

# Chiyo and the Portal

## Chapter 1 History Class

Chiyo was in 7th grade and she was pretty advanced. She had straight A's, all the teachers loved having her in their classes, and she had many friends. But along with friends, she also had foes. She was bullied daily and people called her names like 'teacher's pet' or 'nerd'. But one fateful day that all changed, starting with history class. "Will everyone please turn to page 163 in your history books," said Mx. Weller. "Ugh! We keep doing the same lesson every day! Why can't we do something else?" said Indigo, the pick-me of the school. "Indigo, please can we not do this today? We have assignments to get to." said Mx. Weller, who

was quite frustrated with Indigo most of the time.

“Fine but I’m not dropping this!” Indigo declared. “I don’t have time for this. I have work to get to.” thought Chiyo. “PSSST! Chiyo! Catch!” whispered Grayson, Chiyo’s best friend, as he threw a crumpled-up paper. “Got it!” Chiyo whispered back and she caught the paper. It read ‘meet me beHind tHe steps At tHe front of tHe scHool.’ Chiyo giggled. Grayson hadn’t ever had the neatest of handwriting. Chiyo put the note aside and continued her work. When she was done, she grabbed a book called ‘The History of Bill Parr: The Hidden Lab’. As she read, the book told of fascinating things like a cloning machine, a prototype of a flying car without magnets, and his wife! (Chiyo thought it was quite an interesting creature) But the thing that was most interesting to Chiyo was, as it was addressed in the book, ‘The Portal.’. What it did was not mentioned, so Chiyo did what she does best: research.

# Chapter 2

## Research

“UGH!” moaned Chiyo. “I haven’t found anything in the past two days!”

Chiyo was stumped. She was sure that Bill Parr was an actual person but why wasn’t there anything about him in history books or online? Chiyo thought hard. Then she stopped. “Maybe there is something in the book about where the secret lab is so I can trace him down.” Chiyo said to herself. “HELLO!!!!” said Grayson, very loudly “AUGH!!! Oh, it’s just you. Ugh, Grayson don’t scare me like that!” said Chiyo, shoving Grayson playfully. “Haha! Ok, I won’t. Wow, you still haven’t found anything?” said Grayson. “Nope. But I have a plan! Ok, listen closely.” Chiyo checks to see if anyone is around and whispers her plan to Grayson. “WOAH! That is...THE BEST PLAN I’VE EVER HEARD IN MY LIFE!!!!” shouted Grayson, once again, very loudly. “Shhhh! Thanks, I appreciate it but you gotta be quieter.”

Chiyo said. “I’m sure by now you should know that ‘quiet’ isn’t my thing, Chiyo.” Grayson said assertively. “Ok, well can’t you try? Just this once?” pleaded Chiyo. “Ok, but just this once.” said Grayson. “Great. Now let’s get to work.” said Chiyo confidently. She was determined to find something.

## Chapter 3

### Nothing

After about a week of just pure book-scanning, Chiyo and Grayson had found nothing but sleep deprivation. “Have we found anything yet?” yawned Grayson. “All I see is my bed mocking me. I can’t keep my eyes open.” said a very tired Chiyo. They were stumped. They had looked at every little crevice of the book and they couldn’t even find what color the lab was. “No location, no description, no, no, no!!! Nothing!” Chiyo fell face-first into the book. “Not even how old Bill Parr or the lab is?” asked Grayson. “Nothing! Zero! Zip! UGHH!!” Chiyo said sadly and angrily. She was over it.

“How about we take a break? Personally, two all-nighters are enough for me.” Grayson said “MREW!” meowed Chiyo’s cat, Ethan. “Hey, buddy. Are you here to tell us a clue as to where Bill Parr’s laboratory is?” asked Chiyo. Grayson looked at Chiyo like he had seen a ghost. “No. I don’t think so.” said Grayson. Chiyo sighed. All she wanted to do now was curl into a blanket burrito and never come out. “Oh! I just remembered! My grandpa said that when he was in college he had a friend who owned a lab.” Grayson said with a smile. “Well, why didn’t you remember that before our third all-nighter?!” exclaimed Chiyo. “Why are you asking me? Ask my brain!” Grayson said innocently. “Jus- ugh. Forget it. Anyways, what are we just standing around for?! Let’s get a move on!” Chiyo said sounding frustrated, yet exhilarated. The two kids rushed out the door to Grayson’s grandpa’s house. They had no idea what mysteries lay ahead.

# Chapter 4

## Finally, We're Getting Somewhere

As Chiyo and Grayson biked to Grayson's grandpa's house, Grayson started to think that Chiyo was overdoing the research. He could tell by the way Chiyo rode her bike slowly. She always rode as fast as a hare, but today she was riding at the top speed of a kitten. He was worried about her. She needed to sleep, but how could he get her to realize that? Grayson snapped back into focus. "Almost there!" Grayson said with a casual tone. "Great," said Chiyo, sounding very tired. About two minutes later, they arrived at Grayson's grandpa's house. "Opa! It's Grayson! Are you home? The door was unlocked." yelled Grayson. "Bubbles? Is that you?" said Grayson's grandpa from a big, green rocking chair in the living room. "Opa, can you tell us about your friend from college? The one who owned the lab?" asked Grayson.

“Oh yes, I remember him. He was such a good friend,” said Grayson’s grandpa. “Can you tell us his name?” asked Grayson. “Of course. His name was Bill, Bill Parr,” said Grayson’s grandpa. Chiyo and Grayson were star-struck. They had no idea that the answers to all their problems were only three blocks away! “Thank you so so much, Opa! You can’t imagine how much this helped us!” Grayson gave his grandpa a big hug and then they were off. Grayson sharply stopped. He turned around to face his grandpa. “One more thing, do you know where the laboratory was?” asked Grayson. “Oh, I think I do. It was 8401 Bridger Avenue,” said Grayson’s grandpa. Grayson and Chiyo just stood there with their mouths open like two shocked and happy little codfish. Grayson thanked his grandpa once again and then they left. Once the door was closed, they stopped, stared at each other, and did a silent and quick happy dance (three seconds to be precise.) They went back to Chiyo’s house and checked a map. It turns out, when biking, it’s only 10 minutes away! So they both packed a bag of snacks,

Chiyo packed spinach and artichoke dip, and Grayson packed raw chopped onions. “I still don’t know why you like those,” said Chiyo. “Don’t knock it ‘till you try it!” said Grayson. Once they were done packing their ‘adventure snacks’, they left to have a better taste than raw onions or spinach and artichoke dip, the taste of success.