

Tina Bergmann

Wer braucht denn Magie?

Who Even Needs Magic?



English Translation

Who Even Needs Magic?

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Characters In This Story



Maggie Wolf

Maggie works in a pastry shop. She likes to bake cakes, pies and cookies.



Leon Fuchs

Leon is a detective. His work is sometimes difficult, but his magic helps him.



Nick Wolf

Nick is a scientist working in a research institute. For a short time he has been acting strangely. What is going on with Nick?



Anton Wolf

Anton is the late grandfather of Maggie and Nick. Many years ago he owned the pastry shop.

Chapter 1: A Magical World

Book Pages 8–9

Suddenly Maggie feels a strong, short gust of wind. She is startled and turns around. “Oh, that was just a person”, she thinks. She shakes her head.

This happens a lot when Maggie is walking through town. Some people can run very fast. They run faster than the wind.

“What happens if a person like that overlooks me one day?”, Maggie thinks. “That must hurt...”

Then Maggie sees a woman carrying a car on her hands. The woman throws the car in the air and catches it again. Some people are very strong.

Maggie has heard that some people can even carry their houses. “Like snails...”, she thinks.

In this world, magic has existed for 500 years. No one knows where this magic comes from. Since then, most people have had magical power.

There are many kinds of magic. People quickly got used to this new world. Magic can be very useful in everyday life. Some people can move things by their thoughts.

Maggie sees a man letting his shopping bags fly through the air.

“That’s handy, I want to be able to do that too”, Maggie thinks.

Book Pages 10–11

Maggie walks past a shop window with TVs and looks briefly at a screen.

Right now, the news is on TV.

“Right, that was last week”, Maggie recalls. “Last week, someone stole seven boxes of bananas. It happened at a market in town.

The thief moved the boxes by his thoughts. He made the bananas fly over a fence! What does he need so many bananas for? Some people do really weird things with their magic.”

Another TV is also showing a news program. You see a picture with a group of people. You can't make out who the people are.

“Criminal organization shocks the city”, Maggie reads on the screen.

A lot of people have been talking about this topic over the past few weeks. There is a criminal group of people who cause chaos with their magic. This criminal group steals expensive things and hurts people through magic.

The group uses many kinds of magic. They are also looking for new magic to cause more chaos.

That is why the people in the city and the police are worried.

Book Pages 12–13

Finally, Maggie arrives at the pastry shop. “Made it!”, she exclaims. “Heavy shopping bags are the only reason why I want a magical power sometimes, though.”

The house has belonged to her family for a long time. She has lived in this house with her grandfather and older brother. Her parents died in a car accident shortly after she was born. She and her whole family do not have magic.

Maggie has often laughed with her friends about her own name, “My name is Maggie, but I don’t have magic. Maggie without magic. What’s the point?” But actually, it never really bothered her that she didn’t have magic.

Even as a child, she baked many different cakes, pies and cookies with her grandfather. *“If you can make pies as good as I do, you don’t need magic”,* her grandfather used to say. *“See how people smile when they eat my pies? That’s better than any magic. My recipes are magical!”*

Sometimes Maggie thinks her grandfather was right. The pastry shop has always had a lot of customers. Even when Maggie took over the pastry shop after her grandfather died, many customers continued to come. Maggie bakes pastries all day long.

Chapter 2: Always These Strange Visions

Book Pages 14–15

“Morning”, Leon says, walking to the front table in the pastry shop as he does every morning. He sets his bag on a chair and sighs. “Hi, Maggie.”

“Hey, Leon!”, Maggie says, grabbing a coffee mug from the counter. “Same as always? A large coffee and a slice of strawberry shortcake?”

“Exactly! You’re the best, I really need that in the morning”, Leon replies and smiles.

“You look tired, did something happen at work again yesterday?”, Maggie asks.

Leon has been Maggie’s best friend for many years. He is a detective by profession and his office is across the street from Maggie’s pastry shop. He comes by every morning before work.

Leon’s magic is rare. He has visions. He often suddenly sees some object in his head. Sometimes he sees a pen, a door, or a bag. At first he never knows what the vision means. But then he always finds the solution to his case through his vision. That is why he became a detective. His visions are clues.

“Oh, yesterday that was strange again”, Leon says. “I had a vision of a little bell yesterday. I didn’t know what to do with the bell. So, I went to town. I was trying to figure out what to do. At ten o’clock in the evening I rescued a cat from a tree. The cat had the little bell around its neck... That was my clue. Sometimes my magic is really complicated!”

Book Pages 16–17

“Big uproar at the research institute”, Maggie and Leon suddenly hear from the small TV in the pastry shop.

“A team of researchers has disappeared without a trace since yesterday. The whole team didn’t come to work yesterday and today. No one knows where the team is.”

“Hey, Maggie, that’s where your brother Nick works!”, Leon exclaims.

The voice from the TV continues, “Furthermore, the team’s lab was a mess: notes, folders and boxes littered the floor. The police say that something may have happened to the team. It might be a crime. The sudden disappearance is very strange. Therefore, it is possible that a criminal organization is behind it. Maybe the disappearance is also related to magic.”

“He’s not picking up”, Maggie says. She calls Nick a few times, but to no avail. “This isn’t normal. Nick usually picks up when I call him. Something has happened.”

“Maybe he’s not looking at his phone right now. The people at the research institute are probably stressed right now. Let’s go there and see what’s going on”, Leon says.

Book Pages 18–19

“Ouch!”, Leon exclaims suddenly. He holds his hands to his head.

“Are you okay, Leon? Are you having another vision?”

“Yes... I see... a book. It’s yellow and... it has a big tear in the front!”

“A yellow book with a tear?”, Maggie asks in wonder.

“Maggie, I think it has something to do with this case! The case was on TV and right after that I had this vision.”

“Maybe there’s something important in the book?”

“That could be it. Anyway, now we know to watch out for yellow books.”

Chapter 3: The Research Institute

Book Pages 20–21

It's only mid-morning, but the sky looks strange. It is gloomy.

Maggie looks up. She feels a few raindrops on her face. In the center of the city, it was sunny and the air was warm. Now Maggie is cold. She is shivering.

Maggie and Leon reach the research institute. It is located on the outskirts of the city, surrounded by a forest. The building is as gloomy as the neighborhood. Maggie almost didn't see it.

Nick has been working there for several years. Almost every day he works late into the night. He even recently moved into an apartment nearby. Maggie never understood why he suddenly wanted to live here.

He also rarely stops by the pastry shop now. Nick used to live with Maggie on the floor above the pastry shop. He always said he never wanted to move away because the house was so cozy. He always said he loved the nice weather in town.

"But I really can't imagine that Nick's team, of all people, has disappeared. It's illogical", Maggie says.

"Exactly. After all, Nick always says his work is pretty boring. He said he doesn't do anything special. What does he actually do?"

"He once told me that he mostly analyzes surveys and documents tests. He said he was involved in nutrition", Maggie says.

"Yeah right, what would a criminal organization want from his team?", Leon asks.

"I don't know, but I have a bad feeling."

Book Pages 22–23

Maggie and Leon enter the building.

There are a lot of people there. They walk back and forth in the reception hall. Most of them have white coats on. Some people are carrying boxes, crates, or stacks of papers around. Others are on the phone, running from one room to the next.

“Um, excuse me...”, Maggie says to a man in a white coat, but the man doesn’t even notice them. He looks around anxiously and walks past Maggie and Leon. Then the man quickly walks into a room on the left side of the hall.

“Excuse me, would you have...”, Leon says to a woman. The woman is not listening. She has some pieces of paper in her hand. She reads through the slips of paper hurriedly. Then the woman walks through a door on the right side of the hall.

“Can I help you?”, Maggie and Leon suddenly hear from behind and turn around.

Book Pages 24–25

Maggie and Leon see that a young woman is coming to them. The woman has a white coat on and a tablet in her hand. “I’m a researcher here. Are you looking for someone, perhaps?”, the woman asks.

“Ah, yes, I’m Leon Fuchs, I’m a detective. We have a few questions about the team that went missing.” Leon shows the researcher his ID.

“Of course. Ah, the whole institute is in chaos. We’re all very shocked. How can an entire research team suddenly disappear? What could have happened in that lab?” The researcher shakes her head.

“My brother works here. I want to know if he’s okay. He’s not responding to my calls and messages. Maybe you know him. His name is Nick Wolf. He also works as a researcher. He has short, curly hair, glasses, and he doesn’t have magic...”

“Of course I know Nick! He’s our best scientist. I’m very sorry, but the team that disappeared is really your brother’s team.”

“So I was right. It was very strange that I didn’t reach him”, Maggie says.

“Don’t worry about it. I’m sure the team will show up soon. Nick is very intelligent”, the researcher says. She turns to Leon. “The police have already been there, but they haven’t found anything. We’re grateful for any help. You’re welcome to look at the lab. Maybe you’ll find a lead. The lab is on the fourth floor, the last door in the hallway. The door is open.”

“All right, fourth floor, last door”, Leon repeats.

“And thank you again for your help.” The researcher turns around and takes three steps.

“Wait a minute...”, she says, turning to Maggie once more. “Did you just say Nick doesn’t have magic? That’s strange. All the staff here have magic.”

Chapter 4: The Laboratory

Book Pages 26–27

“Fourth floor. We’re here”, Leon says.

Maggie and Leon walk down the hallway. It is a long hallway with many doors. Each door has a door sign and a small window.

Maggie walks ahead and looks at the door signs. “Biology, chemistry, astronomy...”, Maggie reads out. “I think these are the labs.”

Leon walks faster. He walks over to Maggie and whispers, “But Maggie, just before... that was weird, right?”

“What?”

“The researcher said that everyone here has magic.”

“True, that’s strange. But well, the institute has a lot of staff. She must have made a mistake.”

“Oh, the lab must be here somewhere. We’re already at the end of the hall”, Leon says.

“Hey, it says ‘nutrition’ here.” Maggie points to a door sign. “That must be the right lab.”

“Huh?”, Leon says. “I’m sure the researcher said ‘the last door.’”

“It says ‘magic’ there, though.” Maggie tries to open a few doors.

“All the other doors are locked. This door is the only one open. Did Nick work in the magic lab, by any chance? He didn’t tell me anything about it. Did he change departments?”, Maggie asks in wonder.

Book Pages 28–29

Maggie and Leon enter the lab.

The room is in chaos. The tables are jumbled. Many chairs and tables are overturned. Notes and pens are lying on the floor. There is a cabinet against one wall. Books and folders are lying on the floor in front of the cabinet. Next to the cabinet there are some boxes. Remnants of tape and scraps of paper are hanging on one wall. “There were probably posters there. Someone ripped them off”, Maggie thinks.

“What the heck happened here? Did someone break in here?”, Maggie asks. “This place is such a mess. I think someone was looking for something here.”

“Yeah, but the police haven’t found any signs of a break-in”, Leon says. “Maybe this case really has to do with magic? That was in the report on TV, too. Maybe someone used magic to get into the room and kidnap Nick and his team?”, Leon thinks out loud.

Book Pages 30–31

Then the two notice a blackboard on the wall.

“Hey, look at that. What’s that?”, Leon says. Maggie and Leon look at the board more closely. There are many notes and sketches on the board.

“I think it’s about a certain kind of magic.” Leon leans forward and reads the notes. “I’ve heard of this magic before”, Leon says. “People who have this magic touch an object. Then they see in their mind what happened to that object. For example, they can see who touched the object or where the object was. They see the ‘memories’ of an object. This is a very rare magic. It is very powerful.”

“Have Nick and his team researched this magic?”, Maggie asks.

“It looks like it.” Leon notices another note on the board. “Look at what this says. ‘Figuring out passwords’, ‘breaking into houses’... Maggie, I have a bad suspicion.”

“It can’t be.” Maggie looks at Leon, startled. “Is that why he didn’t tell me about his real job? Why he didn’t tell me he was researching magic? Is that why he moved away? ... What in the world were Nick and his team up to?”

Chapter 5: The Shadow In The House

Book Pages 32–33

Suddenly Maggie and Leon hear a noise. It is coming from the hallway.

Maggie and Leon turn to the door. They see a dark shadow through the glass in the door.

“What is that?”, Maggie whispers.

The shadow grows larger. It comes closer. Then the shadow stops. It stops moving.

“Um... should we hide?”, Maggie asks.

“The shadow is looking at us. Don’t move.” Leon holds his breath.

Maggie and Leon stare at the shadow for a few seconds. Then they recognize the silhouette more clearly.

It looks like a human being.

The door handle slowly moves down.

Maggie and Leon take a few steps back.

The door slowly opens.

“Hello? Is anyone in here?”, a voice says.

Book Pages 34–35

The door now opens all the way. An elderly woman is standing in the doorway. She is wearing round glasses and an overall.

“Oh, who are you?”, the woman says. She looks at Maggie and Leon.

“Hello, we are searching for the missing research team. We’re looking for clues, I work as a detective.”

“The researchers!”, the woman exclaims, sighing, “All of a sudden they were gone. Before, they were running around here all day. Up and down. Twenty times a day. Each time I unlocked the attic for them and locked it again. I’m the janitor here, you know. Especially the last couple of days, up and down, up and down. And now they’re gone.” The janitor lowers her head and stares at the floor.

“The attic?”, Leon asks.

“Our archives, actually”, the janitor explains. “There are over 1000 old books and other old items there. They’re valuable. I take care of them. Our scientists sometimes need the old stuff, and then I unlock the attic for them.

But you know, this research team was special. No one has worked as diligently as this team.”

Book Pages 36–37

“Old books?”, Maggie asks. She turns to Leon and says excitedly, “You saw a yellow book in your vision, didn’t you? Maybe that book is there.”

“May we take a look at the attic?”, Leon asks the janitor.

“Sure, I’ll open the attic for you. I’ll stick around. Just call me when you’re done.”

Then the janitor looks at Maggie. “But wait, you’re the nice lady from the pastry shop! Oh, you have the best pies in town. I knew your grandfather. He was a very intelligent person. He knew so much and learned so quickly.”

The janitor stops for a moment and looks thoughtfully into the air. “Even baking. Then he became the best pastry chef in town, too!” She laughs.

Chapter 6: In The Attic

Book Pages 38–39

“It’s so dark in here, isn’t there a light switch?”, Maggie says. She walks ahead and Leon walks behind.

“Ouch!”, Maggie exclaims suddenly, holding her foot. “Oh, that’s a bummer. I think I just bumped into a table.”

Then there’s a flash of light behind Maggie.

She turns around. “Really now, Leon? You brought a flashlight? I needed that ten seconds ago”, Maggie says.

The attic is a big room. It smells like dust. Maggie and Leon see many bookshelves. Leon shines the flashlight on the bookshelves.

“Okay, let’s look for yellow books!”, Maggie exclaims.

Maggie and Leon walk through the aisles. Many books on the shelves look very old and used.

“There are some yellow books here. Over there, too.” Leon takes books off the shelves and puts them back. “Some books have small tears. But no yellow book here has a tear as big as the book in my vision”, Leon says.

“Wait a minute... Huh? What’s that?”

Book Pages 40–41

Maggie takes a book from a shelf and puts it on the floor. Leon points the flashlight at the book.

“Look at this. ‘Anton Wolf’ is written here.” Maggie points to the writing. “Funny, this scientist has the same name as my grandfather”, Maggie says. She opens the book and looks at the pages.

“What? Here’s a picture of my grandfather”, Maggie says in wonder.

Leon looks at the photo. “That really is your grandfather. But he only ever worked in the pastry shop, right? He wasn’t a scientist. Did he ever tell you he wrote books?”, Leon asks.

“No, not at all.” Maggie thinks. “When I was a kid, all he ever told me about was baking and his recipes. All day long. I don’t know what else he did in his life. He never told me about that. I never asked him about it either. He was so happy with his pastry shop.”

“This book is about magic”, Leon says. He starts to read a page.

“Hey, there’s something on the table, too”, Maggie says, standing up.

Book Pages 42–43

There are many pieces of paper on the table. “My grandfather’s name is also written here”, Maggie says and takes a piece of paper into her hand.

Leon also comes to the table. “Experiment 356: The broken wristwatch”, Leon reads aloud. “Dr. Anton Wolf touched the broken wristwatch. He used his magic. Dr. Wolf saw through his magic that a person threw the wristwatch on the floor. He identified the person. Experiment successful.”

Leon turns to Maggie. “That’s the same magic as on the blackboard in the lab.”

“So my grandfather did have magic”, Maggie says. “And he did experiments. Why didn’t he ever tell me? And why was Nick interested in this magic?” Maggie shakes her head.

“But look, the experiments stop here. This is the last experiment.” Maggie reads aloud, “Experiment 402. Dr. Wolf touched five objects. He touched the same five objects a week ago. Four of the five objects now do not have memories anymore. That is impossible. Experiment canceled.”

“The memories from the objects were suddenly gone? And this experiment was the last one? What happened?”

Chapter 7: Grandfather's Favorite Place

Book Pages 44–45

"The basement in the pastry shop. That's where we have to go! My grandfather was in the basement a lot. Come on, hurry up", Maggie says, running down the stairs.

"Wait for me!" Leon runs after her. "We've already run all the way. From the research institute to here." Leon holds on to the stairs. He takes a deep breath.

The basement was Maggie's grandfather's favorite place. He baked pies in the kitchen during the day and invented new recipes in the basement at night. He was often in the basement longer than he slept.

"Grandpa, what are you always doing in the basement?", Maggie once asked him as a child.

"You know, Maggie, every pie baker has a pie lab where his creations are made. If I bake a cake for an hour, I've spent 100 hours developing it."

"My grandfather put all the recipes in a cabinet in the basement. There are also many books here. If we look for a long time, I'm sure we'll find something here. More experiments, notes..."

Book Pages 46–47

When Maggie arrives in the basement, she stops.

“Oh, is the floor broken again? Always this wood sticking out of the floor.”

Maggie gets annoyed and stares at the wood. “This is the third time this week. I know, I know, it’s an old wooden floor and that’s normal...”

Maggie touches the wooden board.

She stops.

“Leon? Come here. I think there’s something down there.”

Book Pages 48–49

Maggie and Leon get the wooden board out of the floor. “That’s why the board used to stick out... What are these old newspapers doing here? Did my grandfather hide them here?”, Maggie asks.

Leon picks up a newspaper. “Scientist’s daughter dies on the run”, Leon reads aloud. “That was the title.” He continues reading, “The daughter of a famous scientist and her husband were in a terrible car accident last night.”

“Look at the date. That’s the year I was born. I think the newspaper article is about my parents”, Maggie says.

Maggie takes another newspaper out of the hole in the floor. It’s about the same subject. “The police are looking for clues. They’ve already figured out that the woman and the man were running from something. They didn’t have much luggage with them.

They drove out of town at high speed. In the process, they drove off the road and hit a tree”, Maggie reads.

Maggie looks at Leon, startled. “I’ve known that my parents died in a car accident shortly after I was born. But what does that mean? They were on the run? Why? What were they running from?”

“This newspaper article here came out a few months later”, Leon notes, pointing to another newspaper.

“The mysterious death of Anton Wolf’s daughter remains unsolved”, Leon reads. “The police have not yet found out what happened before the accident. They have asked Anton Wolf many questions about the accident. He just says he doesn’t know anything. The sudden escape remains a mystery. What were his daughter and her husband running from?”

Chapter 8: The Yellow Book

Book Pages 50–51

“Something’s wrong”, Maggie says.

“What do you mean?”

“Here, I mean. There’s something strange here. I often come down to the basement when I’m looking for a recipe. But now there’s something different here.”

“Different?”

“I don’t know. Are the books on the shelf different? Or is the armchair crooked? The vase? The rug? I don’t know, but something is different. It’s driving me crazy right now.” Maggie grabs her head. She thinks.

“Maggie, are you sure? Maybe it’s just the stress?”, Leon asks. He’s worried. Maggie shakes her head. “Or is the air weird? Does it smell different?”, Maggie wonders, walking around the room.

Leon looks closely at the basement. Slowly, he looks from one corner to the other. Then he notices something.

“Hey, look back there on that shelf. There’s a yellow book there. It’s sticking out of the shelf a little bit, too”, Leon says.

“That’s strange. Why is the book sticking out of the shelf? I certainly didn’t put it on the shelf like that”, Maggie says. Maggie and Leon slowly walk over to the book.

“I think the book even has a tear in it”, Leon says.

Book Pages 52–53

Leon touches the yellow book. He wants to pull the book out of the shelf.

“Maggie, look! This book really has a tear- Ah!”, Leon exclaims suddenly.

The floor shakes and the walls tremble. Maggie and Leon fall to the floor in shock.

“What’s happening now?!”, Maggie exclaims.

Then Maggie and Leon hear a thudding sound.

“What’s that?”, Leon asks.

“It’s coming from the wall!”, Maggie exclaims.

The noise doesn’t stop. It’s getting louder. A few books fall off the shelf. Then the bookshelf slowly moves to the left and disappears into the wall.

“What the...?!”

Book Pages 54–55

“Nick?!” Maggie exclaims in horror.

Behind the bookshelf is a corridor. Her brother Nick is standing in the corridor.

“Shh!” Nick holds his index finger to his mouth. “Maggie, Leon, I know this situation is absurd, but listen to me now”, Nick says. “Come with me, quickly.” He takes Maggie by the hand and pulls her into the hallway.

“Wait!” Maggie pulls her hand back. “First tell us what this is all about!”

“I’ll explain everything, but please, come with me first.”

“What are you doing here? What is this corridor? What in the world happened in your lab? Where’s your team?!” Maggie has a lot of questions for Nick. She doesn’t even know where to begin. She takes a deep breath.

“My team is here. Everyone is safe. I’ll take you to them in a minute. There’s a room at the end of this corridor.

What I’m about to tell you is hard to believe. I wanted to keep it a secret so badly. But I have to tell you now, Maggie. I don’t know what to do myself”, Nick says.

Chapter 9: What Happened 20 Years Ago?

Book Pages 56–57

“First of all...”, Nick says. “Oh, where do I begin... Maggie, I have magic. I know that’s hard to believe. But there’s a reason why I never told you that.

Second, Grandfather had the same magic that I have.”

“So you have that magic too...”, Maggie says.

Nick looks at Maggie in wonder.

“We were at the research institute”, Maggie explains. “We saw the books that Grandfather wrote.”

“Ah, so you already know that grandfather was a scientist. When I was a child, Grandfather always told me not to go into the basement. I was about four years old. I was curious. So, I went into the basement anyway. At some point I touched the shelf in front of the corridor. Through my magic, I found the corridor.

That’s why grandfather told me about his magic. He also told me that he was a scientist. Because I have the same magic, it was impossible to keep his work a secret.

When I was five years old, grandfather opened the pastry shop. He didn’t work as a scientist anymore. In the same year you were born, Maggie. Grandfather told me not to tell you about our magic. I don’t know why.”

Book Pages 58–59

“Magic has always fascinated me. I wanted to know more about it. I often asked grandfather about it. But ever since grandfather had the pastry shop, he wouldn’t tell me anything about magic.

Then I also wanted to become a scientist. I told Grandfather that, but he was against it. He forbade me.

You know that I became a scientist anyway. I ignored grandfather’s warning. I was very interested in magic. Especially the magic that grandfather and I have. That’s why I wanted to research this magic – just like Grandfather. He was an expert on our magic. He worked in the research institute. That’s why I wanted to work there, too.

At some point, I found Grandfather’s experiments in the attic of the research Institute.”

“We saw those, too”, Leon says.

“Did you discover the last experiment?”, Nick asks.

“Yes! That’s the experiment where many test subjects suddenly had no memories”, Maggie says.

“Exactly. And it’s strange that Grandpa suddenly opened the pastry shop. He loved his job, after all. He loved being a scientist. When I saw the last experiment, I thought the whole situation was weird. I think that there is a reason why grandfather changed his profession. Something must have happened. But what? Why did Grandfather suddenly give up everything? His greatest passion?”

“Did you see the newspaper articles about the car accident? Our parents were running from something. That’s why they passed away”, Maggie says.

“Yes! I think it’s all connected. Grandfather’s weird behavior, our parents’ car accident...”, Nick says.

Book Pages 60–61

"I told my team this story. We wanted to find out what happened 20 years ago. That's why we started researching.

A few days ago, something bad happened. We found cameras in our lab. Someone was monitoring us.

Then we took some things from the lab and ran away. As fast as we could. We were scared.

We had to hide somewhere where no one could find us. Only I have known that this room exists. It's the only place where we're safe."

Leon reflects, "I'm thinking about the last experiment. There, many test subjects did not have memories anymore." Leon stops and thinks. "I have a theory", Leon says.

"You have a theory?", Maggie asks.

Leon continues talking, "I think your grandfather figured out why the test subjects had lost their memories. And the reason was so bad that he had to change his profession."

Chapter 10: The Recipe

Book Pages 62–63

Suddenly Leon gets a headache again. “Hey, I’m having a vision!” Leon holds his hands to his head and closes his eyes. “I see a piece of paper... there’s something written on the paper... Ah, it’s a recipe! Maggie, I think it’s a recipe from your grandfather! But there’s a lot of dust on the paper.”

“What? The recipes are in a cabinet. I take good care of the recipes. They’re not dusty...”

“No, I’m sure. The recipe I see is very dusty.” Leon concentrates. “Now I see the recipe more clearly. I see the writing on the recipe! Blueberry pie! It’s a recipe for blueberry pie.”

“Blueberry pie? I don’t have a recipe like that.”

“I don’t think the recipe is in the cabinet. It’s not with the other recipes. I think it’s stuck somewhere.”

“Stuck?” Maggie and Nick look at each other.

Book Pages 64–65

Maggie, Leon and Nick run back to the cabinet in the basement. Nick walks around the cabinet. He looks more closely at the other furniture in the room. Maggie opens the drawers of the cabinet and looks for the recipe. Then she grabs the cabinet. She pushes it aside.

Behind the cabinet, a piece of paper falls to the floor.

“Oh?”, Maggie says in surprise.

Leon picks up the recipe. “Here it is. The recipe for blueberry pie.” Leon holds the recipe up in the air. “This is the recipe I saw. Now what? Because I saw the recipe in my vision, it’s a clue. But for what?”, Leon asks.

Maggie looks at the recipe. “This is a normal recipe. These are normal ingredients for a cake.”

“Wait a minute!”, Nick exclaims. “I want to try something. I’m sure the recipe has memories. The memories might help us. I’m going to use my magic now.”

Book Pages 66–67

Nick touches the recipe. He closes his eyes and concentrates. His magic works. He sees images in his mind. He sees his grandfather standing in front of the cabinet in the basement.

“That memory is probably very old”, Nick says. He focuses on the scene in his head. “I see grandfather. He’s standing in front of this cabinet. There are a lot of recipes in the cabinet. I think he’s writing a new recipe right now. This memory must have happened about 20 years ago... He looks desperate. What is he doing now? He just hit the cabinet with his hand. A couple of recipes are falling off the cabinet. One recipe falls behind the cabinet. I think it’s the blueberry pie recipe.

Grandfather says something:

Why didn’t I notice that? My daughter is the solution to the last experiment. She is the reason why the test subjects have no memories”, Nick repeats.

“What? Our mother? Why was she the reason?”, Maggie says.

“She can erase the memories of objects. When she touches an object, the object loses its memories. It’s so logical. Why didn’t I ever think of that? I put her in great danger with my research. She can cover traces with her magic. Her magic is very powerful. There are criminal organizations that want this magic. People with this magic are in danger.”

“That’s why our mother escaped... she had magic, too, and that’s why she was in danger”, Maggie says in shock.

“Wait, grandfather is saying something else”, Nick says.

“And my poor granddaughter Maggie, she has the same magic. No one can know that Maggie has this magic. If anyone finds out, Maggie will be in danger too.”

Epilogue: A Few Weeks Later

Book Pages 68–69

“Finally done!”, Maggie exclaims. It’s evening. There are no more guests in the pastry shop today. Only Leon is sitting at a table. Maggie walks over to Leon. She puts a plate with a piece of cake on the table.

“Taste this!”, Maggie says.

Leon tastes the cake.

“Wow, delicious!” He laughs. “There’s something good about the chaos of the last few weeks. This blueberry pie is great!”

“Yes! I’m glad.”

Leon looks at the slice of pie and thinks.

“But you know what’s funny?”, he asks.

Maggie looks at Leon in wonder. “What?”

“You once told me what your grandfather said.

‘My recipes are magical’, he used to say.

And now his recipes have shown you shown you your magic!”

“Oh yes! What irony.”

Maggie and Leon eat the cake in silence for a few minutes.

“That’s funny, too”, Maggie says suddenly. “How come I’ve never looked behind this cabinet before?”

Leon laughs. “Good thing you haven’t looked behind the cabinet! Remember your magic. You erase the memories from an object when you touch the object.”

“Right! Only the blueberry pie recipe could have had the memory. I had never touched the blueberry pie recipe. All the other recipes I’ve always used.”

Book Pages 70–71

Then Nick enters the pastry shop.

“Nick!”, Maggie exclaims. “Come over here and try the blueberry pie.”

Nick walks over to the table.

“Ah, that reminds me...” Nick looks at the floor. “I damaged the yellow book that time. The yellow book that moves the bookshelf in the basement. The secret door. That’s what happened when my team and I were hiding here. We wanted to get to the secret room quickly. I grabbed the book too hard. It’s got a tear in it now.”

“Oh, that was you! The tear”, Leon says. “I had a vision of that book then. That’s how Maggie and I found the corridor.”

“Ah, that’s how you found us back then! I was wondering about that already.”

“Is that why the books fell off the shelf? I think the secret door is broken”, Maggie says. “Should we fix it?”

“But how?”, Nick asks.

“Is there a locksmith for secret doors?”, Leon asks.

The three laugh.

“You know what’s different now?”, Maggie asks.

Leon and Nick look at Maggie.

“I’m no longer Maggie without magic. Now I’m Maggie with magic. But too bad I can’t do anything with this magic. My magic can’t carry my grocery bags or serve my pies...”

“You can use your magic to disrupt my experiments once you’re mad at me”, Nick says.

“That’s right!” Maggie laughs.

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