



The Tale of a Piper

In the garden, a little girl plays a sad song on her flute. Why is she so sad? Maybe the inhabitants of the garden can help!



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Let's Read



The Asia Foundation



One morning, a mournful melody floated through the air in the garden. It was the sound of a girl playing her flute. As she played, she closed her eyes and tears dripped down her cheeks.



Even the trees felt sad listening to her song, so sad that their leaves began to fall.



The wind blew the leaves up to the clouds. The clouds felt her sadness and dripped rain back down to the garden below.



The girl's sorrow was so deep that everyone in the garden felt it in their hearts.



Sunflower asked Honeybee, "Do you know why the girl's song is so sad?" But Honeybee only shook her head and flew away.



Honeybee soon met Bluebird. "Do you know why the girl's song is so sad?" Bluebird did not know either.



Bluebird decided to ask Rabbit. "Do you know why the girl's song is so sad?" Rabbit looked at the little girl and did not say a word.



The girl noticed the rabbit and stopped playing her music. Then, she spoke in a quiet whisper. "I miss my mom and dad. They have died."



Everyone in the garden suddenly understood. While they knew they could not bring back the girl's parents, they knew they could bring a smile to her face this morning. The animals came close to the girl and let her hug them. Their warm bodies comforted her. Soon, a small smile emerged on her face.



The sun came out, and the air felt warmer. The girl felt her heart lift a little. She was no longer alone, and she felt the love of her new friends all around.

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