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From the Mixed-up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler

The Newbery Award-winning classic
Claudia thought life was boring and unfair.
She wanted to run away to New York.
Claudia loved New York because it was fancy, important and busy.
Claudia would ask her brother Jamie to run away with her because he was smart & & funny.
They would need Jamies radio and money.
Claudia found a bus ticket in her parents' garbage. They would use it to pay for the bus to New York.
On Monday, Claudia made Jamie sit with her on the school bus. She told him that she wanted him to run away with her.
They decided to pack their clothes in their trumpet and violin cases. They would run away on the night of their music lessons!
Claudia left a note on Jamies pajamas.

It was the instructions for running away.
After following the instructions on the paper, Jamie tried to eat them so that no one would find them.
When the ink turned his teeth blue, he decided to tear the note up and throw it in the trash instead.
The next morning, Claudia and Jamie hid on the school bus until it returned to the bus lot and the bus driver walked away.
Then they walked to the train station and got on a train to New York City.
They got off the bus and walked to a mailbox. Claudia mailed a letter to their parents, telling them that they were running away.
They walked to The Metropolitan Museum of Art. That was where they would hide.
They checked their book bags and instrument cases at the museum entrance.
They ate at the museum snack bar.
They looked at a museum map to try to find a good place to hide.
They found a wonderful canopy bed they would be able to sleep in later.
When the museum closed for the night,
Claudia and Jamie hid in the bathroom.
Later, they walked back to the bed, put their pajamas on, and went to sleep.
After they woke up and got dressed, Claudia hid her violin case in a sarcophagus. Jamie hid his trumpet case in an urn.
They hid in the bathroom until the museum opened.
After the museum opened, they went to a restaurant for breakfast. Claudia ate cereal and Jamie ate a cheese sandwich.
When they went back to the museum, they followed a crowd to a beautiful angel statue.
A newsman took a picture of the angel statue.
After that, they joined a class learning about mummies.
The next day, they found a newspaper.

There was a story about the angel statue in it. The statue was special because people thought Michael Angelo made it.
Claudia and Jamie decided to try to solve the statue mystery. They would look for fingerprints when the museum
The next day, Claudia and Jamie washed their clothes at the laundromat.
Then they went to the library to learn about Michael Angelo.
They learned that he had a bad temper. He even got a broken nose from a fight when he was younger.
They learned that Michael Angelo was a genius!
They also learned that much of Michael Angelo's art had been lost.
As they left the library, they found a wrapped candy bar on the steps. Jamie ate it. Claudia was disgusted!
They played in Central Park before going back to the museum for the night.
Before going to bed, they took a bath in the museum water fountain.
They found coins in the bottom of the fountain and collected $2.87.
The next morning, they went to look at the statue. They noticed that the velvet under it had been changed from blue to gold.
Theuy noticed three circles and an "M" on the blue velvet. It was an imprint from the bottom of the angel. Maybe that was a clue!
Claudia and Jamie went to the bookshop and found a book with the circles and an "M" on it. It was Michael Angelo's stonemason's mark. They thought the statue was made by him!
Claudia typed a letter to the museum head, telling them about the clue on the bottom of the statue.
Later, they relaxed and watched skaters at Rockefeller Center. After that, they went back to the museum.
On Monday, they rented a box at the post office.
They went back to the museum to find a child to mail the letter for them. They were surprised to see that Jamie's class was museum.
They decided it was safe for Jamie to give the museum director the letter himself.

Jamie could pretend to be another student from his class.
On Tuesday, Claudia and Jamie went to the laundromat again.
Then they ate breakfast at "Chock Full O' Nuts".
Then they went on a tour at the United Nations Building.
When they finally went to the post office, there was a letter in their box.
Claudia and Jamie read the letter. It said that the museum already knew of their clue and were researching further.
Claudia was so disappointed that she cried.
Suddenly, she had an idea! She and Jamie would take a train to Farmington to talk with Mrs. Frankweiler, the former owner of the angel.
When Claudia and Jamie got to Mrs. Frankweiler's house, they told her why they were there and showed her the newspaper clippings they had.
They both washed up, each in one of Mrs. Frankweiler's bathrooms. Claudia actually took a bath in Mrs. Frankweiler's black, marble bathtub!
They had dinner with Mrs. Frankweiler.

They had macaroni and cheese that had some fancy name.
Mrs. Frankweiler told them that she would share her secret with them if they found it themselves in one of her many files, .... and if they would tell her about their adventure!
They found it!!! It was a very old piece of paper. On one side was a poem signed by Michael Angelo. On the other was a sketch of the angel statue.
Mrs. frankweiler explained that she had won the sketch in a poker game.
Mrs. Frankweiler told them she would leave the sketch to them in her will, as long as they kept it a secret until she died.
Jamie and Mrs. Fankweiler played cards.
Claudia and Jamie used a tape recorder to document their adventure.
The butler drove Claudia and Jamie home the next morning. They even got to ride in a limousine.
Mrs. Frankweiler gave Claudia a tour of the house.