The Cup in the Forest

Anne Collins

British English
Original

Per and Nina are on holiday in the country. They find a strange Viking cup in a dark forest. The cup is very old and interesting. But now there is a strange man at the hotel and Per is afraid.
The Cup in the Forest
Anne Collins

Easystart

Series Editors: Andy Hopkins and Jocelyn Potter
What's the book about?

1. Look at the pictures in this book. What country is this story about?
   a. China  
   b. Egypt  
   c. Australia  
   d. Norway

2. What is the story about? What do you think?
   a. love  
   b. animals  
   c. a family  
   d. a ghost

3. Look at pictures A and B. Talk about them with a friend. Then write answers.

   A
   Why is this important in the story?

   B
   Why is he important in the story?

What happens first?

Look at the words at the bottom of pages 1–3. What are they in your language? Then look at the pictures on the same pages. Put the right words in the sentences.

1. The boy and the girl are in a .......... .
   school  forest  town

2. They are ................. .
   swimming  driving  walking

3. There are many ............ .
   trees  people  animals

4. The forest is very ............. .
   beautiful  dark  small

5. They find a ................. .
   bottle  knife  cup

The Cup in the Forest

Per and his girlfriend, Nina, live in a big town in Norway. They are on holiday in the country. They are driving on a road near a big forest.

‘It’s beautiful here,’ Per says. ‘Let’s stop the car and walk in the forest.’

But the forest is very dark and quiet. ‘I don’t like this place,’ Nina says. ‘I’m cold. Let’s go back to the car.’

Suddenly, Per falls over a tree.
'Are you OK?' Nina asks.

'Yes,' Per answers. Then he sees some old stones. 'These are very strange stones,' he says. He moves them with his hands. They are very heavy. 'There's a hole under the stones,' he says. He puts his hand into the hole.

'Be careful,' Nina says. 'Perhaps an animal lives in there.'

Per takes his hand from the hole. He has an old cup in his hand.

'Stone' (n) He is building a house with the stones, but they are very heavy.

'Strange' (adj) Her brother has black hair, but her hair is red. That's strange.

'Hole' (n) There is a hole in my shoe and water is coming in.

'Careful' (adj) Be careful on the road. There are no street lights.

'Cup' (n) Do you want a cup of coffee?

'Look at this old cup, Nina!' he says. 'It's very interesting. But why is it here? And look! There are some strange words on it.'

Nina looks at the cup too. 'It's beautiful,' she says. She looks again. 'And very expensive!' she thinks.

'Word' (n) We can't understand the words on this bottle. Are they Spanish or Italian?
The forest is very dark and cold.
'Let's go now,' Nina says. 'I don't like this forest.'
They walk back to their car. Suddenly, Per stops.
'What is it?' Nina asks.
Per looks into the trees. 'There's a man there,' he says.
Nina looks too. 'I can't see a man,' she says.
Per looks again. 'You're right,' he says. 'It's only a tree.'

Per and Nina drive to a small town.
'It's getting dark,' Per says. 'Let's stay in this town.'
They find a small hotel. The people are very friendly.
'I like this hotel,' Nina says. 'Let's stay here.'
Near the hotel is a museum.
'We can take the cup to the museum in the morning,' Per says. 'We can ask the curator about it.'
Activities 2

2.1 Were you right?
Look at your answers to Activity 1.2. Are your answers right?

1 What is first? And then? Write the numbers, 1–4.

2 Write the right sentences under the pictures.

- Per and Nina look at the cup.
- Per moves the stones with his hands.
- Per and Nina go for a walk in the forest.
- Per and Nina drive to the town.

2.2 What more did you learn?
Put the words in the box in the right places.

museum forest strange hotel cup words stones

Per and Nina are walking in a 1 .................. . Per sees some old 2 .................. . He moves them and finds an old 3 .................. . There are some 4 .................. on it. They are very 5 .................. . Then Per and Nina drive to a 6 .................. . There is a 7 .................. near the hotel.

2.3 Language in use
Look at the sentence on the right. Then write a, an, the or some in the sentences.

'There's a hole under the stones.'

Per puts his hand into 1 .................. hole. 'Perhaps there's 2 .................. animal there,' Nina says. Per finds 3 .................. old cup in 4 .................. hole. There are 5 .................. strange words on it. Nina looks at 6 .................. cup too. 'That's 7 .................. very beautiful cup,' she thinks. 'And very expensive!'

2.4 What happens next?
Look at the words at the bottom of pages 8–13. Then look at the pictures on this page. What are the people thinking? What do you think? Write the letters, a–d.

a 'That cup belongs to me.'
b 'I can sell the cup and get some money.'
c 'Take the cup back to the forest.'
d 'I'm afraid of the strange man.'
Later, Per can't sleep. He goes to the window of his room and looks into the hotel garden.

A strange man is standing there. He doesn't move.

'Who are you?' Per calls. 'What do you want?'

Then Nina comes into the room.

'There's a strange man in the garden,' Per says.

'What man?' Nina asks. 'I can't see a man.'

In the morning, Per and Nina take the cup to the museum. The museum curator is an old man.

'Do you know about this cup?' Per asks.

The curator looks at the cup for a long time. 'Where is it from?' he asks.

'From a hole under some old stones in the forest,' Per says.

'Take the cup back to the forest . . . now,' the curator says.
But why? Per asks.
Do you see the old words on the cup? the curator asks.
They say This cup belongs to Hakon. Be careful!
Who is Hakon? Per asks.
Hakon is an old Viking name, the curator says. There are some Viking graves in the forest. This cup is from Hakon's grave. Take it back there now!

Per and Nina are drinking coffee in the hotel.
Let's take the cup back to the forest, Per says.
Are you crazy? Nina says.
Why do you listen to the old man's stories? Hakon is only a dead Viking.
Yes, Per says. But I'm afraid. The cup belongs to him.

Suddenly, Per sees the strange man across the room. Look! he says. Hakon is here! He's in this café!

* Viking: a name for Scandinavian people from about the years 790–1066

belong /'belɒŋ/ (v) Does this coat belong to you?
grave /ɡreɪv/ (n) This is my mother's grave: 'Lisa Brown 1946–2008'.
crazy /'kreɪzi/ (adj) He is crazy. He dances all night in his garden.
afraid /'əfriːt/ (adj) I am afraid of big animals – and very small animals!
Per runs across the room. But Hakon isn't there.

Then Per goes back to the table. But Nina isn't there! And the bag with the cup isn't there!

He runs to the door of the hotel. He sees Nina in the car. She is driving away from the hotel very fast.

'Stop, Nina!' Per calls. 'Where are you going?'

But Nina doesn't stop. She is driving away with the cup.

Nina drives away from the town. She is driving fast, very fast. But she isn't afraid. She is thinking about money. Money is important to Nina.

The cup is in a bag near her. Nina looks at it and smiles.

'Per is crazy,' she thinks. 'He's afraid of old stories about dead Vikings. But the cup belongs to me now. I'm taking it to Oslo. I can sell it there.'
3.1 Were you right?

Look at your answers to Activity 2.4. Are your answers right? Then finish these sentences with the words on the right.

1. Per sees a strange man  
   about Hakon.
2. Per and Nina take the cup  
   from the town.
3. The curator talks to them  
   about money.
4. Hakon is  
   in Nina's bag.
5. Per and Nina drink coffee  
   in the garden.
6. Nina drives away  
   to the museum.
7. The cup is  
   in the hotel.
8. Nina is thinking  
   an old Viking name.

3.2 What more did you learn?

What can you see in the four pictures? Write the words under them. Then put the numbers of the pictures with the sentences.

1. a This belongs to Hakon.  
   b Hakon is one.
2. c This is in the forest.  
   d Nina puts the cup in this.

3.3 Language in use

Look at the sentence on the right. Then look at the pictures and finish the sentences. What are the people doing?

1. The curator ..................................  
   the cup.
2. Per and Nina  
   coffee.
3. Nina .............................................  
   the car fast.
4. Nina .............................................  
   money.

3.4 What happens next?


1. Nina takes the cup to Oslo.  
   Yes / No
2. She sells the cup.  
   Yes / No
3. The car falls into the river.  
   Yes / No
4. Hakon has his cup.  
   Yes / No
Per runs to the museum and finds the old curator.

‘Where’s the cup?’ the curator asks.

‘My girlfriend has it now,’ Per answers.

‘That’s bad,’ the curator says. ‘The cup belongs to Hakon.’

‘But Hakon is dead,’ Per says.

‘Yes,’ the curator says, ‘but there are strange stories about Viking

ghosts. Take my car and go after your girlfriend!’

Nina drives for a long time. It is getting dark. There are no cars on
the road. She can’t see any towns or houses or people. Only forests.
Dark, black forests. But Nina thinks about money again and she is
happy.

Now it is raining. Suddenly, Nina sees a strange man. He is
standing on the road. He is looking at Nina. His face is dark and
angry.
Nina screams and screams. She is very afraid. She can't stop the car and she can't see the road. She only sees the man's angry face. His eyes are cold and strange. They are the eyes of a dead man.

The car leaves the road and hits a tree. Then it falls into a river. The water closes over the car. It is very quiet. The car, Nina and the cup are in the river.

Later, the police come and take the car from the river. A policeman looks into the car.

'There's a girl in here,' he says. 'She's dead.'

Per is there too. He is very unhappy about Nina. Suddenly, he sees a man. The man is walking into the forest.

'The ghost of Hakon!' Per thinks. He is very afraid. But Hakon is walking away now. He has his cup.
Talk about it

Look at the picture and work with a friend.

1 What can you see in the picture?
2 What do Per and the policeman say?

Student A
You are the policeman. Ask Per questions about Nina. Start: Do you know this girl?

Student B
You are Per. Answer the policeman's questions.

Write about it

The curator is writing about Viking graves for visitors to the museum. Put these words in the right places.

careful ghosts strange forests graves belong

Viking Graves

There are many beautiful green near our town. You can find old Viking in some of them. But be ! Leave things in the graves. They to the dead Vikings. There are many stories about Viking

Project Ghost Story

Work with one or two friends. You are famous writers of ghost stories. You are writing a new story.

1 Talk to the curator at the museum. Ask questions.

Is/Are ...? What ...? Who ...? Why ...?
How ...? When ...? Where ...?

Yes, there is one.

Are there any ghosts near here?

2 Where is the grave? Write the words in the sentences. Then put the places and things in the right places.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>forest</th>
<th>cup</th>
<th>road</th>
<th>river</th>
<th>stones</th>
<th>grave</th>
<th>town</th>
<th>trees</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| a Go away from the ........................ | e Look for the ........................ under the ........................ .
| b Take the ........................ to the forest. | f Hakon's ........................ is under the stones.
| c Go over the ........................ | g But the ........................ stays there!
| d Walk into the ........................ |
3 Talk to your friends and write sentences with the words in the box.
Write about the forest, the cup and the ghost.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>dark</th>
<th>cold</th>
<th>quiet</th>
<th>many trees</th>
<th>old</th>
<th>interesting</th>
<th>beautiful</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- The forest

- The cup

- The ghost

4 Now write your story.

Ghost of a Dead Viking

I am walking through a forest. The forest is

I see some stones under a tree. There is a hole under the stones. I put my hand in the hole. I take out a cup. It is very

But suddenly I see a man. He is

He is watching me. What does he want? I am very afraid!