



Serendipity Says To know Me Is To Love Me

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Rent a cottage at the seashore during the summer and there's bound to be a special book tucked away on the bookshelf.

Waiting to be found!

Malinda Martha finds a book at Doc's Box the summer she's vacationing at the seashore with her parents.

Have you heard how a good cover sells a book?

You mean, choose a book by its cover?

Right. That's what happens. Malinda Martha spots Serendipity, the sea serpent, on the cover of one of the books and her eyes slither right into the story.

Ser-en-dip-i-ty. Ser-en-dip-i-ty. Pretty long name.

Ser-en-dip-i-ty has a pretty long tail, too.

And a tale to tell.

To make a long tale short, Serendipity falls under a spell and he is waiting for a child, who loves him and understands him, to break the spell.

Having a great imagination, Malinda Martha imagines she is the child, and she plays a game at the beach with her parents, looking for Serendipity. But Daddy says,

(Daddy voice) He comes when you're not looking, when you're looking for something else.

Wow.

Malinda Martha knows that she has to go along with the rule of the game if she's going to save Serendipity. She likes skipping and clapping so she skips this jingle. (Malinda Martha's voice) Serendipity, Serendipity, I'm not looking. I'm not looking, I'm not looking for a clue. I can never look for you. I'll be looking for something else, when you come into view.

(note: maybe skip in place or jump rope to this jingle)

Does Malinda Martha save Serendipity? I mean, does she win the game?

I think she figures out that the good things that happen when you're not looking for them, when you're looking for something else, are called SERENDIPITY.

Time for the story: Please read the book OR listen and read along on the CD.

♪ Serendipity's Song ♪

SERENDIPITY SINGS: Hello. Hello.

There's someone I want you to know. It's me. Serendipity.

I'm Serendipity. Creature of the sea. Frolicking and free.

I'm wavy and strong with a tail that is long
and a tale to tell in my song.

Once upon a time I was under a spell
for many nights and many days
commanded to rise and fall with the endless waves...
all tired out from hundreds of rides.

I was lonely ruler of the tides.
But I longed to be in my Kingdom of the Sea.

SERENDIPITY SPEAKS:

And then along came a Cutie with a heart like Sleeping Beauty.

CUTIE SINGS:

Serendipity. Serendipity. I can break your spell.
I can't look for you but you can look for me. I know this well.
You can frolic and be free and you can roam the sea
if I don't look for you...but...you can look for me.

NARRATOR:

And the power of knowing Serendipity well broke the spell
at last, just like a kiss awakens the fairy tale Miss.

SERENDIPITY SINGS:

Oh Serendipity. I'm Serendipity. Creature of the sea.
There's a spirit, a very special spirit, named after me.

And I owe all my glory to the Cutie in my story.
I'll find you and surprise you. You'll know me.
And you'll love me. You'll love Ser-en-dip-it-y.

NARRATOR:

The fortunate discoveries that you make
when you aren't looking for them,
when you are looking for something else,
are INDEED called serendipity.

Speaking of good fortune, I think Serendipity is really fortunate, because
he gets a special name AND a wonderful spirit named after him.

I hope Serendipity finds me and surprises me real soon.

(Serendipity voice) I never could have guessed that Malinda Martha
would fall in love with me, a sea serpent no less, and break that spell.

It COULD happen...IN YOUR IMAGINATION!

Readers' Theater: Script available in *Stories on Stage* booklet of scripts.