



PRESENT

The Spirit of Basketball



By Ruth Riley & Paul Hickey



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Illustrations by Christopher Hiller



Three things always get every child very excited - birthday presents, summer vacations and seeing new places. Maria was about to experience all three of them. Today was her birthday, but little did she know that there was a huge surprise waiting for her when she got up. That morning, her mother and father told her that the three of them would be moving in two weeks, right after her last day of fourth grade. Maria's father's job took him around the world constantly and the family had decided that it would be best for Maria and her mother to sell the house and travel the world with him. Maria was not happy about it - she loved her home and was scared to leave her friends and school behind.



Maria's parents had bought tickets to see her favorite basketball team play that night, the Detroit Shock of the WNBA. She was a huge basketball fan and this was definitely a great birthday present for her. She had always wanted to meet a Shock player up close and personal. They all seemed larger than life to Maria, and for a moment, the thought of the move started to slip away.

To Be Continued...

“The Spirit of Basketball”

will be given to the first 4,000 fans when the Detroit Shock take on the New York Liberty on June 3 at The Palace.

For Tickets, please contact The Palace at (248) 377-0100 or visit www.DetroitShock.com