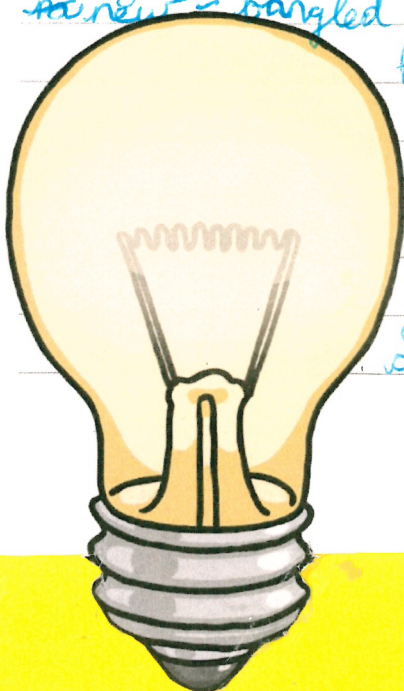


Bringing in the light!

Wow! Today was the best day ever! Everyone was really excited and expectant. First, my mother quenched the old paraffin oil lamps, I, yes I, got to turn on the new, electric bulb! It was incredible! It made a strange, humming noise, and with a quiet pop, it flashed on! I reached up to touch its amber glow, but Father shouted to me not to. He said we don't know what it could do, and that he doesn't trust it. He also said he preferred his paraffin oil lamps. This slightly deterred my elated mood, for I really hoped everyone would like it. But then Mother cried, 'Oh, Ernest, it's beautiful! How could you not just adore it?' I like it well enough, and I have already bought some ~~new~~ banged appliances, but I won't trust them just yet, replied Father, gruffly.

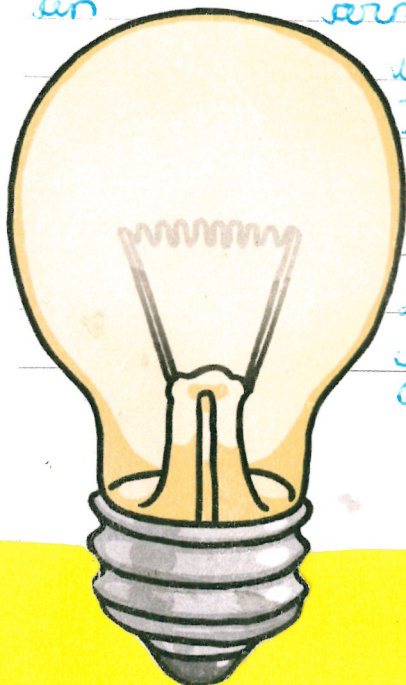


I pleaded with Father, to go out and tell Olivia and Jessica, my best friends

'Oh, all right then, but be-' 'Thank you, Father, thank you!' I cried, and ran outside. I sprinted past the long grass, through the path of weeping willows, and around the cow field, until I came to the fence.

I placed both my hands on it and was about to hop over when a shock rippled through my arms. It was the worst pain I had ever felt, and I shrieked for my mother. She rushed out, to find me on the ground, sobbing with my arms against my chest. She quickly picked me up, and carried me inside, talking in soothing tones all the way.

When I got in, and was comfortable in an armchair, Mother asked me what happened. 'The f-fence!' I sobbed, 'It hurt me! I-it was so sore! G-God must h-h-have struck me, b-but what did I do?' 'You silly girl!' My father scolded.



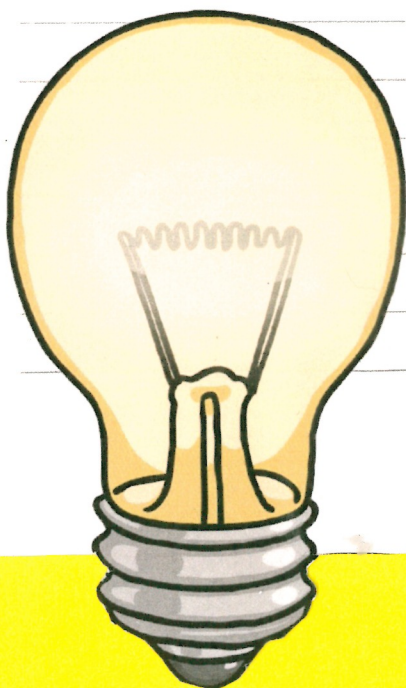
Sam

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'If you had listened to me, and not gone rushing off, you would have gone the long way around and not got shocked by the fence!' My mother tapped Father's shoulder and told him to leave off me, that I was just excited. 'Now honey, come up to bed and I shall make you a cup of warm milk.'

And that is the end of my first day with electricity.



Sam

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