

## The Lost Happy Endings by Carol Ann Duffy

One evening, as Jub set off with her full sack, she noticed scarves of mist draped in the trees. One of them noosed itself round Jub's neck, soft and damp, and made her shiver.

By the time she had reached the middle of the forest the mist had thickened and Jub could only see a little way ahead. The shadowy trees looked villainous: tall ghouls with long arms and twiggy fingers. Bushes crouched in the fog as though they were ready to pounce like muggers. Jub hurried on.

"Hello, my small deario."

Jub jumped. A twisted old woman with a face like the bark of a tree and horrible claw hands was standing on the path in front of Jub. She had fierce red eyes like poisonous berries.

"What's in the sack?"

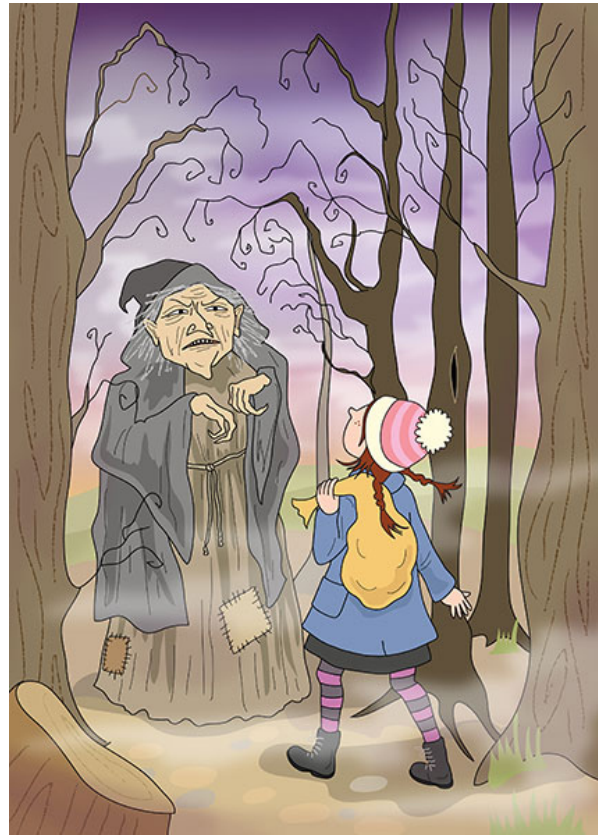
"Let me pass, please," said Jub.

"What's in the sack, I said!"

The old woman had grabbed hold of Jub's arm. Her touch nipped like pepper.

"Let me alone!" gasped Jub. "I must go on."

"Shut up!" said the vicious old woman and she spat green spittle in Jub's face. Jub was so shocked that she took a step backwards and tripped over a tree-root. Faster than fury, the old woman was on her and had snatched the sack of Happy Endings.



<b>Name:</b>	<b>Class:</b>	<b>Date:</b>
--------------	---------------	--------------

1 What time of day did Jub set out?

---

2b

1 mark

2 How did the mist change between the first and the second paragraphs?

---

2h

1 mark

3 When we first meet her, what information are we given about the old woman that warns us that she isn't going to be kindly. Write **two** things.

---

2g

2 marks

4 "*Her touch nipped like pepper.*"

What do you think the underlined words mean? Choose **one**.

The old woman dug her nails into Jub's arm.

The old woman sprinkled pepper onto Jub's arm to hurt her.

Jub felt the old woman pinching her.

Jub's arm stung where the old woman touched her.

5 Why doesn't Jub want to tell the old woman what is in the sack?

---

2a

1 mark

2d

1 mark

6 Number these events to show the order in which they happened.

The old woman grabbed the sack.

The old woman grabbed Jub's arm.

Jub tripped over a tree root.

The old woman spat green spittle at Jub.

2c

1 mark