

Directions

Read this story. Then do Numbers 9 through 16. You may look back at the story as often as you like.

Carnival Glass

by Mary E. Kelly

Illustrated by Gabrielle Meaney

Jane McNeill flung open the kitchen door of her grandmother's house. "I'm here, Grandma Bess!" she called. "I'm in my room. Come on up."

Jane dashed up the bare stairs, skipping the last one in a mighty leap. It felt so good to be ten years old at last!

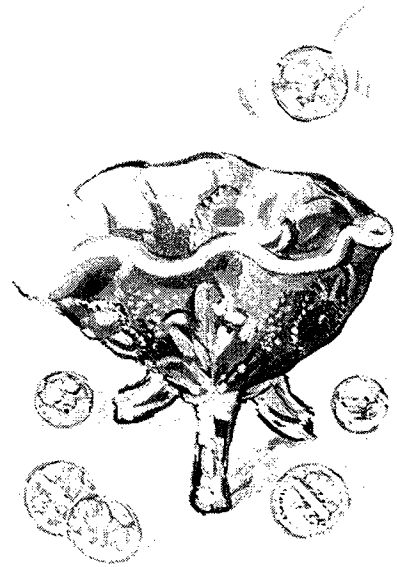
Her grandmother sat in her rocking chair beside the bed. The old-fashioned "wedding-ring" quilt was covered with papers, figurines, and small pieces of bric-a-brac. "Well," she said, "I've decided this is a G-R-O day. Look at this mess! Oh, and happy birthday. I hope it's been a good one."

Jane grinned. G-R-O, she knew, was a "Get Rid Of" day. Her grandmother spent at least one day a week sorting through her lifelong accumulations. She gave some things to members of the family, some went to charity, and others landed in the dustbin.

"I had a super day," she said. "Mom brought cupcakes, and the teacher gave us some free time. And I got 100 percent on my spelling test. Oh, look at that!" She pointed to a small glass bowl the color of an October sunset.

"That's a piece of carnival glass," said Grandma.

"What's carnival glass? I never heard of it." Jane picked up the dish and took it over to the window for a better look. It fit snugly into her hands. She held it up to the light and watched as it changed color. Red, orange, yellow, pink, lavender—as she turned it in the afternoon sunlight the colors brightened and paled, blended and separated. The dish glowed like the setting sun. "Oh, Grandma Bess, it's beautiful! Where did you get it?"



"I won it."

"How?"

Grandma took the bowl into her papery, veined hands and turned it gently round and round. Her hazel eyes, usually so sharp, grew dreamy. "I was eight years old," she began. "It was a Saturday, and the carnival had come to town. Papa said my sister Ellie and I could go to the carnival for two hours. It was a half-hour walk from our farm into town, so that meant we had only one hour there, but I was wild to go. Ellie was ten, and she said there was no use going because we hadn't any money. We were very poor. Our farm barely clothed and fed us. But I said we could go and look, even if we couldn't buy.

"Then Papa dug into his overalls pocket and pulled out his old leather coin purse. I could hardly believe it when he handed each of us a dime. 'Use it wisely,' he said.

"We hurried into our socks and shoes—we went barefoot most of the time to save leather—and rushed off to town. I was so excited! At first, we just walked around and saw the sights. There was a merry-go-round, and it cost only a nickel, and a Ferris wheel, but it cost a dime, and there were other rides. Then we found the booths! They were bright with flags and balloons, and the barkers were calling to everyone to try for prizes. We looked at every booth, but I knew I could never win anything. I was too clumsy to throw a ball straight or even toss a beanbag.

"It grew late, and Ellie said we had to hurry up and decide what to buy. That was when I saw the carnival-glass booth. There were rows and rows of plates and dishes just this color." Grandma Bess held up the small bowl.

"I thought, Oh, if only I could have one. I went close to the counter. A sign said, 'TOSS A DIME AND WIN A DISH!' It meant that whichever dish your dime landed in was your prize.

"So now I had a terrible decision to make. Should I risk my entire dime on one toss? If I missed . . . But if I didn't miss, oh what glory!

"Ellie fussed at me. 'We're running out of time. Are you going to try for a dish or not?'

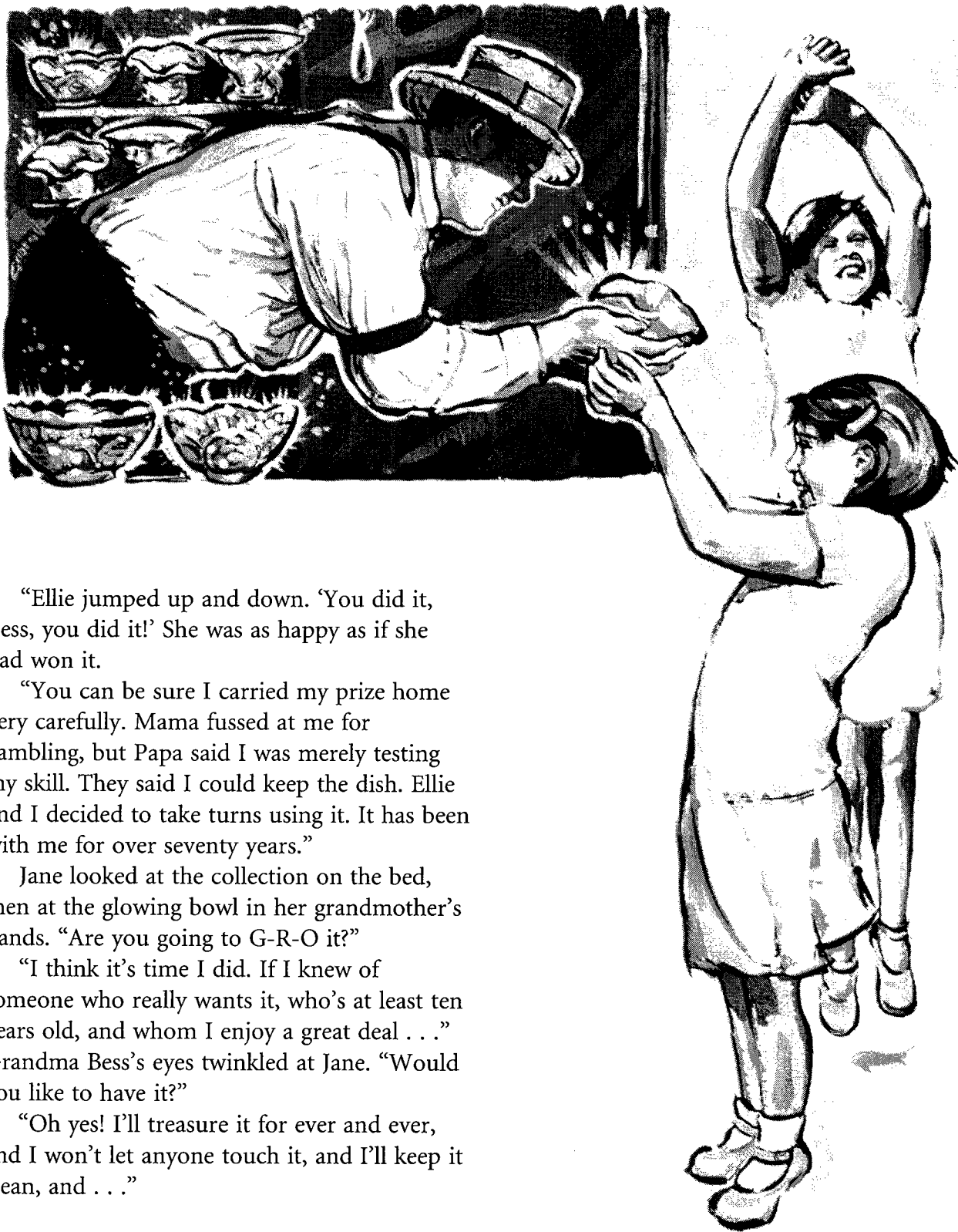
"I just stood there, trying to decide. She said, 'Well, if you won't, I will.' And she flung her dime—and missed. She shrugged as if it didn't matter and said, 'Now you.'"

Grandma Bess gazed into the bowl in her hands. "I had my eye on this very dish. It had the most perfect pattern pressed into the glass and it seemed to glow more than any of the others. I wanted it so much, but it seemed so far away and small. I squirmed and worried and almost walked away.

"I could get two candy apples with my dime, and you could have one,' I said to my sister.

"I don't want a candy apple. They hurt my teeth. Go ahead and toss for the dish,' she urged. 'We have to start for home, or Papa will be cross, and Mama will make us do all the supper dishes. Do it!'

"I still hesitated. If Ellie couldn't win one, how could I hope to? The man behind the counter said, 'Come on, little girl, make up your mind. I can't wait all day.' So I made up my mind. With my eye on the dish, I swung my arm and tossed my dime, then shut my eyes. *Clink!* I opened my eyes. There was my dime, right in the middle of MY dish!



“Ellie jumped up and down. ‘You did it, Bess, you did it!’ She was as happy as if she had won it.

“You can be sure I carried my prize home very carefully. Mama fussed at me for gambling, but Papa said I was merely testing my skill. They said I could keep the dish. Ellie and I decided to take turns using it. It has been with me for over seventy years.”

Jane looked at the collection on the bed, then at the glowing bowl in her grandmother’s hands. “Are you going to G-R-O it?”

“I think it’s time I did. If I knew of someone who really wants it, who’s at least ten years old, and whom I enjoy a great deal . . .” Grandma Bess’s eyes twinkled at Jane. “Would you like to have it?”

“Oh yes! I’ll treasure it for ever and ever, and I won’t let anyone touch it, and I’ll keep it clean, and . . .”



“Easy there,” said Grandma. Smiling, she held the dish out to Jane. “When a person gives something away, she gives up all her rights to it. You don’t have to make any promises to me about taking care of it. Do with it as you wish. I won’t ask you if you still have it or how you are using it or anything. Do you understand?”

“I think so,” said Jane. “The dish is my responsibility now, isn’t it?”

“That’s right.”

Jane kissed her grandmother on her soft, wrinkled cheek. She found tissue paper and carefully wrapped her first piece of carnival glass. “Someday I’ll give this to my granddaughter, and when I do, I’ll tell her the story. I love you, Grandma. Thank you.”

Her grandmother smiled. “You’re welcome, and happy birthday.”



SESSION 3 Reading
CARNIVAL GLASS
Item 13 (Page 22)

Explain why Jane's grandmother is glad she chose to try for the dish instead of going on a ride or buying candy apples. Use details from the story to support your explanation.

Exemplary Responses

I think Jane's grandmother is happy that she gambled and won the dish because now she has something to pass on to her granddaughter. If she had bought a candy apple or had gone on a ride, she would have had fun in the moment, but that would be gone now.

Other Acceptable Responses

Reason why she's happy

She got a souvenir from the carnival.
She has fun memories of the carnival.
Ellie was also happy that Bess won.
Other relevant, text-based reason.

Supporting details from the story

She was excited about the carnival.
She enjoys passing it on to Jane.
Ellie was just as happy as if she had won it.
Other relevant, text-based supporting details.

Score Points

- 2 points** Response is a complete, explanation and is supported by relevant text-based information.
- 1 point** Response is a general or limited explanation and is supported by little relevant text-based information. The explanation is missing some or many key elements.
- 0 points** other

This item appeared at only one grade level.

Grade 5

Standard 6: Students read and recognize literature as a record of human experience.
Benchmark 6.b: Identify characters, setting, problem/conflict, action/plot/events, resolution/solution, theme, and sequence in literature.
Subcontent Area: fiction and poetry

13

Explain why Jane's grandmother is glad she chose to try for the dish instead of going on a ride or buying candy apples. Use details from the story to support your explanation.

Jane's Grandmother Bess was glad that she tried for the dish because ~~she~~ she got the dish. she ~~wouldn't~~ ~~have~~ ride or candy wouldn't have lasted long and she was able to pass the dish down to Jane.

5th Reading

Item #13

2 pt Anchor

Response has complete explanation and is supported by relevant text-based information.

1- "...pass the dish down to Jane."

2- "...rides or candy wouldn't last as long." (fun for a moment)

13

Explain why Jane's grandmother is glad she chose to try for the dish instead of going on a ride or buying candy apples. Use details from the story to support your explanation.

Janes grandmother wanted to give Jane the dish because it bring back memories of her childhood.

5th Reading

Item #13

1 pt Anchor ~~Anchor~~

Response has 1 explanation but little relevant support.

1- "...bring back memories of her childhood ."

CB
4-10-07

13 Explain why Jane's grandmother is glad she chose to try for the dish instead of going on a ride or buying candy apples. Use details from the story to support your explanation.

They didn't have much
money so they needed
The plate

5th Reading

Item #13

0 pt Anchor

Response has no explanation and no relevant text-based information.

CB
4-10-07

- 15** Using details from the story, complete the chart to show how each family member reacted when first learning that Bess won her carnival prize.

Family Member	How He or She Reacted
Ellie	
Mama	
Papa	

SESSION 3 Reading
CARNIVAL GLASS
Item 15 (Page 23)

Using details from the story, complete the chart below to show how each family member reacted when first learning that Bess won her carnival prize.

Exemplary Response

Family Member	How He or She Reacted
Ellie	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• was as happy as if she won it herself
Mama	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• fussed at her for gambling
Papa	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• said she was testing her skill

Other Acceptable Responses:

Ellie

- was happy for her sister
- other relevant, text-based response

Mama

- was unhappy
- other relevant, text-based response

Papa

- was proud of what she did
- other relevant, text-based response

Score Points

- 3 points** Response includes three correct responses, 1 per family member
2 points Response includes two correct responses for any 2 family members
1 point Response includes one correct response for any 1 family member
0 points other

This item appears at only one grade level.

Grade 5

Standard 6: Students read and recognize literature as a record of human experience.
Benchmark 6.b: Identify characters, setting, problem/conflict, action/plot/events, resolution/solution, theme, and sequence in literature.
Subcontent Area: fiction and poetry

JK.
4-12-05

15 Using details from the story, complete the chart below to show how each family member reacted when first learning that Grandma won her carnival prize.

Family Member	How He or She Reacted
Ellie	Ellie was jumping up and down as if she had just won it herself.
Mama	Mama was upset that Bess had been gambling.
Papa	Papa was happy and just said she was testing her skill.

CSAP
Grade: 5 Reading ANCHOR
Item: 15 Carnival Glass
Score: 3
Annotation: Response includes a correct reaction for all three family members.
All reflect the first exemplar.

JK
4-12-05

15 Using details from the story, complete the chart below to show how each family member reacted when first learning that Grandma won her carnival prize.

Family Member	How He or She Reacted
Ellie	Ellie tried to throw the nickel in a dish but she missed.
Mama	The mom fussed at her for gambling.
Papa	The dad said she was merely testing her skill.

CSAP
Grade: 5 Reading ANCHOR
Item: 15 Carnival Glass
Score: 2
Annotation: Response includes a correct reaction for two family members - Mama - Exemplar #1 and Papa - Exemplar #1.

J.K.
4-12-05

15 Using details from the story, complete the chart below to show how each family member reacted when first learning that Grandma won her carnival prize.

Family Member	How He or She Reacted
Ellie	Ellie couldn't win a carnival prize
Mama	Mama fussed at me for gambling.
Papa	Papa said my sister Ellie and I could go to the carnival for two hours.

CSAP
Grade: 5 Reading ANCHOR
Item: 15 Carnival Glass
Score: 1
Annotation: Response includes a correct reaction for one family member - Mama - Exemplar #1.

JK
4-12-05

15 Using details from the story, complete the chart below to show how each family member reacted when first learning that Grandma won her carnival prize.

Family Member	How He or She Reacted
Ellie	Ellie decide to buy one.
Mama	Mom brought cupcakes,
Papa	Papa dug into his ^{overalls} overalls _{pocket} and pulled out his coin purse.

CSAP
Grade: 5 Reading
Item: 15 Carnival Glass ANCHOR
Score: 0
Annotation: Response does not include a correct reaction for any family member. These are all text-based statements but do not respond to the prompt.