

## Model diary from the point of view of Abdul Kazam's son

Dear Diary,

What an incredible day we have had today! I can't wait to tell you all about it.

When I woke early this morning, I had butterflies in my stomach as I knew today was the day my father and I would try our greatest trick for the first time. He was going to send a member of the audience into The Place Between! Although I have been there many times, we have never dared send a regular person. We were going to be a sensation, world famous, the most renowned magicians of our time.

Before the start of the show, I was hidden in The Place Between. It was my job to be there waiting on my magic carpet to catch our guest. We knew whoever was selected would be frightened when they entered so I was there to keep them calm.

As I heard the buzz of the audience entering, I was grinning from ear to ear. Their cheers echoed into the box while the jugglers' skittles spun and twisted. When the barrel organ's tinkling song started up, I knew it was nearly time. I felt the box being wheeled into position and I held my breath waiting for the music to stop.

Minutes later, silence drowned the stage, the audience's applause died and I leaned my ear close to the door. This was it. I could hear my father's voice leaking into The Place Between. I could picture in my mind the tricks he was performing on the outside and hear crowd's joy. Suddenly, everything went quiet again. Then I heard him asking the question and I lurched the carpet downwards to get into position. Gently, the door above me swung open.

As the figure in green fell down, down, down, I swooped in to catch him just in time. I introduced myself and set off to show him around the place where magic sends us. He was perfect. His face was alive with wonder and excitement as cards and doves fluttered in front of him in the lanterns' light. It was amazing to have someone to share this place with. Someone who clearly loved it as much as I do. I even introduced him to Frieda.

Too soon, it was time to leave. I went first because we knew the audience would be expecting Leon but we wanted to trick them. They gasped in confusion when I appeared and one small girl at the front looked like she was going to cry.

Soon enough, my father called the boy back too. The tent erupted in cheers and clapping. I stood alongside the Great Abdul Kazam with a lump in my throat so proud that he is my father. Then I noticed Leon holding my dear Frieda and my heart sank. I knew she would have a better home with him than in The Place Between but I do hope he looks after her well.

It truly was a day to remember when we achieved our biggest trick. I can't wait for the day that I can finally learn the magic.

Adir