

## Fantasy Writing: Creating a Magical Setting with Elle McNicoll

A 'glamour' is a kind of magic that hides or disguises magical people and places.

In *Like a Charm*, Ramya discovers she has a special power: she can see through the glamour that hides the magical world from human view.

- 1. What special power would you like to have?**
- 2. What would your 'glamour' be?**

Jot down some ideas below:

The Grassmarket in *Like a Charm* is a real place in Edinburgh, but Ramya discovers a door in the Grassmarket that leads to a magical world beneath the streets.

- 3. Which real-life place will you use as a setting for your fantasy story? Where will your magic door be hidden?**

Draw a picture or write some ideas below:

**4. Write a list of verbs to describe what people are doing in the world behind your magical door:**

**5. Complete this sentence:**

**My magical world must be hidden because if it was not, then \_\_\_\_\_**

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The best settings make the reader feel like they have been transported into the world of the story. You can have this effect on your readers by using sensory descriptions.

**6. Complete the sensory description table below as you begin to think about the details that will make your magical world feel real:**

<b>Sight</b>	
<b>Sound</b>	
<b>Smell</b>	
<b>Taste</b>	
<b>Touch</b>	

**7. Extended writing challenge: Use all the ideas that you have come up with today to write a paragraph or more introducing the reader to your magical world.**

For Inspiration, read Chapter 12 of Like a Charm, where Ramya discovers the Grassmarket's hidden door.