

21st July, 2016

To whoever finds this letter,

I can't believe this is happening to me. Just this morning, I was at home with my mum, and now everything has changed.

I was wandering the golden sands with the sun warming my head. All I could think about then were the wonderful objects and creatures that might wash up from the sea for me to find. Crabs scuttled in rocky pools, swooping seabirds shrieked overhead and everything was calm and right in the world. I knew the tides could be dangerous here and that the sea can roll in rapidly but I forgot all about the dangers because the day was so beautiful.

As the morning went on, I'd almost filled my bag with interesting fossils, soft feathers and driftwood crusted with salt. That was when my foot fell on something smooth and hard. I reached into the rough sand and drew out a golden key. I could feel the cold water lapping around my bare feet but I hardly noticed because there was a jewel in the end of the key that twinkled in the sunlight, and a letter underneath it that was too worn to read. The water was rising up around my knees but I couldn't take my eyes off the key.

All of a sudden, the sea crashed against my side and I fell into the churning water. It felt like my world was upside down as I struggled to the surface.

I swam for a long time, with my arms aching, and the cold waves washing over me. Finally, I came to this small island.

I'm sitting high on the sand dunes to write this letter, away from the waves that pulled me in. There are trees behind me and I can hear running water, so at least I'll have something to drink. Some of my treasures have washed away, but I found this paper and an empty lemonade bottle in my bag. I still have the key too, but that won't help me now.

If you find this letter, please send it to my mother so she knows where I am. I can't be far from the beach where I was washed away, so there is still hope.

Thank you for your help.

Yours faithfully,

Emily

Mrs T Sheldon
24 Sandy Crescent
Saltmouth
England
SS4 7DY