

Transcript for Story On Podcast: Journey to the Realm of Sweets - Foreshadowing

Chapter 1: Opening

Hello friends! And welcome to Story On.

I'm Laura, your host and I'm so glad you were able to join us here today!

[new flash music]

We interrupt this programming to bring you breaking news.

It looks like Story On is having a writing contest during the month of December!

The winner will have their story read in a special episode of Story On where it will be shared with children and families around the world! Wow!

For more contest details, talk to your grown ups and visit storyonpodcast.com.

Ok, back to the show now!

[music fades]

Have you noticed that sometimes, in a story, there are little hints that help us guess what is going to happen?

Like maybe the author keeps mentioning that a character is up to something and later we find out that she's the villain!?

Well, when an author gives you little clues about what's going to happen, it's called foreshadowing.

As you listen to my story today, pay attention to clues or hints that I give you to foreshadow what is going to happen!

See if you can make a prediction, or guess, about how the plot of my story might unfold.

Now, it's time for the story!

[fading chime music]

Chapter 2: Story

This is Journey to the Realm of Sweets

It was the first snowfall of the season, and for Amaya, the first time she'd ever seen snow in her whole life!

Her family had moved from a much warmer climate and this was her first time experiencing the magic of a snowy winter.

She stood in the courtyard of her apartment building. She was bundled up from head to toe in her red and grey snowsuit with matching hat and mittens. Her snowpants made a happy little squeak-squawk with every step.

Amaya smiled and waved when she saw Lina coming towards her.

Lina was her neighbor from across the hall. She looked like a pink marshmallow in her head-to-toe pink snow gear.

Lina was used to snowy winters and was excited to show Amaya how much fun it was to run around in the freshly fallen snow.

After sculpting a ferocious snow rabbit and two beautiful snow angels, Lina had an idea.

(Lina): "Amaya! This snow would be perfect for sledding! Let's grab my sled and walk over to the big hill!"

Amaya's eyes sparkled with excitement. She squealed in agreement and jumped up and down. She'd heard how much fun sledding was and couldn't wait to finally try it out herself!

Soon, they were standing at the top of the sledding hill, the wind blowing gently as it sent waves of snow swirling around them.

The hill was just around the corner from their apartment building. All the neighborhood kids spent many hours every year zipping down the hill, and then plodding slowly back up, carrying their sleds.

But on this particular morning, no one else was there. The hill was covered in a fresh blanket of snow. Not a single footprint or track in sight.

They hopped on Lina's green plastic sled together and zoomed down the hill.

The snow was indeed perfect for sledding. They zoomed faster, and faster down the hill, went over a bump at the bottom, soared through the air for a moment before landing with a soft thud.

Before they'd even come to a complete stop, Amaya yelled "Again!!" Lina laughed as she picked up the sled and the two trudged back up the large hill.

This time, when they got to the top they noticed a blue sled.

It was a fancy sled. Bigger than Lina's, and very comfortable looking.

The dark blue seats were elevated and looked soft. There was a yellow steering wheel and lights on the front, back and sides.

"What the..? Where'd this sled come from!?" asked Lina.

The girls looked around. Still no one else was there.

"Could we have missed this before?" asked Amaya.

Lina scrunched her face. "I don't think so...do you?"

Amaya shook her head. "Highly unlikely..." she replied. Then, she shrugged her shoulders. "Either way it's the fanciest sled I've ever seen!"

"Me too!" agreed Lina. "Should we take it for a spin?"

(Amaya): "Yeah, I'm sure whoever it belongs to wouldn't mind. I mean, it's here at the sliding hill after all..."

(Lina): "It's almost like it's waiting just for us!"

Little did they know that it was.

[suspenseful music]

The girls sat down together on the sled; Lina in the front and Amaya in the back.

"Whoa, these seats are incredibly comfortable! I feel like the snow queen!" marveled Amaya.

"Seriously. I can't believe someone just LEFT this here! You ready?" Lina wondered as she began edging forward.

"Ready!" yelled Amaya.

They started down the hill. Slowly at first. Then, as the sled began picking up speed, the lights flickered on. They flashed red, blue, green, purple and pink.

The sled continued to pick up speed as it shot down the hill. It was way faster than Lina's sled.

"HoooooIIldddd on tiggghhhhttt!" shouted Lina, her voice shaking as the sled sped down the hill.

Lina gripped the steering wheel tightly. The sled started beeping. Quiet and slowly at first. Then it got faster and faster and louder and louder. [beeping]

"What is happening!? I can't see anything!" shouted Amaya from the back.

"Where are the breaks!?" wailed Lina, her feet frantically feeling around.

The girls were beginning to regret taking this sled for a ride. They both screamed loudly. Then, the sled came to a screeching halt. The girls flew forward over the sled and landed together in a heap.

Everything was quiet. The air was still. There was a bright light shining in their faces. Amaya and Lina held up their arms to shield their eyes.

"Do you smell that!?" asked Lina.

"Yeah, it smells like...cotton candy!? Lina, I think I have a concussion," Amaya said slowly as she looked around.

Her eyes were still adjusting to the bright light. But everywhere she looked, she saw ...candy!?

Lina rubbed her eyes. "I think I may have one too?" she agreed. "I'm seeing some really peculiar things..."

Lina unfolded herself and slowly stood up. She walked over to a nearby tree. The trunk looked like a popsicle stick and the tree was like a red, blue and white striped popsicle. "Must be the concussion" she muttered as she reached out to touch it.

Then she gasped, "Amaya! It's cold! It actually feels like a popsicle!!"

Amaya ran over to join her. She arrived just as Lina took a big bite! [crunch]

(Lina:): "I don't believe it! It's delicious! You've got to try it, Amaya!"

Amaya didn't answer. She looked up at the sky and called out, "Ok, that's it! This has gotta be a dream. Wake up, Amaya! Things are getting real weird in here!"

Amaya and Lina looked around, waiting. But nothing happened.

"I don't think this is a dream," Lina said gently.

"Yeah, and I don't think we have concussions either..." Amaya agreed.

She walked over to a colorful cluster of large boulders. She poked an orange rock with her finger. It felt kind of rubbery. There was a crusty white layer on top. She took a tiny bite.

"It's sweet! Tastes like a...a gumbdrop!! Lina, I think we're in some kind of magical sweet place?"

(Lina): "Yeah, it's like a sweet land or something!?...Amaya, are you thinking what I'm thinking!?"

Both girls looked at each other and shouted, in unison, "BOTTOMLESS CANDY BUFFET!!"

Hey, if you found yourself in an unbelievable world where everything was made of candy, you'd probably want to take a few bites too, right!?

So, after removing their winter snowsuits and hanging them carefully on the lower branch of a lollipop tree, the girls ran around happily exploring and tasting this magical, and warm, place.

There were delicious chocolate rivers, caramel waterfalls, pop rock covered walking paths, perfect gingerbread houses, park benches made of sugar cookies and rows and rows of sour patch strawberries and lemonheads.

Everything was made of candy. Literally everything!

"No wonder the air smells so sweet here!" yelled Lina as she skipped along next to the chocolate river, pausing to sample the multitude of candy flowers, plants, and grasses growing all around her.

Every once in a while, she'd dip a candy in the chocolate river. Because...well, why not!?

Amaya laughed and shook her head at Lina. Then, she refocused on the candy garden. She carefully examined the fascinating variety of candy crops in different stages of the life cycle.

Some of the fruits and veggies were tiny, like they were just starting to grow and others were bigger.

Amaya was completely absorbed by the garden until the sound of a motor drew her attention to the nearby road. [car motor, door closes, footsteps draw near]

She let out a gasp at what she saw.

A little gingerbread man had pulled up in a very sporty looking car made from...you guessed it! SWEETS.

He had a little candy crown on the top of his head and, judging from his fancy frosting clothes, he was not your typical cookie.

Amaya stood up slowly, looking over her shoulder at Lina.

Lina was perched up high in a lollipop tree, silently watching the gingerbread man while continuing to lick the colorful mini-lollipops that surrounded her.

Lina made eye contact with Amaya and subtly shrugged her shoulders as if to say "What's up with this guy??"

Amaya motioned for Lina to come over and join her. If she was about to talk to a walking cookie, she wanted Lina there with her!

Lina nodded and slowly started climbing down from the tree and making her way over.

Soon, Amaya, Lina and the gingerbread man were all standing together.

"What do we do?" Amaya said between clenched teeth. "Do you think he can talk?"

Just then, there was an *ahem* and the cookie began to speak.

"Hello fair maidens. It is my great pleasure to welcome you to the Realm of Sweets. I am King Cookie."

The girls stood for a moment in silence.

The Realm of Sweets!

King Cookie!?

Lina spoke next, "Hello...your highness...I am Lady Lina and this is my friend Lady Amaya."

“Lady!?” mouthed Amaya.

“May as well go along with the royal thing,” she whispered.

“Pleasure to meet you both,” responded King Cookie. “I see you’ve...had some time to get acquainted with our... ummm.. unique landscape...”

Lina looked down at the lollipops she held in each hand. She and Amaya smiled sweetly.

“Yeah, we’ve done some...sampling...” replied Amaya. “Everything is quite delicious. I mean beautiful.”

“Yeah we’ve never seen anything like it.” added Lina.

“Well, you’ve not seen half of it! Hop in my car and I’ll take you for a sweet tour!”

(Lina): “Oooh that sounds fun!”

The girls excitedly jumped into the car of the friendly royal cookie. The seats were surprisingly soft considering they were made of sugar cookies. They buckled their licorice seatbelts and Amaya looked back at the sled as they drove away.

She had a strange feeling in the pit of her stomach. “Must be all the candy” she thought to herself. [suspenseful music]

King Cookie was a wonderful tour guide. He pointed out all kinds of amazing (and tasty) places. Places the girls could have never imagined like a huge mountain range made up of enormous chocolate bars, a grape juice waterfall that was just the right mix of sweet and sour, and a thick forest made entirely of upside down snow cones in every color (and flavor) of the rainbow.

The girls had so much fun exploring and playing hide and eat between the colorful cones.

Little did they know that their sweet tour was about to take an unexpected sour turn. And NOT in a good way.

Back in the car, after sampling all seven snowcone flavors, Amaya looked at Lina, “Ugh, I don’t feel so well.” Amaya held her belly and moaned.

“Same. Too much candy...” Lina replied. She leaned forward and spoke to King Cookie, “Thank you so much for the tour, King Cookie. The Realm of Sweets is a really incredible place! We still can’t believe our eyes or our taste buds, but... we’ve had a little too much

candy and it's probably time for us to head back now. So, would you mind driving us back to the sled? And also do you know how we go about leaving? I'm assuming the sled had something to do with us arriving here so do we just go hop back on it and...."

(King Cookie): "Oh you can't go yet! Not before you see the skittle fountain! It's a must see! And a must taste! It's not far from here...We'll just swing by for a bit and then you can be on your way!"

King Cookie was clearly not ready for the tour to end.

Amaya looked at Lina and replied, "Ummm King Cookie, really, we've gotta get going. Please take us back to the sled and how do we make it go?"

Much to their surprise King Cookie stopped the car in the middle of the street and turned around to look at them.

He reached up and pulled off his friendly-looking frosting eyebrows and replaced them with angry ones. [spring sound]

Then, he took off his frosting smile and put on a frown!

King Cookie had changed from a happy cookie to an angry one right before their eyes!

(King Cookie): "Sorry to disappoint you, but the sled was a one way trip. You're here to stay! Mwa hahahaha!"

The girls sat in shock as King Cookie pulled the car into the driveway of a perfect gingerbread house they'd been admiring just a few minutes ago.

(King Cookie): "Welcome to your new home! I think you'll find it has everything you need. Of course, everything is made of candy, but should still work. You can take a bit of a break and then I'll need you back eating more candy. That's what you're here for, after all!"

"Wait, you mean you want us to stay in the Realm of Sweets to eat candy!?" asked Lina, stunned. "What on earth for!?"

(King Cookie): "Oh you silly child. You see how much candy there is here, right!? I'm the only inhabitant of the realm. It's way too much for me! I can't keep up and it keeps growing and growing. I've read about children and how high their sugar tolerance is so I thought I'd better get myself some! And I must say I'm impressed. You've done better than I ever could have predicted! Out you go now! See you in an hour."

King Cookie sped off, waving to the girls in the rearview mirror.

“Lina! What are we going to do!? We gotta get outta here. But this house is on the top of this mountain! And the sled’s all the way at the bottom! we’ll never make it to the sled before King Cookie comes back! The sweet smell is starting to get to me. And the thought of eating more candy...blah!” Amaya made a sick face.

Lina looked thoughtful. “I wonder...” she tapped her foot as she watched King Cookie’s car drive away. “That car can drive even though it’s made of sweets, right? And King Cookie said everything works in the house...so maybe we could bake a cookie sled and ride it down the hill, grab our snowsuits, hop on the magical sled and zoom outta this place!”

Before Amaya could respond, Lina was already heading for the door.

The girls were encouraged to see that the oven did in fact work.

“I know just the recipe!” Amaya shouted as they got to work.

Together, they mixed the ingredients, rolled out the dough and shaped it into the parts of a sled. Then, they baked it in the oven.

While it cooked, they scooped up thick white frosting and gathered gumdrops and other candies they’d found around the yard. They used the frosting to stick together the different parts of the sled and to add the decorations.

Building the cookie sled took a while. By the time they’d finished, King Cookie would be back at any moment.

The girls ran outside carrying the sled. They quickly climbed aboard. It was the perfect size.

Lina sat in the front, holding the handle. Amaya was in the back just like before.

“Ready?” Lina called as she began inching forward.

“You know it,” replied Amaya, looking down the hill at their snowsuits.

As the sled began slowly heading down the hill, the girls noticed a familiar car coming down the neighboring mountain.

King Cookie was coming back!

[chasing music]

“Hold on tight!” Lina called as she leaned in closer to the sled.

It began picking up speed.

They heard him yell in the distance, “Hey! Get back here! It’s time for dessert!!!”

His car made a loud jingling sound and shot forward. He was really speeding towards them now!

“He must have a turbo button!” yelled Amaya worriedly.

Would the girls be able to make it to the magic sled before King Cookie!?

Noticing a shortcut ahead, Lina took a sharp turn to the right.

The girls bumped down the pop rock path, over the chocolate caramel bridge, through the fruit roll tunnel.

The lollipop tree was just ahead now. Amaya turned quickly to see King Cookie continuing to gain on them.

“Sorry to disappoint you, Crummy Cookie but we won’t be staying,” grumbled Lina as their sled came to a quick stop next to the lollipop tree.

The girls hopped off, grabbed their snowsuits and jumped onto the magic sled.

“Turn it on! Make it go!” Yelled Amaya from the back.

“I...I don’t know how! Nothing’s happening!” cried Lina as she frantically pressed buttons and flicked switches.

She looked again over her shoulder. King Cookie’s car was just around the corner.

He was laughing. “Silly kids! I told you it was a one way trip!”

[chasing music abruptly ends]

Just then Lina noticed a key under the steering wheel. She quickly turned it.

Her heart thumped at the sound of the motor. The lights flashed on and the sled began edging forward.

Slowly at first. Then faster and faster. The beeping started. Louder and louder and faster and faster.

“HoooooIIlddd on tiiiiigggghhtttt,” called Lina as it became harder and harder to see.

“You’re leaving!?! But what about the candy!?” yelled King Cookie, his voice fading further and further away.

Suddenly, the sled came to a screeching halt. The girls flew ahead and landed in a heap.

They stood up and quickly dusted the snow off.

There they were, back at the snow hill.

The cold air blew around them as children zoomed down the hill on all sides.

Amaya turned quickly to look for the magical sled just in time to see it fading away into thin air.

“It’s gone,” she whispered to Lina.

Lina spotted her sled waiting at the top of the hill, right where they’d left it!

“One more ride?” she asked.

“You know it!” Amaya replied.

They quickly put on their snowsuits and began the long trip up the hill, breathing in the cold, earthy air.

“Mmm smells like home!” Amaya whispered.

The End

Chapter 3: Discussion

Well well well! What a tricky character King Cookie turned out to be!

Were you able to pick up on any clues that I left for you throughout my story?

I mentioned that Amaya had a strange feeling in the pit of her stomach when she looked back at the sled from King Cookie’s car. That may have given you a hint that something didn’t quite feel right to her.

I also told you that the tour was about to take an unexpected sour turn, right before King Cookie revealed his true self. That was a pretty big clue!

There were other clues throughout my story. I bet if you listen again, you'll notice even more!

Can you write your own story about a magical sled that takes your characters to the Realm of Sweets!? Or other imaginary place??

Will you have a tricky character in your story like King Cookie? Can you give hints about what's going to happen using foreshadowing??

Write your own story and then share it with your friends, your family and me
laura@storyonpodcast.com

[cheerful closing theme song starts]

That's our show for today.

If you would like to support Story On, you can help us spread the word by telling your friends about us! You can also give us a five star review wherever you get your podcasts.

And for the adults listening, you can support us through [patreon.com](https://patreon.com/storyonpodcast) for as little as \$2 a month! You can find us at patreon.com/storyonpodcast.

Thanks for listening! Until next time!

[music fades]