

Masterpiece

By Elise Broach

Q. Where do Marvin & his family live?

A. In a damp corner of a kitchen cupboard in the Pompadour's NYC apartment.

Q. What kind of bug are Marvin & his family?

A. Beetles.

Q. Who drew the Masterpiece?

A. Marvin.

Q. Do you like James' mother?

A. No, she is bossy and a showoff. She is inconsiderate of James' feelings.

Q. What is James' father's job?

A. Paul is an artist.

Q. Where does Paul take James after he sees the drawing of the view outside of James' window?

A. To the Metropolitan Museum of Modern Art.

Who else goes to the museum?

Marvin, James puts Marvin in his pocket.

Q. Marvin's pen & ink drawing was similar to the work of what famous artist?

A. Albrecht Durer

Q. In what fairytale does an elf help a maiden turn straw into gold?

A. Rumpelstiltskin.

Q. Was *Fortitude* part of a set?

A. Yes, Durer had drawn the Four Cardinal Virtues: Fortitude, Justice, Prudence & Temperance.

Q. What does Christina ask of James?

A. To copy Albrecht Durer's *Fortitude*, a drawing of a girl and a lion.

Q. Why does Christina want a copy of Durer's *Fortitude*?

A. It was about to be stolen. The other 3 had been stolen. Christina thought that following the trail of the theft of a forged *Fortitude* might lead her to the 3 original Durer Cardinal Virtue drawings.

Q. Why did Marvin hide behind the painting in the museum?

A. It was the original *Fortitude*, not his copy. Marvin was trying to protect the original.

Q. Where was the original *Fortitude* supposed to be?

A. In the vault in Christina's office.

Q. What is the name of Marvin's cousin?

A. Elaine

Q. What happened to Elaine in the Pompadour's solarium?

A. Elaine fell in the turtle aquarium and might have been eaten by the turtle if not for Marvin.

Q. Where did the FBI agent from the museum bring *Fortitude* & Marvin?

A. To a hotel.

Q. Where did the middleman from the hotel bring *Fortitude* & Marvin?

A. To a church.

Q. Did the middleman know Marvin was in the satchel?

A. No.

Q. Who was the art thief?

A. Denny, James' father's friend from Art School.

Q. How did Marvin help James figure out where to look for the original *Fortitude*?

A. With the mailing label from a newspaper mailed to where Denny had hidden *Fortitude*.

Q. Did Christina help Denny steal the original *Fortitude*?

A. No.

Q. How did Marvin tell James that Denny was the art thief?

A. Marvin pointed out the worn gold initials on Denny's brief case in Gordon Perry's apartment.

Q. How did Marvin get James' attention in Christina's office?

A. With a tack.

Q. Why did Denny steal the paintings?

A. For himself, he loved Durer's work.

Q. What kind of boy is James?

A. A boy who always pays attention.

Q. Does James love his baby brother?

A. Yes.

Q. What didn't the Cardinal Virtues of Justice, Temperance, Fortitude & Prudence include?

A. Compassion

Q. Why does Justice look so sad?

A. Because doing the right thing, calling the FBI about Denny can be so sad.

Q. What did Marvin's parents make for him at the end of the story?

A. An artist's studio.

Q. What did James do so he wouldn't have to draw anymore?

A. He broke his hand by slamming it in the cab trunk.

Q. How did the kids at school treat James after the art theft & his broken arm?

A. James got a lot of attention and became quite popular.

Q. Why didn't James tell his parents the truth about Marvin?

A. It was too hard.

Q. Who is James' best friend?

A. Marvin.

Q. Who is dating at the story's end?

A. Paul, James' father & Christina.

