

When Sunshine whispers



Dyuti Panicker

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Whispers of a little heart

1

Be happy with what you have

One day, there lived a girl named Ruby. She was four years old and had a little brother named Lucas. One day, it was Lucas's birthday. For his birthday, their mother had given him a new pair of shoes. Ruby felt jealous the moment she looked at the shoes and saw how nice they were.

Later that day, after Lucas and Ruby played in the garden, Ruby hid her old shoes under her bed in her room. Then she went downstairs to tell her parents that she had lost her shoes and that she wanted new ones. Her mother knew right away that she was lying, but she still said, "We will go to the store tomorrow to buy you new shoes. What color do you want?"

Ruby said, "I want violet shoes."

So, the next day, Ruby and her mother went to the store to buy her new violet shoes. The shoes Ruby saw were the exact pair she wanted. She showed them to her mother, who thought they were very nice and bought them for her. When they got home, Ruby put them on right away and wore them for the whole day.

The next day, Ruby and her friends went out to play with Lucas. It was raining, and the ground was very muddy. Ruby wanted to play in the puddles and run around in the grass, just like her friends. But she couldn't, since her new shoes would get wet, and she had promised her mother that she would take good care of them.

So, Ruby went back inside, put her new shoes under the bed, took her old shoes from their hiding place, put them on, and went

downstairs to play.

The next morning, she apologized to her mother and told her everything she had done. Her mother said, "I knew that you were lying, but I wanted you to come forward by yourself. That's why I still bought you the shoes. Also, it was time for you to get new shoes anyway."

Her mother explained that she wanted Ruby to realize on her own that it is not right to want something just because someone else has it. Ruby understood her mistake and promised never to ask her parents for new things unless it was truly necessary.



2

Be honest

Once, there lived a boy named Richu. He was a good boy. One day, Richu was on the school bus on his way to school. He had brought along his favourite magazine called Wonderland of X. While his classmates were singing poems and rhymes, Richu sat quietly, engrossed in reading his magazine.

When the bus arrived at school, Richu's friend Zera reminded him, "Richu, our teacher said we should not be late to class."

Richu replied, "I'll be there in five minutes."

Zera went to class. Two full periods passed, and only then did Richu finally get off the bus, looking nervous and worried. When he entered the classroom, his teacher, Miss Dorothy, asked, "Richu, why are you so late?"

Richu replied, "Miss, I got off the bus on time, but I saw a boy swinging. I told him not to swing so high, but he didn't listen to me and he fell down. I called the nurse and took him to the sick bay. I couldn't come to class because I was holding his hand."

Miss Dorothy believed him and praised him in front of the class for helping someone in need.

At lunchtime, Richu passed by the Principal's office and overheard his teacher talking to Principal Charlotte. She was telling the principal about Richu's supposed good deed and discussing the idea of giving him a reward.

Richu, standing just outside the door, whispered to himself, "Come on, Richu. You can't stand here all day."

He felt a growing weight of guilt. The truth was, everything he had told was a lie. That morning, he had become so absorbed in reading his magazine that he completely lost track of time and missed the start of class.

Richu took a deep breath and made a brave decision. He stepped into the office and confessed the truth to both the principal and his teacher. “Miss... I feel guilty. I lied. There was no boy on the swing. I was just reading my magazine and didn’t notice the time.”

Miss Dorothy and Principal Charlotte listened patiently as Richu explained what had really happened. After a pause, Miss Dorothy said kindly, “It’s okay, Richu. We won’t reward you for the lie—but we will appreciate your honesty. It takes real courage to admit when you’ve done something wrong, and that is something worth recognizing.”

Richu felt relieved and thankful that everything was out in the open. He no longer had to carry the guilt, and he was proud of himself for being brave enough to tell the truth.

From that day on, Richu became an example to his classmates. His story inspired other children to understand that while mistakes happen, it’s never too late to make things right by being honest.

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