

The Boy and the Tiny Whale



Ebru Mina TOMURCUK

The Boy and the Tiny Whale

Ebru Mina TOMURCUK



Toby was eight years old, with warm light brown skin and short wavy black hair. He had large round hazel eyes and a few freckles across his nose. When he smiled, a small gap showed between his front teeth. He loved exploring his grandpa's dusty attic more than anything. One rainy afternoon, he climbed the creaky stairs with his green canvas backpack bouncing on his shoulders.



In a corner, under an old sheet, Toby found a glass aquarium. It glowed with a soft blue light. Inside, tiny plants swayed and little bubbles rose. But something else was there, swimming in slow circles. Toby leaned closer and gasped. A whale no longer than his thumb was gliding through the water. Its deep blue skin sparkled with pale silver spots.



The tiny whale had big dark eyes with long lashes, and they looked very sad. It sang a lonely song, so soft Toby could barely hear it. 'Don't worry, little one,' Toby whispered. 'I'll take care of you.' He carried the aquarium to his room and set it on his desk. All night, the whale swam in circles, singing its sad, lonely song.



In the morning, Toby brought the whale tiny bits of food, but it wouldn't eat. 'What's wrong?' he asked. The whale just looked at him with its big dark eyes and sang again. Toby noticed its tiny fins drooping. It seemed to miss something big. 'Maybe you miss the ocean,' Toby said. 'But how can I help you get there?'



That night, Toby woke up to a strange humming sound. The aquarium was glowing brighter than ever. In the middle of the water, a shimmering oval of light appeared. It swirled with turquoise and gold, like ripples on a pond. Tiny stars drifted inside it. Toby stared, his heart beating fast. 'A portal,' he breathed. 'It's magic!'



The portal shimmered and rippled, and Toby could hear faint singing from inside. It sounded like many voices, far away. He looked at the tiny whale. 'Is that your home?' he asked. The whale's eyes grew wide. It swam to the edge of the aquarium and pressed its nose against the glass. It seemed to say, 'Yes! Please take me there!'



Toby knew what he had to do. He took the lid off the aquarium and gently scooped the whale into his hands. It felt cool and smooth, like a wet pebble. 'Hold on tight, little friend,' he said. 'We're going on an adventure.' He held the whale close and stepped toward the glowing portal. The light washed over him like warm water.



Whoosh! Toby felt a rush of cool air and the sound of waves. When he opened his eyes, he was standing on a beach of sparkling silver sand. The ocean stretched out before him, glowing with turquoise and gold light. Tiny stars danced on the water. The air was full of soft, happy singing. 'We made it,' Toby whispered.



The tiny whale wiggled in his hands. 'Go on,' Toby said. 'This is your home.' He waded into the shallow water and opened his palms. The whale slid into the sea. It swam a little way, then turned back. It looked at Toby with its big dark eyes, and they were no longer sad. They were shining with joy.



Suddenly, other tiny whales appeared. They were just like Lumi, with blue skin and silver spots. They swam around the little whale, singing a welcome song. The little whale sang back, a happy, bubbling tune. Toby laughed. 'You found your family!' he said. The little whale swam close and nuzzled his hand. 'I'll call you Lumi,' Toby said.



Lumi and the other whales danced in the glowing water. They leaped and spun, leaving trails of sparkles. Toby clapped his hands. Then he saw the portal behind him, still shimmering. He knew he had to go home. 'I'll come back,' he promised. 'I'll visit you whenever I can.' Lumi sang a soft goodbye song.



Toby stepped through the portal and landed back in his room. The aquarium was just a plain glass tank now, but it still glowed softly. He smiled. Every night, he whispered to the aquarium, 'Goodnight, Lumi.' And sometimes, if he listened very carefully, he could hear a tiny, happy song coming from far away.



Toby learned something important that day. Every creature needs a home that fits. A tiny whale belongs in the big, wide ocean, not in a glass tank. But friendship can stretch across any distance. Toby kept the aquarium on his desk, and it reminded him of his brave adventure. He knew that Lumi was happy, swimming free with its own kind.



From that day on, Toby visited the enchanted ocean whenever he could. He would wait for the portal to glow and then step through. Lumi would swim to him, singing with joy. They would play among the shimmering waves, and Toby would tell Lumi all about his day. Their friendship stayed strong, no matter how far apart they were.



One evening, Toby sat by his window and looked at the stars. He thought about Lumi, swimming in the magical sea. He knew that somewhere, a tiny whale was singing a happy song. And he knew that home is not always where you start, but where you belong. Toby smiled, feeling warm inside. He would always carry that magic with him.



And if you ever find a tiny whale in a magic aquarium, remember Toby's story. Be kind, be brave, and help it find its home. Because every creature, big or small, needs a place where it can swim free and sing its own song. And true friendship, like the magic ocean, never fades away.