clothes could fit in her dresser. As April became more selfish anyone who was less popular started avoiding her.

It was the last week of school and April's mom got a phone call. It was from Mrs. Johnson, the school principal. April's mom told her the principal said that many parents were complaining about April being a bully. Refusing to give up her perfect life April ran to her room. "April can we talk?" her mom asked in a kind voice. "Leave me alone!" April yelled.

The next day at school April started noticing her mom was right. When she walked up to her old friends they immediately walked away. During the whole day people kept avoiding her. Finally during lunch April was done with being perfect. She felt so horrible. She had gotten so caught up in being popular that she forgot what was really important. She missed her friends. Although she thought she would never say this, she missed her old life. She missed her imperfection and her old clothes, but mostly she missed her friends. "You ruined my life!" April yelled. She yanked off the ring and threw it on the ground.

April blinked. She looked down. Her clothes had changed back and her hair felt thin and uneven again. Immediately Anna and her friends rejected April. April went up to Olivia and her old friends. "I'm really, really, really sorry. I got caught up in being popular and forgot what was actually important. I should've realized that true friends like you guys are what really matters. It's okay if you don't want to be my friend," said April starting to cry. "Of course we forgive you," said Olivia.

April was sure the ring would never bother her again. Then one day Grace found a ring. It had an engraving on the side. It said, *One wish to the wearer I may provide. When taken off no wishes can survive. Although it may be strange. The one wish that can change. Beware of the wish for it may ruin your life.* Grace slipped it on and went to sit by her friends.