

This is Jack.

He lives in Manhattan.

Here he is at
Columbia University.

So beautiful
and
so empty.

Why is it empty?

These are the Coronavirus times, that's why!



In the Coronavirus times
Mommy and Daddy work
from home.



But Jack does not want to be home.
Good thing that Savtee can take him out.
Savtee is Jack's grandmother.

Together Jack and Savtee enjoy
Books and Music,
Stories and Songs,
Buildings and Statues,
Paintings and Sculptures,
Central Park and Riverside Park.

In the Coronavirus times
streets and boulevards
are empty and quiet.



Columbia University
is empty
and quiet.

Lonesome
Alma Mater
is so glad
to see Jack
when he comes to say HELLO.



Jack is very happy to greet his friends
Alexander Hamilton,

Thomas Jefferson,
with a little
mischievous bird
that landed on his
head,



the Scholar Lion,

the Library Lion,

and the Fountain Lion.

In the Coronavirus times
ALL playgrounds are
CLOSED.

NO swings, NO slides
NO monkey bars,

NO merry-go-round, NO tubes, NO bridges...



NO story hour,
NO paintings,
NO sculptures,
NO Library
BOOKS!
NO!NO!NO!NO!

ALL libraries
are CLOSED.



ALL museums
are CLOSED.

This is so SAD.
What can we do?

WELL WELL WELL...

Jack and Savtee are lucky to be in
Manhattan, where
buildings hide stories
and
statues tell stories.



Where trees are covered with flowers even
before they are covered with leaves.

Where magic happens!

All you have to do is to take a walk.

And so here they are walking down West End Avenue.

This building with the American flag has beautiful black bay windows.



It also has a name, The ALIMAR.

Jack is counting the lions on both sides of the building. Under each window of the second floor there is a head of a lion!

Jack and Savtee
keep walking along
West End Avenue
by the ALIMAR
entrance.
Three faces
are looking
down on them.
Can you see
the three faces?



At the next corner Jack and Savtee turn left
onto beautiful West 106th street. It has wide
sidewalks, and trees and nice buildings.

They look to the left to see a bronze man on a bronze horse. Of course Jack knows this man. This is Franz on the Horse! Franz Sigel was a general. Here he is looking over the boulevard and over Riverside Park.



He sees Hudson River and New Jersey on the other bank of Hudson.



To get closer to Franz on the horse, Jack and Savtee walk by The River Mansion. It is red and beige, like the Alimar!

Just one block away,
on the corner of the
107th street and
Riverside Drive stands a
very different mansion.



...I see roof of Green,
White marble too...
It's Schinasi Mansion!
So pretty for me and you!

WHAT A WONDERFUL WORLD!

The walls are bright white.
The balustrades are bright white.
The roof is bright green.
BRIGHT BRIGHT BRIGHT BRIGHT BRIGHT

Jack noticed this statue from afar while walking on the boulevard side of Riverside Drive. Who were these people? To find out all that Jack and Savtee had to do was to cross the street and come close.

Louis Kossuth was a Hungarian hero. Here he stands on the top, and below a young soldier with a flag is offering a helping hand to an old man.



Before Coronavirus times Jack loved visiting the Arms and Armor rooms at the Metropolitan Museum. He especially liked the Silver Knights on their Silver Horses. He really misses them now



when the museum is CLOSED during Coronavirus times...



But wait... Look... Magic happens! Who is this but a Black Knight riding his Black Horse right here

in Central Park next to the MET?

Magic happens when you come to the same place twice but see different things.

One morning the buildings were not too tall.



The next morning they reached the sky.

The FOG did it!!!



The fog magically made the buildings short.

A lake also can do magic, making tall buildings even taller! Twice taller!

Just look at this.

This is quite amazing, is not it?

Jack and Savtee found a good lake on a good windless day and the water of the lake became a mirror! Reflections did it!



And off they went looking for lakes and ponds that wanted to be mirrors and would be happy to create more buildings.

The Castle became two castles because the Turtle Pond is such a great mirror.

The San Remo building has two towers and is far behind the Castle.

Thank you, the Turtle Pond, for the upside down San Remo!



Bethesda Fountain and Bethesda Terrace



No people, no boats on the Lake, no bikes, quiet and beautiful, the boathouse, the alleys, the grand staircases, empty and inviting. It has never been like that and we shall remember it even when the crowds return.

The Lake,
the Bow Bridge,
the Carlyle hotel
with its green top...
One day we shall
visit it and look at
the murals painted by
Ludwig Bemelmans.

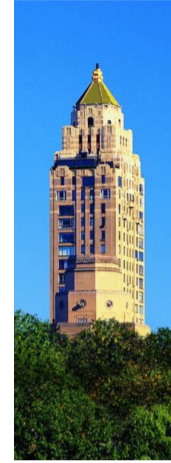


From Central Park

Looking South



Looking East



Looking West



San Remo Beresford Eldorado
By Architect Emery Roth

Walking Northwest



Riverside Drive

Memorial Day 2020



Joan of Arc



The Rice
Mansion



The Firemen's
Memorial



The Soldiers'
and Sailors'
Memorial

Today is June 22nd.

Today the city is planning to open playgrounds in the parks.

This is what we saw early in the morning.



This is how we feel about it



Jack's Book

By Savtee

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Credits—to name just a few:

Emery Roth for the tall buildings on CPW

Louis Armstrong for What a Wonderful World

Frederick Law Olmsted

for Central Park and Riverside Park

The Schinasi Brothers for the Two Mansions

Ludwig Bemelmans for Madeline