

Julia was a little girl.

Her father was the King.

The king did not let Julia play.

She was to be quiet.

She could not laugh.

The King did not like playing.

Julia had a secret.

Julia had a secret friend.

She played with her secret friend.

Her friend was Elzo.

Elzo was a giant snail.

Elzo was a very fast snail.

Julia would ride on Elzo's shell in the garden.

One day a mean wizard came to visit.

The wizard wanted to be King.

He was a bad wizard.

The King was afraid of the wizard.

Julia ran to the garden.

Julia was crying.



She told Elzo all about the mean wizard.

Elzo told Julia to ask the wizard to race.

Julia did not understand.

Elzo said, "Ask him to race against your snail for 1 mile. If he wins he can have the crown."

Julia laughed and ran to the King.

The King was about to give his crown to the Wizard.

Julia said, "I will race you with my snail for 1 mile. If I win then you must go away."

The wizard laughed. He said he would race and then he would be the King.

Julia and Elzo met the wizard at the racetrack.

The King was very surprised.

He did not know about the giant snail.

No one had ever seen a giant snail before, except Julia.

The wizard laughed even harder.

The race began, but Elzo did not move. He let the wizard get a big head start.

Then Julia climbed on the snail.

Golden sparks came from Elzo's snail horns.

He flew faster than the wind.

Elzo ran over the wizard and won the race.



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The wizard was very angry and disappeared in a white cloud.

Elzo was happy.

Julia was happy.

The King was happy. From that day Julia and all the children could play as much

as they wanted, especially with giant snails.

