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EVIE

Mom? Zach? Who is that? Did you bring food?

Evie sets down one of her dolls and heads toward the stairs. KATE hesitantly steps into sight. Evie, surprised takes a few steps back.

EVIE (CONT'D)

Uh, who are you?

KATE

Oh, Evie, right?

EVIE

Really? Hi! I've never met another girl before! Well, I guess Mom is a girl, but she's sort of old.

KATE

(Carefully) Hi. I'm Kate. I'm a friend of Zach's.

EVIE

Oh, wow, I've never met a friend of Zach's. I didn't even realize he had any friends!

KATE

Evie, I have something I need to tell you.

EVIE

Wait, are you just his friend? Or like, the type of friend that gets married to him one day?

KATE

Listen. I'm going to help you get out of here.

Evie grabs her doll from behind her which she had dropped on the bed.

EVIE

What do you mean, "out of here"?

KATE

I mean, out of the basement.

EVIE

No. No. No. That's not allowed. I can't even go on the stairs.

KATE

You don't... want to leave the basement?

EVIE

It would be fun but I can't. I would get in big trouble.

KATE

But you're stuck here.

EVIE

I'm not allowed upstairs but I like it here. I've got dolls and my music and my brother and my mom and-

KATE

What if I told you your mom said you were allowed upstairs? That she sent me here to bring you outside?

EVIE

Did she say that? Really?

KATE

Yes.

EVIE

Why didn't she tell me?

KATE

Uh, she's at work but was just so excited for you to go.

EVIE

Oh, okay!