

From the Mixed Up Files of Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler E.L. Konigsburg

1. Why did Claudia run away from home?
She felt that as the oldest child she received a lot of injustice (she had to do chores her brother didn't) and monotony (the sameness of each week).
2. Why did Claudia ask Jamie to go with her?
Jamie, her 9 year old brother, can be quiet, he's was good for a laugh, and he's rich (they needed train fare).
3. After weeks of saving her 50 cent allowance, Claudia manes a discovery while emptying her parents' trashcan. What does she discover?
A train pass to New York City with one ride left on it.
4. How much money did Jamie have and how did he get it? What is strange about it?
Jamie has \$24.43 that he saved from his allowance and that he got from cheating his friend Bruce at WAR for money. Jamie's money is only in nickels and pennies. It is so heavy it pulls his pants down.
5. Where did the children hide in New York?
New York Metropolitan Museum of Art
6. Why did they run away to the Metropolitan Museum of Art?
Claudia doesn't like discomfort – not even picnics.
7. How did they keep from getting caught by the guards?
They hid in the restrooms.
8. Who is telling this story?
Mrs. Frankweiler
9. How did the children get their clothes out of the house?
They put them in their violin and trumpet cases and book bags.
10. What day did they decide to leave and why?
The left on a Wednesday because it was the day they had instrument lessons and could hide their clothes in the cases.
11. Claudia leaves Jamie a list of instructions for running away. What does she ask him to do?
Leave their books and instruments at home, pack clothes and money, hide in the back seats of the bus with their heads down and feet up, and wait for the driver to leave when they get to the bus yard.
12. Jamie is wearing a compass because he thinks they will be "hiding out in" the woods. What is his reaction when he finds out where they are going?
He thinks it is a sissy place to go and a sissy way to get there.
13. What two letters does Claudia mail before they get on the train?
A letter to her parents telling them not to call the FBI, and box tops from Corn Flakes for 25 cents.
14. What was Jamie's first decision as treasurer for the Kincaids?
They would walk the 40 blocks to the museum and save the 40 cents.

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15. What does Claudia tell Jamie they have to be if they don't want to get caught?
inconspicuous (unnoticeable)
16. When they enter the museum, the kids get lunch at the snack bar. What do they do until it closes?
They find a bed to sleep in, and make plans to hide in the bathroom stalls until the workers leave.
17. What did they do before the museum opened?
Woke up early, got dressed and washed, hid their belongings, and hid in the bathroom stalls again until the museum was open.
18. Claudia decides they should learn something every day, and she lets Jamie pick the topic. What topic does he pick and why?
The Italian Renaissance because he wants her to get bored with the idea.
19. Why do they change their plans and learn about the Egyptian wing instead?
There were too many people waiting to see a statue of an angel with her arms folded in the Italian Renaissance wing.
20. What new item did the museum receive that drew so much attention?
An angel statue possibly done by Michelangelo.
21. Who sold the Angel statue to the museum and how did the children find out this information?
Mrs. Frankweiler for \$225 – They found this out after they stole a copy of the New York Times.
22. The kids try to solve the mystery of the Angel. Where do they go on Saturday to help with this?
The New York Public Library to research the Renaissance
23. What nicknames do the children call each other?
Sir James and Lady Claudia
24. What is different about the next night at the museum?
The guards stay late to move the Angel statue to a new pedestal.
25. Where do the children take a bath and what do they find?
In the fountain by the restaurant and they find coins in the fountain that is their new income.
26. After the kids almost get caught by the guards, what do they discover on the blue velvet that was under the statue?
3 rings and a "m" where the velvet was "crushed up" (all the other velvet was pushed down by the weight of the statue Jamie had seen this symbol in a book about Michelangelo)
27. What did they find out about the mark?
It was Michelangelo's stonemason's mark, and was clipped at the base of his marble blocks.
28. The kids decide to send a letter to the museum telling them about the mark. What do they use as the return address?
They rent a Post Office Box for \$4.50 for three months and Jamie uses the name Angelo Michaels from Marblehead, Massachusetts.

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29. How do the kids almost get recognized at the museum?
Jamie's third grade class is there on a field trip.
30. What does Claudia realize as they take a tour of the UN?
She realizes that she wants to go home different in some way.
31. How did the children get to the Frankweiler's house?
Took a train and a taxi spending all their remaining money to get to Farmington Connecticut to see Mrs. Basil E. Frankweiler.
32. When the kids get to her house, what does Jamie say to the butler, Parks, that gets them in to see Mrs. Frankweiler?
He says they are seeking information about the Italian Renaissance.
33. What is the first question Mrs. Frankweiler asks the kids?
Are you the children that are missing from Greenwich for a week?
34. What was Mrs. Frankweiler's challenge to the children?
She would give them one hour to find the answer in her files to the statue's creator.
35. Where in Mrs. Frankweiler's files did Claudia find the Angel's secret?
Under Bologna, Italy where Mrs. Frankweiler got the statue by winning it in a poker game.
36. What do they find that proves the angel was done by Michelangelo?
A paper with a poem by Michelangelo, his signature, and sketch of Angel.
37. What was the deal Mrs. Frankweiler made with the children while she served them macaroni and cheese?
She would give them the sketch and proof of Angel's creator (in her will) if they would tell her the details of their adventure.
38. Why didn't Mrs. Frankweiler want to give the information to the museum?
She didn't want them investigating and casting doubt that Angel was done by Michelangelo.
39. Why does Mrs. Frankweiler believe the kids will keep her secret?
Jamie wants the money from the statue, and Claudia wants the secret itself.
40. What experience does Mrs. Frankweiler want; even though she knows it is impossible?
To be a mother
41. To whom did Mrs. Frankweiler write this story?
Saxonberg – her lawyer and the children's grandfather
42. What do Claudia and Jamie decide to do each time they save enough money?
Take a train to see Mrs. Frankweiler and adopt her as a secret grandmother