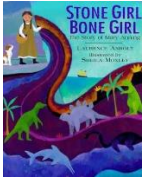


Stone Girl Bone Girl: The Story of Mary Anning by Laurence Anholt



When Mary was young, she adored her father, who worked as a carpenter. One Saturday, Mary's father took her down to the cliffs by the crashing sea. Mary held tightly to his hand because she knew how dangerous it could be. The cliffs were soft as melting chocolate, and Mary had sometimes seen huge slabs of land slipping and tumbling to the beach below.



When they reached the cliffs, Mary's father reached into his pocket and, to Mary's surprise, took out his steel hammer. He knelt beside a large rock and began carefully tapping away.

"What are you looking for?" asked Mary, dancing about on the sand.

"Just be patient," laughed her father. Mary bent closer. There was something hidden inside the rock!

At last Mary's father pulled the thing free and handed it to Mary. "It ... it's TREASURE!" she gasped. "It's what we call a Curiosity," smiled her father. "A present for you, Mary girl."

The Curiosity was the most beautiful thing Mary had ever seen. Her father polished it and hung it on a string for Mary – like a perfect necklace.

That night Mary couldn't sleep. Her head swirled with thoughts. "The cliffs are full of treasure," she whispered over and over again.