

Write On! 2020

Nancy Explores Hollywood!!

By Carson Bate



“Honey, do not forget to pack your headlight, snorkel, and goggles!”

“Mom, I'm not a baby and I'm not going to pack a swim bag,” thirteen-year-old Nancy replied while rolling her eyes. Nancy and her mother had just arrived in Hollywood on vacation and Nancy was looking forward to going to the beach that evening

to catch the sunset. "Nancy," mom began, "I know you love to explore but you need to be prepared in case of an emergency!"

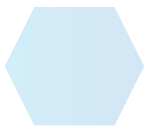
"Ok mom, I will pack my bag for swimming." Nancy replied, feeling annoyed. Her love for exploring often got the best of her. She didn't like being slowed down by anyone - especially her mother.

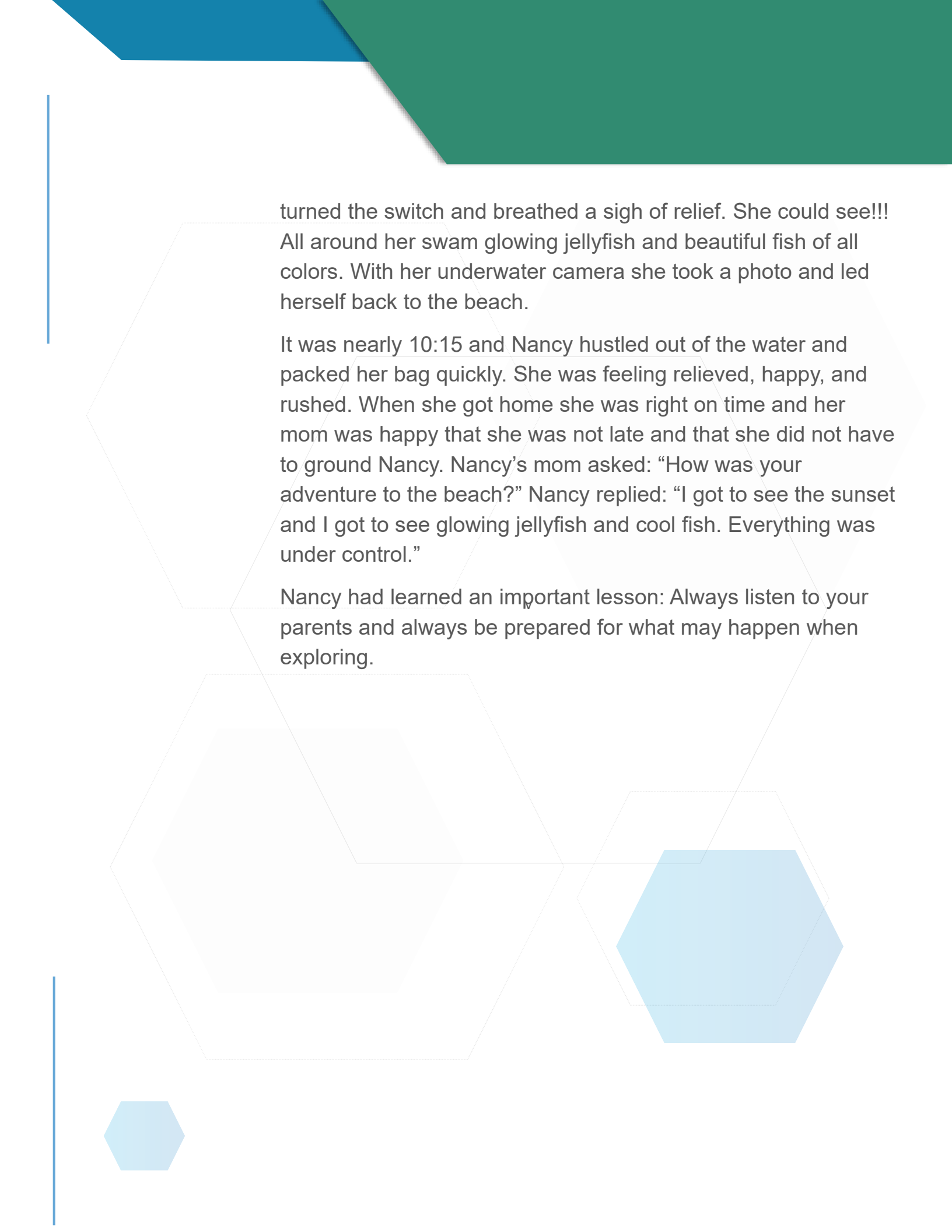
"Bye!! Be back by midnight!"

Nancy's mom replied: "Nice try, see you by 10:30pm. And don't even think about going swimming after dark because of what happened with me and my accident of getting lost underwater."

Nancy arrived at the beach and laid her towel on the sand so she could enjoy the sunset. As she stared at the orange, yellow, and pink sunset, she exclaimed, "Wow! It's so beautiful!!" Then, Nancy had an idea. She knew that her mom had warned her to not go into the water at night but Nancy did not want to follow her mom's rules. A swim in the ocean at night was exactly the kind of exploring Nancy wanted to do, and besides, there was still some light leftover from the setting sun. Quickly, Nancy put her head light, snorkel and goggles on, and went in the water.

Nancy began to swim, looking for signs of life and went far out from the beach. She kicked her feet really hard and then she saw a small glowing light going deep down into the ocean. She felt curious and kept following the light further and further until she could not see a thing. Just then, she realized that the sun had gone down. Nancy tried to find her way back but just kept swimming further and further, becoming more and more petrified. She cried for help, but no one heard her. All of a sudden Nancy realized that she had a headlight on so she





turned the switch and breathed a sigh of relief. She could see!!! All around her swam glowing jellyfish and beautiful fish of all colors. With her underwater camera she took a photo and led herself back to the beach.

It was nearly 10:15 and Nancy hustled out of the water and packed her bag quickly. She was feeling relieved, happy, and rushed. When she got home she was right on time and her mom was happy that she was not late and that she did not have to ground Nancy. Nancy's mom asked: "How was your adventure to the beach?" Nancy replied: "I got to see the sunset and I got to see glowing jellyfish and cool fish. Everything was under control."

Nancy had learned an important lesson: Always listen to your parents and always be prepared for what may happen when exploring.

