

**SECRET  
AGENT**

# **JACK STALWART**

The Mystery  
of the  
Mona Lisa:  
**FRANCE**

Read the first  
chapter here





## ***Chapter 1: The Vanishing Lady***

The museum in Paris had been closed for several hours and the Bon Homme cleaning crew were busy at work. Over a hundred cleaners were scurrying through the huge museum, mopping the floors and dusting the railings, taking care not to damage the precious paintings that hung on its walls.

One of the rooms in the museum was known as the '*Mona Lisa* room', because on a special fake wall in the middle hung the most famous painting in the world.

The *Mona Lisa* was a painting of a woman clothed in a brown dress with a mysterious smile on her face. It was painted over four hundred years ago by an artist named Leonardo da Vinci. It was so valuable that the museum had invested in a bullet-proof-glass security box, which was fixed over the painting to protect it from anyone who wanted to do it harm.

On this night, H el ene, one of Bon Homme's senior cleaners, made her way to the *Mona Lisa* room. As usual, she entered the room after her assistant, Jean Paul, had mopped the floor. She walked over to the glass box with the *Mona Lisa* inside and pulled out a special dusting cloth. She lifted the cloth and tried to wipe over it. But something was wrong. The front of the box was no longer there.

H el ene blinked twice and then let out a



piercing scream that shook the entire room. 'The *Mona Lisa* is gone!' she screamed. 'The world's most famous painting has been stolen from the Louvre!'

