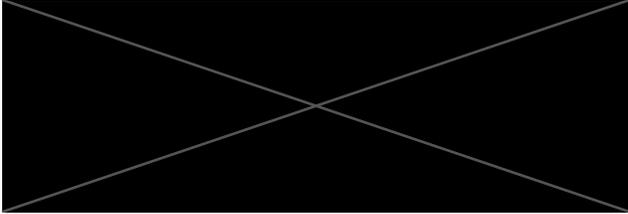


Make Your Own Magic

By Olivia Hillier 2026

Young Adult



I clutched at the metal charm hanging so carefully around my neck, and maybe I held on *too* tightly because I started to feel every curve and bump delicately carved in. My heart was racing far too fast for me to keep track of, and I was unaware of how much longer my knees had before the buckled beneath me. I could feel my mother's concern etching out of her, filling the air between us with worry, as she looked from me to Charlie Harris.

Mother opened my mouth to speak but as if all the words got sucked right out of her, she closed it and shook her head. I watched as mother sigh, resting her forehead on the palm of her hand. She always ended up doing that every time she was worried or overthinking about something – which happened a lot more than you might think.

, not quite meeting either one of our eyes. "I'm not sure I really understand everything that just happened, but uh I think it's fine. I mean I would like a little summary of what's going on or I don't know something that explains things but it's chill." He scratched the back of his head.

I took a deep breath, trying to bring all the information I could remember together. "Well, the thing is---"

I was interrupted by a girl approaching us. "Whitney!" She exclaimed; her eyes locked onto mine. "Why didn't you tell me you'd be here?" She ran forward, pulling me a tight hug.

Oh, uh hi Kira." I gave her my best smile.

Kira Schmidt placed her hands on her hips. "No need to be so formal Whit." She laughed, glancing over at Charlie and my mother. "Mrs. Hunter." She held out her hand.

"Hello, Kira." Mother shook it, finally able to get some words out.

Kira shifted her attention to the boy standing beside me. "Charlie? What are you doing here? I thought you were at band practice?"

"Oh uh no it was—it was canceled." He spoke awkwardly. "What are you doing here anyway?"

"Just wanted to go shopping." She glanced around the crowded mall. "It's just crazy seeing you guys here! I haven't seen you guys since like three months ago!"

It was true.

Charlie and I hadn't gone to school for the past couple of months. Our parents were okay with me, well at least my mother was since she knew why. It was all because of my necklace.

"Oh is that a new necklace?" Kira asked. "Lemme see." She reached forward.

“No!” I shouted, just as her clammy fingers grasped the charm. And then she disappeared.

The truth was that my necklace was magical. It could teleport any number of people around the globe in 2 seconds. And we had been researching it every day since the time I found the gutters outside my school building. It sounded gross but it wasn't. It was amazing.

So here two hours had passed since Kira touched the necklace and vanished.

“What are we supposed to do?” I asked, glancing over at my mom.

She shrugged, not really knowing herself. And then just as she opened her mouth to speak, a golden pixie flew over. I jumped as the little thing stared up at the three of us.

From the corner of my eyes, I watched as Charlie's eyes widened. “Is that a fairy?” He whispered over to me.

“Actually, I'm a pixie, and my name's Emma!” Her tiny voice spoke up, barely audible with how quiet it was.

“Am I dreaming?” I managed.

“Nope!” She cheered. “This is very much happening, and I would explain more but right now we need to find your friend.”

“How do you know where our friend is?” I questioned, feeling quite confused on what exactly was going on.

“I am the pixie of the necklace, of course I know where she is. I know everything the necklace does.” She grinned. “I'll help you.”

So, we followed her down the streets of our famished town towards my house. “My house?”

“There is a portal behind it.” She explained.

We found the portal and walked through it. “Wow!” I said, looking at the golden room standing before me.

“Whitney!” Kira yelled running towards us. “Thank you for saving me!”

“Of course.” I said with a smile as we hugged each other.

Four hours later we stared at the necklace.

“Give it to me, I'll take care of it.” Emma ordered. “Bye bye have a great life.”

I laid back on my seat.

That was the story of my magical necklace.

P.S I kinda rushed through the "story" so it didn't turn out as good as it should've but yeah that's why it's kinda rushed and bad lol.