

UNICORNIA

The Dance Show



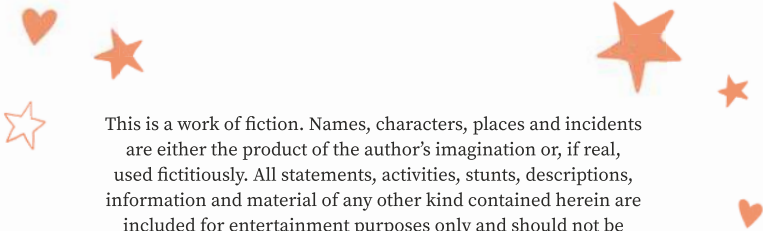
Ana Punset

Illustrated by Diana Vicedo

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The Land of
UNICORNIA

Syrup-pumping station



Unicorn shelter

My parents' shop



Enchanted Falls theme park



The Unicornia Academy of Magic



My house





Merry Music Day

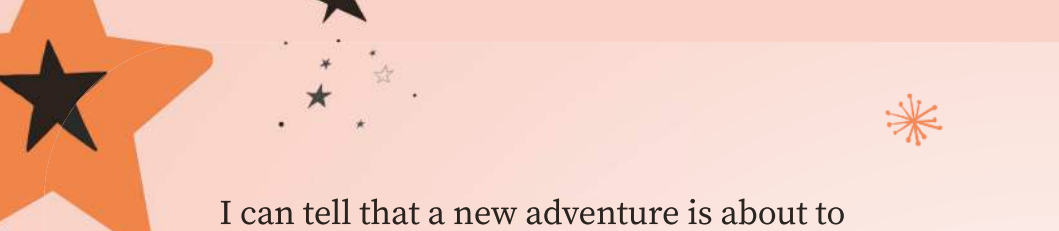


The magic never stops in Unicornia. I discovered that the moment I stepped foot in the city. The air smells like sugar syrup, there are flying cars and buses in the sky, and unicorns everywhere you look!

It really is magical – that’s the only word for it.

As you can imagine, it’s the best place in the world to live out a million different adventures!





I can tell that a new adventure is about to begin as soon as I meet Sara and Pippa outside the Unicornia Academy of Magic.

How can I tell? They're both rehearsing dance steps!

"It's nearly Merry Music Day!" Sara tells me.

"Merry Music Day?" My eyes grow as wide as wishing wells. I love music!

"It's incredible. One of the best school days of the year!" exclaims Sara.

"What is it?" I ask. "What happens?"

"Ooh, loads of things," Pippa says. "There are dances and every kind of performance—"

"And we've had an idea!" Sara bursts in, bubbling with excitement. I can't wait to hear what my friends have in mind!

"We're going to prepare a dance routine!" Sara announces, throwing her arms wide in the air.

“Yes!” Pippa squeals. “And on Merry Music Day, we’ll perform it in front of the whoooooole school and everyone’s parents and carers!”



I must admit, Merry Music Day is music to my ears! It sounds amazing!

All over the school, people are eagerly helping to get everything ready.

But something makes me a little nervous. Can you guess what it is?



Yep: I don't really fancy dancing in front of so many people - I'll be too shy! Plus, with Unicornia magic in the mix, you never know what might happen...

"I'm not sure..." I begin doubtfully, but my friends are too excited to listen.



Pippa and Sara start telling me what fun it will be to choose the music and come up with our routine together. We'll meet up every day after school to perfect every single step.

“We can dance any routine we like!”

“And wear whatever we want!”



“We'll have such a great time together!”

When I see how happy they are, I decide to ignore my nerves and focus on the adventure we're about to have. And I love that we can pick our own outfits. I love dressing up! Don't you?

Maybe I could borrow Pippa's Superunicornia cape that I like so much. Or maybe even make my own—

“We could make our own magical costumes,” Sara suggests, as if reading my mind. This convinces me once and for all. I can't wait!





How I imagine our costumes:

- ★ Easy to make
- ★ Super glittery
- ★ Comfortable to dance in
- ★ Magical!



Pippa tells us that even her parents will be able to come. For once, they won't be away on one of their incredible unicorn-saving missions!


“We need to prepare something really, *really* special,” she tells us, and we promise that it will be.

So, now that's settled ...
... it's time to get dancing!





2 Shaky Choreography



After school we skip back to Sara's house. Merry Music Day is only days away and we need to start practising NOW. Apparently some troupes have been rehearsing ever since last year's Merry Music Day ... and we don't have anything prepared yet!

But we *do* have a magicophone!

Do you know what a magicophone is? I didn't either, until today.

The word comes from “MAGIC” (which needs no explanation) and “PHONE”, which means related to sound. So when you put them together, you get a machine that you can ask to play any kind of sound or music you can imagine ... and it will play it for you! Honestly, I’m not kidding! The magicophone really exists. In Unicornia, everything is possible, however incredible it might seem.



The magicophone is also super dinky and can fit on Sara's bedside table. She wakes it up so we can listen to our favourite songs. Then we start dancing ... and we just can't stop!

“The Wings on the Bus!”

“Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Unicorn!”



“Can’t Stop the Dreaming!”

“Candyflossing!”

“Put Your Hooves Up!”

Whatever song we ask for, the magicophone plays it for us. And then an amazing thought occurs to me...



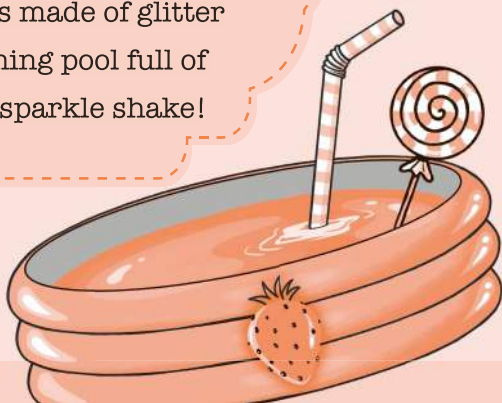
“Do you think the magicophone can grant any request?” I ask my friends. “Not just songs, but anything we wish for?”

“That would be so cool!” says Pippa. “Like the Genie of the Lamp!”



Things I'd wish for from the Genie of the Lamp:

- ★ Sweets for breakfast, lunch and dinner
 - ★ Never-ending holidays
 - ★ Mountains made of glitter
 - ★ A swimming pool full of strawberry sparkle shake!



The three of us start thinking about what super-special wish we'd make right this second. Can you guess?

“I'd wish for our dance to turn out brilliantly,” says Sara. Which reminds us that we still haven't started planning our routine.

Oops!



We choose a song by one of Unicornia's biggest stars, Bruno Marvellous – although it's so fast-paced that our magicophone gets in a bit of a twist at times.

Still, it's the perfect song – whenever I hear it, I get the urge to dance!

We begin with a totally improvised routine. The three of us dance around in every direction, doing whatever we want without wondering whether it looks good or not. Then we turn our thoughts to possible moves.



Sara suggests a step, then Pippa, then me. Then I think of an extra step and everyone's in agreement, so we add it in. After that, it's time to put them all together!

“Up, down, clap, left, right and turn...” Sara recites, as the three of us move in sync. Or at least, we try to...



On our first attempt, our feet get tangled and we end up in a heap on the floor.

“Let’s try it the other way round,” Sara suggests. “First down, then up...”

But as the three of us spin off ... we lose control and clatter into each other. Ouch!

When I look at Pippa and Sara, I see they’ve each sprouted a huge, swollen lump on their foreheads.

“You’ve sprouted horns!” I tell them.

“You should see yours!” Sara replies.

“We genuinely look like unicorns!” Pippa adds, and we fall about laughing.

After grabbing some ice packs for our foreheads, we take a break for some pancakes and apple juice...

We need to build our strength up again!



When we start back up, we're raring to go and determined to get our routine spot on.

The magicophone plays the song once, then again and again and again. Our moves do get a little better. At least we're not falling over any more!

We practise the dance so many times that, after a while, the magicophone starts to puff out smoke and make funny noises.



“I think she’s had enough for today,” Sara tells us, as the magicophone goes back to sleep.

“Same here!” Pippa and I reply – finally in perfect sync!

Without us noticing, the sun has started to set outside the window.

We say goodbye for the day, thinking about the fun we’ve had. We certainly laughed a lot! As for the dance... Well, it’ll get there in the end, won’t it?

