

## Fountain Girl Monologue

Aela Morris- 17 year old

Listen. Isn't the sound of the water falling so peaceful? I like to close my eyes and just....Oh my goodness, I haven't introduced myself to you properly. I promise I have very good manners, really. My name is Francie, though most know me as the Fountain Girl. Welcome to my little corner of Lincoln Park, though I've traveled all over Chicago in my life. I even went to the World's Fair in 1893! It was so exciting! I was commissioned for the fair by the Women's Temperance League to greet the visitors in Jackson Park, where they built all these marvelous white buildings, just like the pavilions of Greece, all around the water. On display were inventions of the future. I saw lights that were just like little candles, except that they lit themselves with something called e-lec..... elce? What was it again- electric-city? There was even a machine that washed dishes all by itself. Imagine that! After the fair was over, I lived outside the Women's Temple and then near Lake Shore Drive, but this park is my favorite home. There are always children playing or couples strolling. But the dogs—I love the dogs the most. They are just so playful. That is why I have this bowl of water, you see, so that I can give them a nice cool drink after a long day. Want to know a secret? I've met a real president of the United States. Mr. Lincoln comes to visit me every winter. You might not be able to see him through the trees now, but when the leaves fall, we talk for many hours. I don't understand *everything* he says, but he is a very smart man. You should pay him a visit if you have the time. There's another champion of civil rights who has had a great impact on my life. Frances Willard was a women's rights activist right here in Chicago, and is also my namesake! We met at the fair, and this fountain is in her honor. Listen. Doesn't the park sound so alive? Why not go explore it?