

PAUL MALLARD, SIDE ONE

PAUL

Follow me.

EDITH follows PAUL onto the connection. The wind is whipping fast around them. Snow is falling. They are still streaking through Iowa fields and empty plains.

EDITH

We're moving so fast!

PAUL

Careful of your feet.

PAUL leads EDITH across the connection.

PAUL

Hang on just a sec, Edie. Lemme get the door.

PAUL fumbles with the door to the luggage car.

EDITH

Paul, why is it taking so long? Do you need help? It's freezing! What if we fall off the -

PAUL

I can do it, Edith! Just give me a minute.

PAUL finally gets the door open.

PAUL

There we go!

EDITH and PAUL hasten into the luggage car. EDITH slams the door behind them.

PAUL

See? Easy peasy. Now what should we do until dinner time? Besides drinking hot chocolate.

PAUL plops down on HAROLD's bed.

EDITH

I don't know... Can't we just stay in the luggage car? All cozy in the pillow cart?

PAUL

Edith. We're on the Night Train! We're only going to be here for one more day until we're in Omaha. And when we get there, Harold is sending us back home to Mom. We can't waste our time stuck in the luggage car!

EDITH

Seriously.

I don't want to either, but... It's not about us, Paul. If you want Dad to keep working on the railroad, we have to stay out of sight.

PAUL hesitates for a moment.

PAUL

We're going to be in Omaha soon, Edith. Can't we do a little bit of exploring while we're still on the Night Train?

EDITH

I want to explore too, but we're *stowaways*, Paul. Not passengers with tickets.

PAUL

We're the Stoutwards! We don't have to hide anymore. We have a good disguise. We've never met any of the passengers on the train before. They have no way of knowing that we are Will Mallard's kids or that George Pullman banned us from the Night Train.

EDITH

I still don't think it's a good idea, Paul.

PAUL

Sincerely

Edith, I want to go see Sam. I want to say sorry for stowing away.

EDITH

Hesitant.

Maybe you could go see him after lunch when the passengers are settled down, but you still shouldn't!