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Stolen Magic

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The Replica has been stolen! Without this magical object Zertrum Mountain will explode, putting the island in grave danger. Luckily, Elodie is traveling to her home on the island with her Masteress, the dragon Meenore, and her friend Count Jonty Um, an ogre. Since Meenore specializes in finding lost items and people, they immediately volunteer their services in finding the thief and the Replica. Count Jonty Um travels to warn the people near Zertrum Mountain to evacuate while Meenore and Elodie join up with young Master Robbie to search for the thief and question everyone in the Oase. After investigating for a while Meenore leaves to find Count Jonty Um, who has been held up due to a misunderstanding, and they both end up trying to rescue as many people as they can from the fiery mountain. Elodie and Master Robbie are left alone to discover the thief, or possibly even thieves, and must do so before anyone gets hurt anymore. With their combined efforts and the help of many others they discover the thieves, find the Replica, and restore it to its proper place before the mountain explodes entirely. After this adventure they separate, leaving Count Jonty Um to help the people of the area and Meenore and Elodie to travel to Elodie’s parents home to rest before starting on their next adventure.

*Stolen Magic* is another masterfully written book by Gail Carson Levine, following her tradition of award-winning, captivating books. She continues to bring characters and fantasy creatures to life for children in a way that is appealing to many people of different ages. This book is the sequel to *A Tale of Two Castles*, though it can be read independently. It is written in such a way that it continues the character growth from the first book without making it necessary to read it first. Throughout the story, the characters continue to make important discoveries about themselves and some of them even realize that they need to take another path with their lives. This is a fun, light-hearted book that could be a great way to interest intermediate readers, especially girls, in reading more. It is formatted with slightly larger text and less words on a page to make it less intimidating for younger readers. Also, it has a beautiful cover that captures the readers attention and imagination. This is wonderfully done as a whole and leaves the reader hoping that Elodie will continue to have adventures that we can read about in the future.