

The Lemur's Lucky Leaf



Ebru Mina TOMURCUK

The Lemur's Lucky Leaf

Ebru Mina TOMURCUK



In a green forest, a little lemur named Lilo lived in a tall tree. He had soft grey fur, a white face with dark patches around his amber eyes, and a long, ringed tail. One morning, while playing near a stream, he found a shiny green leaf. It was smooth and bright. 'This is a lucky leaf,' he whispered. He tucked it behind his ear and felt a warm glow inside.



Lilo kept the leaf with him everywhere. He believed it brought him luck. When he climbed high branches, he touched the leaf for courage. When he searched for sweet fruit, he patted it gently. The leaf made him feel safe and brave. But deep down, Lilo was still a timid little lemur. He often watched other animals play from a distance, wishing he could join in.



One sunny day, a new animal came to the forest. It was a tenrec named Tilly. She had spiky brown-and-tan quills on her back, a tan belly, and a pointed snout with short whiskers. Tilly was cheerful and friendly. 'Hello!' she said. 'Want to climb that tree with me?' Lilo hesitated. He touched his leaf. 'Okay,' he said softly. They started to climb together.



Tilly showed Lilo how to grip the bark with his delicate paws. 'You can do it!' she cheered. Lilo climbed a little higher than ever before. His heart beat fast, but he felt proud. At the top, they found ripe figs. 'Let's share,' said Tilly. Lilo picked a big fig and gave half to Tilly. They ate and laughed. Lilo forgot to worry about falling. He was having too much fun.



The next day, Tilly invited Lilo to jump across a small stream. Lilo looked at the water and felt scared. He touched his leaf. 'What if I slip?' he asked. Tilly smiled. 'We'll do it together. I'll go first, and you follow.' She leaped gracefully. Lilo took a deep breath and jumped. He landed safely on the other side. 'I did it!' he shouted. Tilly clapped her paws.



Each day, Lilo tried something new. He climbed higher, jumped farther, and explored deeper into the forest. Tilly was always there, encouraging him. 'You're getting braver!' she said. Lilo still touched his leaf for luck, but he also began to trust his own paws. He learned to balance on branches and to find hidden fruit. The forest felt bigger and friendlier now.



One afternoon, a strong wind blew through the trees. Whoosh! The lucky leaf flew off Lilo's ear. 'Oh no!' cried Lilo. He watched the leaf tumble away. He felt worried and scared. 'My luck is gone!' he wailed. Tilly hurried to his side. 'It's okay,' she said gently. 'You don't need the leaf. You have your own courage.' But Lilo wasn't so sure.



Lilo sat on a branch, feeling sad. Tilly sat beside him. 'Remember when you climbed the tall tree?' she asked. 'You did that. Remember when you jumped the stream? You did that, too.' Lilo thought about it. He had done those things. The leaf was just a leaf. Tilly smiled. 'Your real luck is your effort. And I'm here to help.' Lilo felt a little better.



Tilly pointed to a high branch with a big, juicy mango. 'Let's get that mango together,' she said. Lilo looked up. It was very high. He took a deep breath. 'Okay,' he said. He started to climb. His paws were steady. He didn't have the leaf, but he had Tilly's encouragement. Step by step, he climbed higher and higher. Finally, he reached the mango!



Lilo picked the mango and climbed down. He and Tilly shared it. 'You did it without the leaf!' Tilly cheered. Lilo smiled. He felt proud and happy. 'I guess I did,' he said. From that day on, Lilo tried new things without needing the leaf. He still felt scared sometimes, but he remembered Tilly's words. His confidence grew with every try.



One day, Lilo found another leaf on the ground. It was shiny and green, just like the first one. He picked it up and looked at it. Then he smiled and let it go. 'I don't need luck,' he said. 'I have effort and a good friend.' Tilly hugged him. 'That's right,' she said. They played together all afternoon, laughing and exploring.



Lilo and Tilly became the best of friends. They shared fruit, climbed trees, and jumped over streams. Lilo no longer worried about bad luck. He knew that trying his best was what mattered. And he knew that Tilly would always be there to cheer him on. The forest was full of adventures, and Lilo was ready for all of them.



Sometimes, Lilo would tell other little animals about his lucky leaf. 'It wasn't really magic,' he would say. 'The magic was in me all along. And in my friend Tilly.' The other animals listened and smiled. They learned that confidence comes from trying, not from lucky charms. Lilo felt happy to share his story.



Lilo and Tilly continued to explore the forest. They discovered new paths and made new friends. Lilo's ringed tail swished with joy as he climbed and played. He was still a little lemur, but he was brave and confident. And he always remembered the lesson of the lucky leaf: real luck is effort and friendship.



At night, Lilo curled up in his nest with his ringed tail wrapped around him. He thought about his day. He had climbed a tall tree, shared a sweet fruit, and helped a friend. He didn't need a leaf to feel lucky. He felt lucky because he tried his best. And he had Tilly. He fell asleep with a smile on his face.



The next morning, Lilo woke up ready for new adventures. He looked at the forest and felt excited. He knew there would be challenges, but he also knew he could face them. With Tilly by his side and effort in his heart, Lilo was ready for anything. And he knew that true luck comes from within.