



A New Beginning

Bang! Boom! Crash! went the cart on the track. 11 year old Lydia and 7 year old Henry felt the jolt as the train car was bumped off the track. The weather was bright and sunny even though the train car was muggy. The cart made one last *Crash!* off of the track. Lydia stumbled out of the train. Her cloak blew in the strong prairie winds. Lydia pulled Henry out of the train car. They walked over to Mrs. O'Connell, another lady from NYC. "Lydia! Henry! I haven't seen you guys since your pa-" She stopped suddenly. "Since our parents died in the wagon crash," said Lydia. "It's fine you can say it!" Mrs O'Connell smiled. "Well, I better start making supper, bye Lydia! Bye Henry!" "Bye Mrs. O'Connell!" "Wait, Lydia, how did you get on the train?" We snuck on the caboose no-one saw us, and we took a seat on the train like everyone else." "Where are you staying?" "Outside, by ourselves." "How would you like to stay with me?" Lydia looked at Henry and he nodded, "Sure, we would love to!"

One week later... *Knock, Knock, Knock!* "Open the door." Mrs. O'Connell opened the door. "I have heard that orphans Lydia and Henry Imson live here, is that true?" "Yes. That is true." Mrs. O'Connell said. "I need them packed up and ready to leave by 7:15 pm, in 2 days flat" said the strange woman. "Yes ma'am." said Mrs. O'Connell. The strange woman clacked her heels away. Their 2 room flat was filling up with clothes and tools. Mrs. O'Connell's sewing machine was overflowing with new clothes. "Who was at the door?" asked Lydia. "No-one" Mrs. O'Connell said flatly.

2 days later at 7:15pm. There was a knock at the door. *Who could that b- Oh! I forgot! Lydia and Henry!* Mrs. O'Connell thought. BANG! "Open the door!" came a pounding rainstorm on the door. She opened the door. "Hello ma'am." "Where are the children?!?" "They are in the other room." Lydia and

Henry came into the room with a strange look on their faces. "Who is this?" Lydia asked. Mrs. Benson (The lady at the door) pulled Lydia's arm. "Ow!" She pushed Lydia into the wagon. Henry got his arm pulled too. "Ouch!" he said. Henry and Lydia got smashed on top of each other. *Click!* The door locked. "Lydia! Henry!" exclaimed Mrs. O'Connell! "Off! Yeehaw!" yelled Mrs. Benson. The horses galloped away.

At the orphanage, Lydia and Henry were too late for supper, so they were sent to bed without any food. Lydia and Henry laid down in their bunk and Henry was really sad, Lydia was surprised that he fell asleep. Lydia, all night, thought of ways to get out.

List of POSSIBLE ways to get out

1. Sneak out at night
2. In the courtyard, hopp on train
3. Climb out the window

The next night, Lydia woke Henry up at midnight and they snuck down the hallway. They were about to get out the door when *Bling! Bling! Children out of bed!* went the alarm. Lydia and Henry snuck back to their bunks.

In the morning when they were playing outside, Henry was playing Kick-The-Can, Lydia was sitting on a bench. "4 Square?" a girl about Lydia's age asked. "No thank you, sorry." The train was rolling by the fence. Lydia came up with an idea. She jumped but Mrs Benson caught her. "Young lady!" said Mrs. Benson. Lydia groaned. "Idiot girl." said Mrs. Benson.

That night Lydia was about to give up when a blast of cool air blew in from the window. *That's It!* She thought. *Oh, We're on the 2nd story.* She crept across the room. "Henry! Get up! Give me your bed sheets and be QUIET!" "Ok..." Henry was suspicious of her. She bound the sheets together in knots and slung them over and out of the window. "Jump." she said "Are you MAD!?!?" "SHHHH!" "Sorry" "Cmon, let's go Henry. I meant grab onto the sheets and climb down." "What if I fall?" "I'll go down first and catch you if you fall." "Ok..." Lydia jumped onto the sheets and worked her way down. She touched the ground. "C'mon Henry!" Henry got down the same way that Lydia did. The train slowed to a stop and Lydia jumped into the cargo hold. Henry did too.

The next day the train arrived in the town. Lydia and Henry hopped out. The little flat that Mrs. O'Connell had, she was coming out of. "Mrs. O'Connell!" They exclaimed in delight.. The carriage of Mrs. Benson pulled up. "How did-" said Mrs. O'Connell. "We'll tell you later." Lydia whispered. "Hello" said Mrs. Benson.. "Well, by this scene displayed here it doesn't look like you need to go back to the orphanage to be adopted. It looks like you already are. Just sign some papers Mrs. O'Connell." She signed the papers after looking them over **very** carefully. "These children are all yours." She left. Lydia, Mrs. O'Connell and Henry lived happily ever after!