

TN227534

Item Label	TN227534	Max Points	1
Item Grade	05	Item Content	ELA
Item Type	choice	Key	3
DOK	2	Rubric	
Standard 1 Code	5.RL.CS.4	Standard 1 Text	
Standard 2 Code	5.RL.KID.1	Standard 2 Text	
Passage Type 1	LIT	Passage Title 1	Beth and the Twilight Star
Passage Label 1	TN319056		

Read the passage and answer the questions that follow. Then write a response to the writing prompt.

Excerpt from "Beth and the Twilight Star"

by Richard M. Elam

- 1 Beth Harrison and her father had driven into the desert to look for dead branches of "jumping cactus," which were used in making lamps for Mr. Harrison's tourist shop in Tucson. He and Beth had just gotten out of the station wagon and were gazing up a slope of bristly cacti.
- 2 "This looks like a good place, Daddy," Beth said.
- 3 Mr. Harrison nodded. "We'll have to hurry, though. It's getting late."
- 4 They started up the sandy slope carrying straw market bags that would hold their gleanings.
- 5 "Maybe we'll see some Flying Saucers," Beth said half-jokingly. "Someone thought he saw one out here the other day."
- 6 Her father grinned. "Flying Saucers indeed! You and that lively imagination of yours, Beth!"

7 They set to work searching for dead branches. They found a few good specimens. But they were not enough to suit Beth and she decided to broaden the search. She went over the slope and up and down another, and before long her roaming carried her out of sight of her father.

8 Amidst the stunning colors of the sunset, Beth could make out a lone star — Sirius — the brightest true star in all the sky. It reminded her of a pearl glowing in the heavens.

9 Presently Beth had a bag full of cactus wood for the lamp shop. She was about to return to her father when suddenly she saw something ahead that she had not noticed before. Almost hidden within a dense thicket of smoky green paloverde was a shiny surface that reflected the dying sun's rays. Her imagination stirred, Beth decided to investigate.

10 She put down her bag and made her way into the thicket. As she moved carefully through the thorns, she found some of the branches pushed aside as if someone had used this path before. She was almost through when she tripped and fell head-first. Her forehead bumped against an unyielding branch, causing her to see more than one star this time.

11 She didn't know how long she lay on the ground half-stunned before she got to her feet. There was a painful bruise on her forehead, but her curiosity was still strong and she went on. The shiny surface turned out to be a wall as smooth and glossy as steel.

12 "Jeepers!" Beth thought. "What can it be?"

13 She reached out to touch the wall. Before she could do so, a door opened in the wall.

14 The first thing she noticed beyond was a soft yellow light filling a handsome room. Feeling like Alice on the threshold of Wonderland, she stepped inside, more thrilled than afraid.

"Beth and the Twilight Star" from *Young Readers Science Fiction Stories*, by Richard M. Elam. In the public domain.

Prompt: Write a story that continues Beth's adventure. Include details describing what she sees & does on her adventure.

- use information from the passage
- should be a multi-paragraph story.