Il-Premju Ħabib tal-Ġnien

Ġurnata waħda, fi ġnien kbir u sabiħ kien hemm erba' ħbieb ċkejknin: Kola n-nannakola, naħla jisimha Nina, Brenda l-brimba, u għasfur tal-bejt jismu Brixu. Kienu kollha eċċitati ħafna għax illum kien jum speċjali: kienu se jsiru jafu min minnhom se jirbaħ il-premju Ħabib tal-Ġnien.

Kull wieħed mill-ħbieb ried juri kif jgħin il-ġnien.

• Kola n-Nannakola qalet, "Jien niekol l-insetti żgħar li jagħmlu ħsara lill-pjanti. Ngħin biex il-pjanti jibqgħu b'saħħithom!"

• Nina n-Naħla daħqet u qalet, "Jien intir minn fjura għal oħra, inġorr il-polin biex il-pjanti jkunu jistgħu jagħmlu ż-żerriegħa u l-frott!"

• Brenda l-Brimba qalet, "Jien l-unika waħda li naf nagħmel l-għanqbuta u fiha naqbad ħafna insetti li jagħmlu ħsara lill-pjanti. Hekk bl-għanqbut tiegħi nipproteġi l-pjanti."

• Brixu l-Għasfur beda jpespes u jgħanni b'vuċi mill-isbaħ, "Jien inkanta kanzunetti sbieħ biex nagħmel il-ġnien ferħan u sabiħ, u niekol l-insetti wkoll!"

F'daqqa waħda qam ħafna riħ. Is-siġar bdew jiċċaqalqu ħafna. F'daqqa waħda tqaċċtet fergħa ta' siġra u waqgħet fuq l-erbat iħbieb. Inqabdu taħt il-fergħa u ma setgħux joħorġu.

"Issa sew," qalet Brenda l-Brimba, "Kif se noħorġu minn hawn?"

"Flok niftaħru x'nafu nagħmlu aħjar ngħinu lil xulxin," qalet Nina n-Naħla.

Brixu l-Għasfur kien l-ikbar u l-aktar b'saħħtu. Beda jferfer il-ġwienaħ biex jipprova jgħolli l-fergħa, imma kienet tqila wisq. Brixu għeja, waqaf iferfer u ntefa' mal-art imdejjaq.

"X'nistgħu nagħmlu?" qalet Kola n-nannakola. Kola kienet l-iżgħar, imma kellha kowt aħmar sabiħ. Ħasbet u ħasbet, u ġietha idea! Bdiet iċċaqlaq ġisimha sakemm il-kowt beda jleqq fix-xemx.

Fil-ġnien kien hemm xi nannakoli oħrajn. Meta raw lil Kola tiżżegleg u tleqq qalu

"Ejja mmorru naraw!" U marru ħdejn il-ħabiba tagħhom biex jaraw xi ġralha.

Kemm ferħet Kola meta rat lil ħbieb tagħha. In-nannakoli bdew jimbuttaw il-fergħa bis-saħħa. Il-fergħa ċċaqalqet ftit u ħarġu bil-ġirja Kola, Nina u Brenda. Brixu miskin ma setax joħroġ.

Nina n-Naħla taret biex tmur titlob għajnuna mingħand ħutha li kienu fix-xehda.

"Jekk jogħġobkom ejjew għinu lil ħabib tiegħi!" In-naħal kollha taru lejn il-ġnien u ppruvaw jidħlu taħt il-fergħa biex iżommu lil Brixu sħun.

"Kif se tidħlu kollha hemm taħt?" qalet Kola. Brenda l-Brimba kellha idea oħra!

"Ħa nagħmel ħabel tal-ħarir bejn dawn iż-żewġ zkuk irqaq, imbagħad niġbduh forsi niftħuhom u n-naħal ikollu minn fejn jidħol. U hekk għamlet.

Bl-għajnuna ta' Kola u n-nannakoli, irnexxielhom jiġbdu l-fergħat 'il bogħod minn xulxin. In-naħal issa setgħu jidħlu taħt iz-zokk. Bdew iferfru ġwinħajhom bħalma jagħmlu meta jsajru l-għasel fix-xehda. L-arja malajr saħnet.

"O, qed inħossni b'saħħti mill-ġdid!" beda kanta Brixu. Tant kanta b'leħen tant għoli li xi għasafar tal-bejt oħrajn li kienu fil-ġnien semgħuh. Dawn kollha ġew itiru biex jgħinu. Flimkien, l-għasafar tal-bejt refgħu l-fergħa.

Brixu tar jiġri minn taħt iz-zokk. Kemm feraħ u kanta!

"Grazzi, grazzi lil kulħadd!" qalilhom.

Kulħadd beda jċapcap, u dakinhar tgħallmu xi ħaġa speċjali ħafna.

"M'għandniex bżonn Premju għall-Aqwa Ħabib tal-Ġnien," qalet Nina n-Naħla. "Aħna lkoll ngħinu b'mod differenti!"

"Hekk hu," qalet Kola. "Aħna lkoll importanti."

"U lkoll ngħinu biex il-ġnien jibqa' ferħan u b'saħħtu," qalet Brenda.

U minn dakinhar, l-annimali kollha fehmu li kienu lkoll speċjali, u li jaħdmu flimkien kien l-aqwa premju minn kollox.

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Garden's Best Friend

Once upon a time, in a big bright garden, there were four little friends: Lily the Ladybird, Buzz the Bee, Spinny the Spider, and Sylvia the Sparrow, which is a kind of bird. They were all very excited because today was a special day—they were going to find out who was the best friend of the garden!

Each of the friends wanted to show how they help the garden.

- Lily the Ladybird said, "I eat tiny bugs that hurt the plants. I help keep the plants healthy and strong!"
- Buzz the Bee buzzed, "I fly from flower to flower, carrying pollen so plants can make seeds and fruits!"
- Spinny the Spider said, "I spin webs to catch bugs that can hurt the plants. I protect the garden!"
- Sylvia the Bird chirped, "I sing beautiful songs to make the garden happy, and I eat insects too!"

Just then, a big, strong wind blew through the garden. Oh no! A big branch fell from a tree and landed on all four friends. They were trapped and couldn't move!

"Oh dear," said Spinny the Spider, "How are we going to get out?"

"We need to stop showing off," said Buzz the Bee. "We should help each other instead!"

Sylvia the Bird was the biggest and strongest. She flapped her wings to try and lift the branch, but it was too heavy. Sylvia got tired and lay down, feeling very sad.

"What can we do?" said Lily the Ladybird. Lily was the smallest, but she had a bright red coat. She thought and thought, and then she had an idea! She wiggled her body until her red coat caught a little bit of sunlight and began to shine brightly.

The other ladybirds in the garden saw Lily's red coat flashing.

"What's wrong?" they asked. "Why is Lily flashing her red coat? Let's go see!"

All the ladybirds came over and helped. They pushed and pushed, and the branch moved just enough for Lily, Buzz, and Spinny to wiggle out. But Sylvia was still stuck!

Buzz the Bee flew to get help from her many, many bee sisters. "Please come and help my friend!" she buzzed.

All the bees flew to the garden. They tried to squeeze under the branch to keep Sylvia warm.

"But how will they all fit?" wondered Lily.

Spinny the Spider had another idea!

"I'll spin a strong rope to pull these two twigs open." She made a rope with her silk, and with Lily and the ladybirds' help, they pulled the twigs apart. Now the bees all squeezed in next to Sylvia. They began to buzz their wings fast to make the air warm.

"Oh, I feel strong again!" sang Sylvia. She sang so loudly that the other sparrows in the garden heard her. They flew over to help, and together the strong sparrows lifted the branch.

Sylvia was free! She flew up into the sky, so happy.

"Thank you, thank you everyone!" she sang.

Everyone clapped. They all learned something very special that day.

"We don't need a Prize for the Garden's Best Friend," said Spinny the Spider. "We all help in our own way."

"That's right!" said Lily. "We are all important."

"And we all help to keep the garden happy and strong," buzzed Buzz.

And from that day, all the animals knew that they were special and that working together was the best prize of all.

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